Minutes of South West Central Branch on 18th September 2018

1. Present: John & Sue Tanner, Rosemary Preston, Nadine Bely-Summers, Wendy Mantle, Thomas Li, Colin Cook, Gina Ullman, Ruth Shallard, Roger Howe, Tom Newport, Tonya Kocharova (chair), Bob Price, Pol O’Cealleigh, Emma Turnbull, Bill MacKeith, Liz Peretz, Jane Caplan, Felicity Leary, Stephen Marks, Anne Lyons, Alex Hollingsworth, Susanna Pressel & Cathy Gospel. Two speakers: Dana Mills & Martyn Rush.
2. Apologies: Graham Smith, Richard Shallard, Harm-Jan Fricke, Phyllis Starkey, Pat & Gordon Kennedy, Brice McClaren, Alex Donnelly, Sobia Afridi, Richard Howlett, Marie Tidball, David Preston & Susan Brown.
3. Minutes: Minutes of 17th July agreed. **Bob & Pol will contact local teacher unions about cash crisis for local schools.** Nadine has put down a motion for the City Council about pay weighting for Oxford NHS. **Susanna will raise the issue at the Joint Health & Overview Scrutiny.**
4. Speakers:
   1. Dana Mills, describing herself as an Israeli lefty, spoke about Radical Women in History. She talked about dancers Isadora Duncan and Martha Graham, and revolutionary socialists Rosa Luxemburg and Eleanor Marx. Dana said women often do the lion’s share of the work but don’t get the credit. This was followed by questions & discussion.
   2. Cllr Martyn Rush is the City Council champion for the Oxford Living Wage. He said it is 90% of the London Living Wage at £9.69 an hour. He wants to get Oxford accredited as a Living Wage city. 63 employers in Oxford pay the (outside London) Living Wage but only a handful the Oxford rate. This was followed by questions & discussion.
   3. **Bob, Bill and Anne agreed to join an Oxford Living Wage working group of the branch. Agreed to affiliate to the Oxford City Living Wage Campaign and place a regular item on the branch agenda.**
5. Resolution:
   1. Thomas Li proposed a motion about the Party’s National Executive Committee, seconded by Stephen Marks. An amendment by Sue Tanner to delete the reference to Pete Willsman was agreed on a vote. An amendment by Emma Turnbull was lost. The following resolution was then agreed by majority.

**The SWC branch of Oxford Labour Party resolves:**

**to support the continued work on the NEC to help eliminate antisemitism from the Labour Party**

**To uphold the principles and recommendations of the Shami Chakrabarti Inquiry and to implement all its findings in all disciplinary actions**

**To note grave concerns regarding the use and dissemination of secretive recordings of NEC meetings which may potentially bring the Party into disrepute.**

1. By-election: Members were urged to canvass for Damian Haywood in the by-election for Iffley Fields & St Mary’s division to be held on Thursday 18th October.
2. Next meeting: Tuesday 16th October with James Urwick talking about Cameroon. **Bob to investigate the availability of a room at South Oxford Community Centre.**

John Tanner, secretary 19/9/18 **Decisions in bold.**