

Full NCG  
7/11/2020  
Minutes

Participation: Liz Smith, Callum Bell, Harriet Protheroe-Soltani, Andrew Scattergood, Jackie Owen, Barry Gray, Phil Clarke, John Taylor, Mick Moore, Gaya Sriskanthan, Solma Ahmed, Sonali Bhattacharyya, Carol Turner, Tracey Hylton, Jennifer Forbes, Shona Jemphrey, Craig Anderson, Mish Rahman, Abbie Clark, Sarah Doyle, Rory Maclean, Deborah Hermanns, Tony Kearns

Staff: Chloe Koffman, Ollie Hill, Rachel Godfrey Wood, Andrew Dolan, Craig Lloyd

Apologies: Matt Wrack

Item 1: Chairs Report

AS outlined recent events following Corbyn's suspension and Momentum's rally in support of him. AD introduced himself and outlined his role.

Decision: n/a

Item 2: Officers Group Report

GS gave an update on the Officers Group activities in the last month, including new hires and events.

JT asked for an update on the office premises and OH confirmed we are leaving the Finsbury Park office and moving to remote working for a temporary period of time.

JT raised a point of order, noted there was no item for the approval of NCG minutes and matters arising and requested they should be included in future full NCG meetings. SB explained that the minutes are agreed over email as per new procedures and DH clarified that JT could speak to her regarding the process.

Decision: n/a

### Item 3: Campaigns Group Report

DM gave an update on the Campaigns Group, including some capacity issues and some input from members and volunteers. DM noted training around housing law organised by HPS. DM noted training for volunteers organised by the London Renters Union (LRU). DM noted CLPs passing housing motions and efforts from the Momentum Volunteer Slack and the research group. DM noted the development of a process to decide which campaigns to take on. DM noted there is no more organisational capacity at this time.

JT asked about the full sick pay Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union (BFAWU) campaign and if there has been any work on it. JF noted this has been passed at her CLP but she hasn't heard back about anything else. AD noted that it could be amplified through the Comms channels.

Decision: n/a

### Item 4: Membership Group Report

DH noted involvement of the Young Labour, For a Socialist Future Slate. DH noted thanks to the WG and RGW, as well as the organisers. DH noted progress of the refounding process across the country. DH noted the rollout of the new data system and training of the DPOs.

Decision: n/a

### Item 5: Comms Working Group Report

RM gave an update on the Comms WG including Comms around Momentum's current campaigns. RM noted media coverage of Momentum's campaigns in the Times. RM noted that all NCG members should push The Organiser newsletter. RM noted work with The

Working Group who are focusing on research. RM noted work with NELL. RM noted the campaign around Corbyn's reinstatement, including messages of solidarity. RM noted the trans rights education programme. RM noted a training for NCG about social media use.

JO asked if postal votes could be promoted in the future and RM acknowledged.

MM gave an update on the NEC campaign.

Decision: n/a

#### Item 6: Equalities Committee Report

TH noted the Equalities form for NCG members. TH noted the activities of Black History Month and noted upcoming LGBT activities. SB explained the details of the Trans liberation programme, including the speakers.

CT asked about women's discussion at the EG. TH noted discussion around having a presence at women's conference. TH noted women's history month in March 2021. CT noted that as women are greatly impacted by COVID, there should be more action around this and TH confirmed. DH noted that NCG members should take note of the Trans liberation programme and push it on social media. SB noted that if MR is elected, there should be Comms around the diversity impact.

Decision: n/a

#### Item 7: Strategy paper in response to Corbyn's Suspension.

AD outlined the response so far, including statements and a rally. AD noted data on CLPs passing motions in support of Jeremy Corbyn. AG noted his CLP EC has passed the motion in support of Jeremy Corbyn and noted silence from their regional executive.

CT noted the London Regional Executive Committee situation, regarding a motion in support of Jeremy Corbyn. AD noted the coverage of this in LabourList. SD noted people

in her local party do not want to bring supportive motions for fear of being targeted with special measures. There should be discussions around using links with unions and affiliates to write to local MPs calling on them to support Corbyn. TH noted the discussions in Liverpool locally.

SA noted feelings in the Eastern region that Momentum should take a stronger position around this as an attack on democracy. DM noted developments in his CLP and the ways they are conducting meetings to avoid suspensions. AD outlined the future steps outlined in the paper, including linking Corbyn's suspension to the long-term need for the left to be organised.

MR noted that Momentum should counter any calls for another party being set up. CB noted the members are frustrated and this is turning inwards, noted we need to channel this energy elsewhere using different tactics. CA noted that Momentum should be encouraging people to join. JT noted the importance of focusing on local government and the upcoming local elections. SB noted the coalition between the Democrats and Bernie Sanders. SB noted that an attack on democracy impacts Labour and this should be highlighted.

