

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LONDON REGIONAL COUNCIL IBRG HELD
ON SUNDAY, 31st JULY, 1983 AT IRISH CENTRE, CAMDEN.

PRESENT: HARINGEY Two Delegates
 LAMBETH Two "
 PADLINGTON One "
 ISLINGTON Two "
 HARROW Two "
 SOUTHWARK Two "

No apologies received.

1. Concern was expressed that again no officers were in attendance at the meeting. There was a strong feeling that, as the officers had been informed of this meeting via Minutes, they had taken a deliberate decision not to attend. A list of officers was read out and it was established that only three appeared to be still involved and of those only one had continued to attend the LRC meetings up to three meetings ago. Delegates felt it important that all officers should submit to democratic control and they did not feel that this was the case. It was unanimously agreed that none of the officers could be excused for their non-attendance. Concern was expressed that the Chair must be an NEC member and, by default, a delegate was elected for the duration of the meeting.
2. A long discussion took place regarding the non-attendance of some branches. It was pointed out that there were only two branches in question as Westminster branch did not, in fact, exist. Both Brent and Waltham Forest were advised via the Minutes and it was noted that both branch Secretaries were NEC members. It was clarified that LRC Minutes should go to branch Secretaries to be circulated at branch meetings and should then be passed to the branch LRC delegates.
3. A further debate then took place regarding the purpose of the LRC and how to make its reconstitution as smooth as possible. Delegates felt that the LRC was for the organisational benefit of the branches as a discussion/talking forum, to carry out any special activities (e.g. pickets on Fleet Street newspapers), to provide consistency of approach between London branches and to provide an informed input into the NEC. It was felt that, at the moment, IBRG delegations did not appear to be under the full control of the IBRG. Concern was expressed about the present structure of the IBRG, and where the LRC fitted into this structure. It was pointed out that there were seven NEC members who lived in the London area but they could not be considered as representing the LRC. It was agreed that any authority held by the LRC came from individual branches and not from the NEC. A discussion took place regarding the IBRG Constitution and when it had been adopted. It was pointed that the Constitution had been amended but that branches did not possess copies.

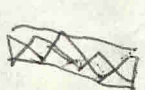
4. A letter was drafted and it was unanimously agreed that it should be sent to all officers of the LRC formally advising them that new elections for officers would be held at the next meeting.
(Copy attached)
5. LRC Standing Orders were then voted upon, section by section, and were unanimously agreed. (Copy attached)
6. A proposal for Standing Orders to include that the Chair should rotate between male and female every six months was overwhelmingly defeated. It was felt that the office should go to the person considered by the majority to be best qualified to do the job.
7. Items deferred for further discussion were the relationship between the LRC and the NEC and the question of finance.
8. It was agreed that the job outline of all officer posts would be compiled for discussion at the next meeting. Two delegates were selected to carry out this task.

NEXT MEETING: 21st August, 1983.
3.00.p.m.
Camden Irish Centre.

LRC STANDING ORDERS

1. The LRC should solely comprise of two delegates (with voting rights) plus one observer (non-voting) from each branch. Branches unable to be represented at a LRC meeting should ensure that apologies are submitted to the LRC secretary.
2. Delegates should be nominated by branches initially for a period of not less than six months subject to the right of branches to withdraw or extend their mandate.
3. Nominated delegates who are unable to attend a LRC meeting should submit their apologies to the LRC secretary. Branches have the right to nominate a substitute delegate for that meeting.
4. Motions proposed, seconded and adopted as resolutions by Branch meetings may be put to LRC meetings without the need of having a seconder.
5. Motions must be submitted by branches and not by individuals.
6. The minutes of the previous LRC meeting, agenda for the following meeting and all relevant discussion papers should be circulated by the LRC secretary to branch secretaries at least two weeks prior to the date of the next LRC meeting.
7. The officers of the LRC should include Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer and Organiser/Membership Sec. Officers to be elected from among the delegates for a period not exceeding six months. Both Chair and Vice-Chair to be nominated for co-option to the NEC (without voting rights).
8. Branches should submit copies of their meeting minutes to the LRC secretary for inclusion under branch reports.
9. The Agenda of LRC meetings should include the following:
 - a) Apologies
 - b) Minutes of previous meeting
 - c) Matters arising
 - d) Correspondence
 - e) Reports - Officers
 - Branch
 - Delegation
 - NEC
 - f) Motions
 - g) Any other business
10. The LRC should send two official observers to NEC meetings and these observers should not be NEC members.
11. Delegations from the LRC to official bodies should be debated and approved by an LRC meeting. Delegates should be nominated by their branches and their names forwarded to the LRC secretary.

(Cont'd)



An agenda of items to be discussed should be approved by the LRC meeting and should be adhered to by the delegation. Where possible, a written statement should be formulated by the LRC to be presented by the delegation. A full report should be given to the following LRC meeting.

12. The quorum for an LRC meeting is one third of all London branches.
13. A WRITTEN report should be submitted by the Treasurer to each meeting.
14. Officers failing to attend 3 consecutive meetings and not giving acceptable reasons for non-attendance should be deemed to have forfeited their appointment.
15. In order to be recognised for attendance at LRC meetings branches must hold meetings at least once per month.

Letter from the London Regional Council to the following:

Jim Curran
Steve Brennan
Kathleen Griffin
Jean Somers
Noreen O'Donohue
Bill Reilly
Pat Delaney
Michael O' Callanain

cc Jim King
Judy Peddle

We are concerned to note that you did not attend the meeting of the London Regional Council convened Sunday 31 July 1983 - the agenda of which included the election of Officers.

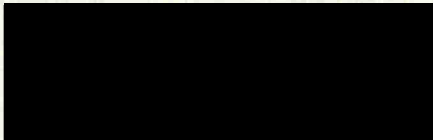
You are therefore formally informed that this item was deferred by the meeting and will be taken at the meeting of the Council to be held Sunday 21 August at 3pm Camden Irish Centre.

If you wish to be considered for further office please ensure that you are delegated by your branch to attend the above meeting.

Any written reply to the above should be by no later than Thursday 18 August 1983.

Signed on behalf of the Council,

Gearoid MacGearailt.
Temporary Minute Secretary.



4 August 1983.