

# TH Federation of TRAs Minutes

Monday, 24th January 2011 at 7.00pm.

Collingwood Hall, London E1



PRESENT		APOLOGIES
Phil Sedler - Chair	PS	Eileen Short Alex Kenny for late arrival
Cyril Farby	CF	
Kay Ballard	KB	
Terry McGrenera	TM	
Myra Garrett	MG	
Claire Winter	CW	
Sister Christine	SC	
Brian Stanley	BS	
Uche Onwubiko	UO	
Ezinne Uchechukion	EU	
Elizabeth Adebisi	EA	
Mark Taylor	MT	
Lene Milaa	LM	
Eileen Short	ES	
Alex Kenny – Acting Convenor HOOPS	AK	

ITEM		ACTION
	<b>Meeting commenced at 7.00pm.</b>	
1.	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Minutes of November 22nd meeting.</p> <p>PS explained the submission from the Federation and the “Local decisions: a fairer future for social housing” for the Communities &amp; Local Government Consultation. He went on to explain the exchange of emails in relation to the cuts to the THH major works team. The information offered by Gavin Cansfield and the Mayor’s statements about the “changing landscape” in relation to the present structure of THH.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Kay Jordan</b></p> <p>The meeting was shocked to hear of recent the death of Kay Jordan. She had been of enormous assistance in getting us funding and an office, and will be greatly missed.</p> <p>EA asked if a meeting could be arranged with Gavin Cansfield as residents are often the last to know what is happening.</p> <p>PS pointed out an omission in the minutes about the proposed re-launch relating to Sister Christine s’ suggestion to incorporate cuts into the launch in late spring – early summer. He introduced our speaker.</p>	

<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Guest speaker – Alex Kenny</b></p> <p>The acting-convenor of HOOPS (Hands Off Our Public Services) - East London Teachers Association.</p> <p>Tide beginning to shift. Recent polls now show people are beginning to know where cuts will come, and the majority are against.</p> <p>Building momentum and pressure towards a mass lobby of the Council's budget setting meeting on 23rd February.</p> <p>He stressed the importance of TUC demonstration on 26<sup>th</sup> March and a good turn out from Tower Hamlets and asked for TRAs to make halls available for meetings to raise awareness of the event.</p> <p>SC said that as cuts were inevitable we should perhaps take money from other areas to reduce the impact to maintain services.</p> <p>AK suggested some alternative methods of raising money i.e. Robin Hood tax. He believed the present cuts were driven by ideology rather than necessity.</p> <p>TM announced his petition to the Council</p> <p>ES suggested taking the issues to the public – raise awareness.</p> <p>UO asked if Labour councillors were fully behind the opposition to cuts.</p> <p>Four meetings around borough to mobilise. PS asked that people go back to there estates to arrange venues. ES suggested we need to get moving on 4 meetings with view mobilising to lobbying council on 23<sup>rd</sup> and the TUC march.</p> <p>Malmesbery Collingwood St Mathias Keddleston</p> <p>AK offered help with speakers for the 4 estate meetings and once plans come together for the “re-launch” meeting.</p> <p>A general discussion took place about the advantages of “in house” provision of services. BS pointed out that they were more cost effective. TM stated £38m could be saved if THH came back into council control.</p>	<p>KB PS SC BS</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Planning for re-launch meeting – steering group?</b></p> <p>The forming of a steering/planning group to consider re-launch.</p>	<p>PS UO MG Poss SC MT</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Funding and office – report from part-time worker.</b></p> <p>The correct process to access funding from CIDA has been worked out with Peter (CIDA) I will need to put in report in March. £100 quarter phone – remaining</p>	<p>MT</p>

6	<p>money can be used communication  Clarified separate budget for re-launch  Need for more Federation members by Sept 2012.  Content needed for website plenty space if you want it.  Worker funding will need to be found by November 2011.</p> <p><b>Report on planned meeting with Mayor Rahman.</b></p> <p>Meet the Mayor arrangements – half an hour to an hour. Concerns about double booking.</p> <p>Questions to ask:-  ES How they are going to consult with residents over ALMO review.  Want the Mayor to undertake won't lose existing tenancies. Come out clear opposition to 80% market rent by ALMO &amp; RSL. Commit not to evict due to HB cuts and call on other landlords to do the same. Commitment to no further stock transfers.  PS Future of major works teams  UO How will they protect services  ES To email her list of requests.</p> <p>Alibor Choudhury wants clear list of questions for Mayor</p>	PS ES MT UO EA EU
7	<p>ES proposed a motion for councillors to support. If agreed could send to councillors.  Seconded by CF. Formal vote passed unopposed (13 in favour)</p>	ES
8	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b>  Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011</p>	
	<p><b>Meeting closed at 9:10pm</b></p>	

**Signed** .....

**Phil Sedler**

**Chair THFedTRAs**

**Date** .....