DH noted there is no silver bullet and Momentum needs to reinstate their goals and to be working on those goals within the strategy. DH noted that Momentum should not emphasise "taking control of the party" within the leadership, rather focusing on Young Labour and local CLPs as well as preparing for next year's conference. DH suggested weekly to camera videos from the co-chairs to explain what we are doing. SJ noted that members need more to do and noted there could be a more regular update on the Future Councillor Programme. MM asked what the immediate steps to be taken are. MM suggested that Momentum produce guidance around the CLPD resolution, i.e. speakers notes, as well as advice for executive committees. MM noted that if there is a compromise and Corbyn is reinstated, Momentum needs to meet to discuss the way forward.

RGW noted scepticism around running regional meetings as this may take energy out of the refounding process and there is an issue around capacity. RM noted the tracking of

the motions should be incorporated into the Comms strategy around this and gather data on who is intervening in the process.

Decisions: Actions collated and deferred to AOB

#### Item 8: Leadership Development Programme Discussion

RGW outlined the Leadership Development Programme as in proposal, including recruitment and format. RGW noted the contributions of volunteers. RGW noted the plan is set for a post-lockdown timetable, due to in-person requirements for trainings and workshops.

TH noted that the Programme should be mindful of the diversity of the cohort and should have notable speakers. HPS asked about the application process and SB asked how this will be fed back to the local groups. JT noted he is in support but noted this needs regional organiser capacity, which is currently being cut back. CB asked how this can be targeted regionally in areas that we need to win in 2024. GS asked how this would link in with the Future Councillors programme. GS also noted that liberation causes should be included.

DH noted this programme will not achieve all of our political education goals. DH outlined the selection process, including an NCG panel. RGW noted that there is a case for diversity quotas and class background considerations. RGW noted capacity issues must be solved before launching and this should not be committed to before the restructure.

AS asked if there are any objections to this programme being developed, MM noted issues with the democratic process. Continued development of the programme was agreed.

Decisions: Leadership programme to continue development in consultation with staff and NCG members

## Item 9: Policy Making Process Discussion

RGW outlined the process for policy making at next year's Conference. RGW outlined the drafting and selection process for the ballot. RGW noted in the ballot there should be a process for registering negative interest. RGW outlined ballot procedure and possibilities of avoiding motions that are ruled out. Noted that the capacity is mainly on the Digital team.

JT noted disagreement with trade unions not being able to submit motions. RGW clarified that this would be specifically for motions in the members section, rather than the TU section. AS noted that the members and TU don't always agree and there should be scope to work with the unions on this. CA asked if individual CfS groups would be able to submit motions and RGW confirmed.

AS asked for objections to the development of the proposal, none made.

Decision: Proposal to continue development, in consultation with staff and NCG members

## Item 10: Review Group Report

AS outlined the proposal agreed on 5/9/2020 and the review group process so far.

CA asked if the review group had explored other revenue streams such as merchandise and video work. AS noted that this is not within the Groups remit but the Growth team around how to increase resources for campaigns. TH noted that merchandise must be produced ethically.

AS asked for agreement on the recommendations, via recorded vote:

For: AG, AC, GS, CT, CA, DM, DH, HPS, JO, LS MM, MR, PC, SJ, SB, TK, TH

Against:n/a

Abstentions: BG, JF, JT,

Decisions: Review Group proposal was carried

Item 11: NCG By-election

AS noted vacancy in the NW&W region. AS noted the date of this by-election has been moved to early next year, the exact date is TBD.

Decisions: n/a

Item 12: AOB

AD circulated the actions collated from Item 7 as follows:

1. Momentum will organise regional meetings for Momentum members and elected representatives, at which local strategies for opposing Corbyn's suspension will be developed.
2. Momentum will support members to conduct a lobbying campaign of the NEC and Labour MPs, calling on them to oppose Corbyn's suspension. Momentum will provide letter templates and email addresses, and collect and distribute replies.
3. Momentum will continue to support CLPs to pass the motion expressing support for Jeremy Corbyn, and is working with the CLPD on a new motion, which we will launch over the coming days.
4. Momentum will continue to use its communication channels to build public political pressure in opposition to the suspension of Jeremy Corbyn, providing further video and written content.
5. Momentum will work directly with CLP activists that need assistance in passing the CLPD motion. Momentum will pull together a briefing pack for members, outlining the political arguments they may need to use in any motion debate and in online discussion.
6. Momentum will issue weekly communication with members to provide updates on the fight to reverse Corbyn's suspension.

RGW noted some of these need further thought and staff consultation, including around capacity issues and what other projects will be delayed. AS said this can be picked up with co-chairs. AG noted the possibility of investigating the David Evans ratification motion and AD acknowledged to investigate further. AD noted that some NCG members could help run regional meetings. AS noted these can be agreed with the proviso that adjustments may need to be made.

AS called for agreement, via a recorded vote.

For: GS, AG, BG, CA, DH, JF, LS, MM, MR, PC, SJ

Against: n/a

Abstentions: AC, CT

AS proposed NCG meetings being held earlier and proposed moving the start time to 10am. This was agreed, no objections.

DH asked for video update volunteers. AS noted this could be decided later.

OH asked if anyone knows of any charities/left groups who are in need of office furniture, please let him know.