## Draft Minutes of the Oxford & District Executive Committee, 16 May 2018

**Present:** Luke Barbanneau, Ann Black (minutes), Becky Boumelha, Susan Brown, Jane Darke (Chair), Anisha Faruk, Ray Hand, Tom Hayes, Alex Hollingsworth, Rabyah Khan, Mark Ladbrooke, Stephen Marks, Cherry Mosteshar, Peter Nowland, Dawn Oliver, Caroline Raine, Linda Smith, Jane Stockton, Marie Tidball

**Apologies**: Shaista Aziz, David Blackman, Nigel Chapman, Michaela Collord, Erica Davis, Hosnieh Djafari-Marbini, Dan Iley-Williamson, Felicity Irwin, Mo Fadlalla, Hannah Riley, Andrew Smith, John Stansby, Ed Turner

1. EC membership. It was noted that Helen Evans had stood down for personal reasons and Shaista Aziz would continue as sole women’s officer, and that Caroline Raine had replaced Ian Flintoff as the representative from the Rose Hill, Iffley & Littlemore branch.

2. Executive committee minutes, 15 March 2018. These were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising.

(a) **10 Complaints procedure**/This would be considered later if there was time [*There wasn’t*].

4. Urgent business / other business.

(a) **Jonathan Ashworth**. The shadow secretary of state for health would be visiting Oxford on Monday 21 May. He would meet the socialist health association at 5:30 p.m. and then party members from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Ann would book a room, and Hannah would be asked to advertise.

(b) **Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan**. Susan updated the meeting. Ben had voluntarily resigned the Labour whip until matters were resolved.

(c) **Oxford Mail**. Ed Turner had made forceful representations over coverage which appeared to equate serious racial abuse with a minor misunderstanding. Shaista had reported the incident to the police. On balance the executive felt that a letter sent two weeks after the event could be counter-productive, particularly in the light of (b), but expressed solidarity and support for Shaista.

(d) **UNISON Health Campaign**. It was agreed to support UNISON’s celebration of the NHS in London on 30 June. Mark asked if it was possible to identify trade union members on the party’s membership system. Ann said that sometimes a member’s trade union was recorded when they joined, but this was not kept up to date, and there were also data protection issues.

5. Stand Up To Trump. The meeting agreed that the Oxford & District Labour Party should sign the statement, subject to removing references to a state visit, as this has been replaced by a shorter visit, albeit still unwelcome.

6. Finance

(a) **Treasurer’s report**. The executive committee agreed the resolutions at appendix A which would allow the co-chair Rabyah to be added to the signatories for Unity Trust and Co-operative banks.

(b) **Fundraising**. Alex reported that income and expenditure were broadly in line with expectations, though there were signs of a decline in one-off donations. The budget included £6,000 profit on fundraising events: the Keir Starmer dinner contributed £3,000 and Alex suggested two lower-priced events, starting with a fish-and-chip supper at the Green Road club in Kidlington. Possible speakers were Danny Dorling (Jane D to approach) and Paul Mason (Stephen to approach). In the context of Windrush, David Lammy would be an excellent speaker. It was agreed to ask Anneliese to make the initial approach, and organise around his availability.

(c) **Other events**

(i) Economics dayschool, Saturday 23 June. Stephen reported that speakers would be Anneliese, Sarah Rice from the women’s budget group and Kate Bell from the TUC. He had suggested a focus on labour market deregulation.

(ii) Picnics etc. Following discussion, most members favoured a picnic on Sunday 17 June at Blackbird Leys in the park next to the mela, so that people can attend both. Cherry offered to help to organise. In addition we could consider a stall at the Eid extravaganza on the same day, and Becky said she would go to this. Whether we could do both would depend on how many people were able to help, and on what materials were available for a stall.

(iii) Other ideas. Showing *The Nature of the Beast*, the film about Dennis Skinner, and Stand Up For Labour were suggested as possibilities if there were volunteers to organise them.

7. Campaigning and forthcoming elections

(a) **Oxford city council elections, 3 May 2018**. The results had been discussed at the all-member meeting on 10 May, and would be on the agenda for the campaign committee on 9 June. The reasons for the loss of Quarry & Risinghurst would be included.

(b) **OxWAb elections, May 2019**. Jane S reported that the OxWAb action group met the evening before, and suggested an event in the summer to attract potential candidates, with speakers from areas such as Witney, Didcot or Chipping Norton to inspire and motivate. Alex pointed out that Kidlington needed two candidates but Abingdon would need 21, and more if standing for all parish and town council seats. Many of these would be unlikely to win, but everyone should be able to vote for a Labour candidate. Susan suggested linking this to the Abingdon all-member meeting, though we needed to reach beyond the minority who come to meetings. Ray asked if more members from Abingdon could attend campaign committee meetings, and Ann would ask Andrew to invite anyone who was interested. Alex added that other areas – Marston, Kennington, North Hinksey – also had parish councils, some where candidates stood under party labels, others where they didn’t, and we should use these opportunities. Dawn agreed on the value of building upwards from the parish level. Luke stressed the importance of recruiting more disabled candidates.

