**UNISON ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

ELIM CHURCH, GREENSIDE STREET, ALLOA

THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2020 at 12.30 p.m.

The Chairperson, Kevin McIntyre welcomed members and introduced the officers of the branch . He then introduced our guest speaker, Councillor Dave Clark

Dave said he was really pleased to receive UNISON’s invitation and thanked us for it.

He went on to say the council had their budget meeting that morning and he got a bit of a kicking about it. When Dave received the invite he was asked not to be political but to tell our members about himself as a person.

Dave told us how he had an interesting childhood – he was boxing at age 7 but was thrown out of cubs for bad behaviour. At age 14 Dave was ‘lifted’ by the police for fighting.

Dave’s career was in Social Work. His background gave him an entirely different view of what SW was. How could he patronise, his role was to empower people - empower children not to be abused and empower elderly people to get what they needed.

He was a radical Social Worker with a fire in his belly to empower people and was the only councillor elected on a bit of graffiti. Dave said his bones may be getting old but still has a fire in his belly. Nowadays SW is a needs led service but he doesn’t agree with this. Dave believes we should stop asking people what they need and ask what their dreams are.

He ended by saying he was delighted to be here.

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1. Attendance – Chair reminded all attendees to sign the sederunt on entry to the hall.
2. Apologies received: Lawrence Hunter, Elaine Dewar, Andy Kane
3. Minutes of AGM 27 Feb 2020: Proposed William Conroy, Seconded: Chris Horne
4. Matters Arising – None
5. Reports from Officers – These are included in the pack – no questions from the floor on any of them
6. Agreement of Audited Accounts: Proposed Jenny Syme, Seconded William Conroy. There were no questions from the floor and accounts/Budget/honoraria proposals accepted. Proposed Budget/Honoraria: Proposed William Conroy, Seconded: Chris Horne
7. Election of Officers and Shop Stewards: List has been tabled with papers today, Branch Secretary asked if anyone had any further nominations from the floor and explained the role and the excellent training from UNISON.
8. Any other competent business: Members brought up issues in schools saying members are being abused on a daily basis by pupils, this has even led to members being suspended due to allegations being made by pupils. Schools have a ‘hands off’ approach. If one pupil kicks off the entire class is evacuated while the disruptive pupil wrecks the room. Members are telling us this happens regularly. Staff are being kicked, punched, spat on and threatened with knives. Unison will be starting a campaign and will go round all the schools and speak to all the members. Teacher unions are going to be doing the same. Meantime members advised they must report any incident every single time. Members saying that they are reluctant as they feel nothing ever gets done. UNISON Branch Secretary urged all members to report all incidents – especially all incidents with members of the public. If they have difficulty getting anything done to report this to UNISON and let us address it for them.

Question from floor:

Body cams - should that not be considered.

Issue with recording/surveillance - could lead to legal issues.

Dave Clark

Maybe the answer, council develop a working party. A working party would provide a much quicker dealing with a member who is suspended. Working party thoughts might be to deal with issue immediately.

TU present a motion to council to request a working group be created to deal solely with this issue.

Stuart Landels

LA is really clear on reporting issue.

Dealing with different population. Behaviour and patterns

Of the view that there is a lot of incidents that go unreported, the staff need to be supported as well.

Telling your manager is not enough it must be recorded on the standard form, then recorded on the council systems.

Brenda

Near miss cards. TUs to report

STRIVE

Council got a pilot. Trying to identify problem children.

Not planned properly - not able to share data. Police, health and LA.

Ongoing and interesting to find out outcome.

One to one support with child that is violent. Has to be a risk assessment.

Ian McIntyre

Does a teacher have a panic button - no. Surely that is something that should be considered.

If my child was assaulted by a child known to be violent. Council could risk being sued.

Sent from my iPad