

Minutes of Prospect BEC meeting 4th February 2008 Elmbank Hotel, York

Present:

Tony Cousins (TC)
Lorraine Adams (LA)
Sue Benham (SB)
Glenn Brearley (GB)
Andy Stewart (AS)
Iain Kirk (IK)
Bob Griffiths (BG)
Malcolm Currie (MC)
Catherine Myles (CM)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Marcus Sangster.

2. Minutes of the Previous meeting

The minutes of the 21st August 2007 meeting were accepted via email consultation to ensure early publication to members.

3. Matters Arising

3.1

LA to look back through the minutes to remind ourselves what this original action involved and look to Marcus for guidance on any further action required.

Action LA

3.2 On the ground initiative

There has been no further information regarding this matter, further information may be located on the FES part of the website. However any initiatives in Scotland may be on hold now due to recent political events. Bob Mack is guiding the process and this issue will continue to be placed on the agenda for future BEC meetings so that we can monitor and assess any progress.

Action SB

3.3 Health and safety memoranda

The situation of updating the health and safety memoranda has now been taken up by Edward and core group. LA to write to Emily Ramsey regarding the proposed publication date of the OGB on pests and diseases.

Action LA

3.4 Recruitment Drive

Iain has been working on an offer with Claire to offer new members 3 months free and a voucher scheme for current members recruiting new people. CM was happy to take this on to finalise the dates and voucher scheme. It was highlighted that new members on FTA's who may end up unemployed would be able to go onto the unemployed rates which amount to £1.05 pcm. The previously designed flyer will be updated and ready for this recruitment event.

It is hope that recruitment events can be run at Silvan House, NRS and Alice Holt.

Action IK/CM

3.5 Short term Contracts

The subject of the increasing number of short term contracts to bridge staffing gaps was raised at core group. An email was sent to HR requesting figures for the number of FTA's currently in post. We need to check with Edward whether this information has now been received.

Action TC/LA

4. Pay 2007

All BEC members had received the draft pay notice before travelling to York. Permission has been given for this information to be passed on to delegates at conference. The elongated timescale has resulted in a significantly better offer being tabled, it was decided that this was the best offer that could be obtained and that members would be left to decide for themselves whether they wanted to vote for the offer. It was thought that we could not accept the deal and recommend it to staff as it fell short of our original request.

Discharged

5. FCTU feedback

Feedback was given from the last meeting via email, there has been nothing new to add since.

11. Next Meeting

It was discussed as to how everyone thought video conferencing was working and it was decided that whilst it did save time and travel it was also nice to meet face to face as this facilitated discussion further than the agenda items and gave a more cohesive feel to the BEC. As such it was decided that the format for 2008-9 would comprise of 2 face to face meetings held in September and in February prior to the ADC and 2 meetings via video conferencing/ audio conferencing in May/June and closer to Christmas before the ADC notification to members.

Dates were set as: Tuesday 3rd June, Tuesday 9th September.