



Draft minutes of KONP Steering Committee meeting, Wednesday 4th April 2007

1. **Attendance**

Present:

Wendy Savage (WS) (chair for the first part), Peter Fisher (PF), Peter Draper (PD), Guy Collis (GC), John Lipetz (JLip), Paul Evans (PE), Alex Nunn (AN), Dot Gibson (DG)

Apologies:

John Lister (JL), Barrie Brown (BB), Jacky Davis (JD), Chris Burns-Cox (CBC), Stuart Jeffery (SJ), Dave Eastham (DE)

2. **Minutes of 7th March**

Agreed as a correct record, with an amendment that it was David Byrne and not "Burns" who had produced the response on the IPPR with Sally Ruane.

3. **Matters arising**

i. Editor of BMJ to meet PE, JD to discuss a specific proposal for report/advert.

ii. The answers to the SE London "Big Ask" had been sent to people in that area.

iii. There was no information yet about advertising in the press.

iv. WS had written to Brendan Barber about a national demonstration. GC reported that Unison had agreed to this but not until October, explaining that on the suitable dates in July there were other major events, i.e. the Unison conference, Gay Pride and Al Gore's climate change concert, following which it was considered best to wait until after the TUC and party conferences.

4. **Officers' report**

Media: JL and David Byrne had been interviewed on radio. Possibility of an article in Private Eye.

Publications: Updated leaflet being written and designed. Poster aimed at uniting KONP with local cuts campaign groups being designed.

Patchwork Privatisation: PE confirmed that Amicus had agreed to print the pamphlet with a new cover with their logo, and it was hoped that Unison would do the same. As soon as the new print run was delivered PE, DG and Dot to arrange distribution to MPs. GC to get list of members of House of Lords who should be included in circulation.

Union conferences: PE reported that there would be a stall at the Unison Health Conference in Brighton on 22-24 April.

Constitution: PE getting feedback from local groups before recommending amendments. He had circulated minutes and newsletter to local groups. There was no decision on a date for the AGM.

AN, PE: reported that they would probably be working for three days a week for Michael Meacher for duration of Labour Party leadership campaign. Media side of KONP's work had been transferred to Edinburgh (Allyson Pollock's office).

5. **KONP Statement on NHS**

PF, JL had consulted, amended and finalised the statement. DG had set it as an A4 folded leaflet with a letter on the front. Format agreed, letter to be checked and then circulated to MPs and certain members of House of Lords with "Patchwork Privatisation". There would be a request to sign up to the statement and/or make comments online. To be circulated generally for same purpose.

6. **Private Diagnostic Centres**

AN - even though there were press reports at least a year ago, many campaigners unaware that these were being set up – particularly in London where 96 became operational from 1st April and £15m of equipment had been handed to them by the London Strategic Health Authority. PF - letter should be written to Gordon Brown protesting at the money being drained out of the NHS. PF to draft.

7. **Future activity**

DG presented written proposals:

i. May Day – that we encourage KONP groups to have contingents, marching together if possible, with banners on May Day marches wherever they take place.

ii. Junior Doctors – that we find out when the junior doctors are having their next event/march and officially support it.

iii. Unison/NHS Together – that we actively and positively support their next event/march (now known to be in October) and suggest that the Steering Committee is represented on the organizing team.

iv. Unison conferences and TUC – that we have proposals for our intervention at these conferences for the next Steering Committee (now known that KONP will have a stall at the Unison Health conference).

v. Central London public meeting/newspaper – that we organize a public meeting in Friends Meeting House on Thursday 7th June and campaign for/advertise it in a KONP four-page tabloid newspaper printed by 1st May. The cost would be around £2,000 for the meeting hall, printing and advertising and we would ask supporting organisations to sponsor it with financial donations.

These proposals were agreed with the addition that KONP share the branding of the newspaper with Health Emergency.

8. **Finance**

Committee received financial statement with projected income and expenditure. It remained necessary to continue every effort to bring in funds and follow through press advertising.

Next meeting: 2.00 p.m. Wednesday 2nd May 2007,

At Unison HQ Mabledon Place.