(c) **Oxford city elections 2020**. The committee agreed to interview candidates for the panel from late 2018 through early 2019, and aim to select candidates in June/July 2019, or sooner if there were special considerations. The new boundaries would not be finally agreed by parliament until this autumn. With all-out elections the regional director was likely to require close to 50% women in winnable seats, and as well as new women candidates there was a need to attract more, BAME, disabled and LGBT candidates. Luke drew attention to the extra costs for disabled candidates and asked if the party could fund, for instance, a disability scooter. Marie and Damian Haywood were congratulated on their petition in support of retaining free school transport for 16-19 year olds.

8. Membership.

(a) **David Klemperer**. After discussion it was agreed with 2.5 votes against and two abstentions to support David’s application to rejoin the party, after having been excluded in 2016 for signing nomination papers for a LibDem candidate.

(b) **Update**. Jane S reported that membership was stable, with a few resignations but also new joiners. Oxford East had 2,360 members, and Oxford West & Abingdon had 1,498, including people up to six months in arrears,.

9. Women’s conference. Each CLP could send one motion of up to 250 words on a policy area relevant to women, to be submitted by 29 June. It was agreed that because of time constraints the four women delegates – Erica, Jane S, Becky and Marie – would draft two motions by 4 June, to be agreed at the all-member meeting on 14 June. If there was time they would work with Shaista to consult more widely among women members. Ann explained the current dispute between the party and the EHRC about whether restricting events and decisions to women (or to other self-organised groups) was lawful.

10. Trade union officers’ report. A report from Mark and Pete was received with thanks.

11. All-member meetings.

(a) **Thursday 14 June 2018**. Abingdon United Football Club, Mary Southcott from the Labour Campaign for Electoral Reform, and motions.

(b) **Friday 13 July 2018**. St Clements family centre. It was agreed to focus on the living wage and what all of us could do to promote it, as school governors, NHS trust members, or citizens. Mark would look for introductory speakers, and plan the format for discussion groups.

(c) **Thursday 6 September 2018**. Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, conference resolutions and speaker from Oxford Co-Housing.

(d) **Thursday 11 / Friday 12 October 2018**. Ann would try to book the Rose Hill community centre. In addition to reports from conference reportback Jamie Tarlton had offered to talk about his experiences on the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel. Ann would check if he was still available following his move to Bristol. Otherwise Dana Mills was suggested: by Kidlington, where she had spoken on growing up in activism in Israel / Palestine.

(e) **Thursday 8 / Friday 9 November 2018**. Ann would ask Dr Dougal Hargreaves (Hosnieh’s brother-in-law) to speak on child poverty and health [*can do 9 November, Ann will look for venue*]

(f) **Thursday 13 / Friday 14 December 2018**. Short meeting with refreshments, venue TBA.

12. Executive committee meetings. Thursday 28 June, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m., the Long Room, Oxford Town Hall; Wednesday 18 July, 8 – 10 p.m., East Oxford community centre. Because of lack of time, again, it was agreed to hold a special meeting to focus solely on planning for 2018/2019, and Ann would look for a date before 28 June [*now set for Wednesday 30 May, venue TBA*].

**Appendix A**

Unity Trust Bank

Oxford and District Labour Party confirms:

- that the people named in this form will be authorised signatories on all accounts

- that instructions and changes will be given in line with the mandate

- that it is aware Unity Trust Bank may not make enquiries before acting on instructions given by any authorised signatory

- it will notify Unity Trust Bank of any changes to the organisation in writing.

Co-operative Bank:

It was resolved and declared that in respect of each of the accounts listed at Section 1 Bank Account Details (the Account(s)):

• the Co-operative Bank p.l.c. (‘the Bank’) shall continue as our bankers in accordance with our original account application, the Business being empowered by and acting within its constitution in giving this instruction

• the Bank shall be authorised to accept instructions (including telephone instructions and written instructions sent by facsimile and electronic instructions through the use of digital signatures and/or identification numbers or passwords) from us in connection with the account(s) and the service, provided that the instructions are given and/or signed in accordance with the signing authority listed in All account signatories Section 2 Part C and shall be authorised to act on Instructions given by signatories/authorised

users in accordance with the Account terms and conditions. Instructions shall mean: cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes or other orders for payment drawn, made or accepted on our behalf (even if the payments cause the account(s) to be overdrawn) and requests or instructions in writing concerning the account(s), our affairs or property (including the opening of the new account(s), the arranging of facilities and creation of security)

• the Bank shall be authorised to honour all cheques and all other documents made or accepted on our behalf even if such payment causes any Accounts to be overdrawn or increase any existing overdraft, provided that such documents are signed in accordance with the specimen signatures shown in the All account signatories Section 2 Part C

• the Bank shall act on all specimen signatures in accordance with instruction, notice, request or other document in writing concerning our Account(s) (including the opening of new accounts), affairs or property, as shown in the All account signatories Section 2 Part C

• the Bank shall be sent a copy of any future resolutions which affect the terms of these resolutions if required

• the Bank shall be sent a copy of any changes in our Memorandum and Articles of Association/Regulations or Bye Laws if required

• the Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of Directors/Partners/Owners/Officials/Members

• the Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of Authorised User

• the Bank shall otherwise continue to operate our Account(s) in accordance with the signing authority as outlined in Section 2 Part C

• the Bank shall be notified in writing of any overall change of control in the business

• all signatories to the Account(s) are aged 18 or over

• No Directors/Partners/Signatories/Authorised Users have been subject to bankruptcy in the last six years

• No Directors/Partners/Signatories/Authorised Users have had County Court Judgments registered against them in the last six years