

LANCASTER DISTRICT CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, 29th September, 2011.
Minutes

A. Dave Webb's talk: 2012 – What Prospects for Nuclear Disarmament?

An audience of twenty plus people were present to hear Paul Andrews (LDCND's Education Officer) introduce Dave Webb, the Chair of National CND, who talked to us about the current situation with regard to nuclear disarmament. Dave first spelled out the multiple challenges faced by the international movement for nuclear disarmament, including the disappointing lack of progress in recent years on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. But then he turned to all the developments that could give us cause to be more hopeful, including the ever-widening range of voices calling for a nuclear-free world.

The talk was followed by 20 minutes of discussion which raised the crucial local issue of how, given the current loss of more than one thousand jobs at BAE Systems in Lancashire, we might hope to persuade defence industry employees in our area to call for industry diversification into renewable energy work. We also need to counter the recent attack (in the Barrow newspaper Northwest Evening Mail) on CNDUK's claims regarding potential diversification at the Barrow Shipyards.

After refreshments, during which a call for donations raised £7.32, we proceeded to the business part of our AGM.

B. AGM Business Meeting

The AGM was chaired by Andrea King.

Committee Members Present:

Dick Allwright	Joint Secretary
Joan Allwright	Joint Secretary
Paul Andrews	Education Office
Graham Bartram	Newsletter Distribution Coordinator
Barbara Fairbairn	Newsletter Distribution Coordinator
Audrey Harland	Newsletter Distribution Coordinator
Karen Heath	Newsletter Editor
Andrea King	Membership Secretary
Jean Wangermann	Treasurer

1. Apologies: Gill Goodridge, Member; Marilyn Tahernia, Member.

2. The Minutes of the last AGM: accepted as accurate.

3. Matters arising:

Last year's Constitutional amendment eliminating the position of Chairman and substituting a rotating chair system for business meetings had continued to be successful.

During the year long-standing Committee Member Graham Kemp resigned for health reasons, and former Press Officer and Webmaster Rob Brown finally left to take up a post in Seattle. They were warmly thanked for their contributions over the years

4. Reports.

4.1 Joint Secretaries. The secretaries' report took the form of a summary activity report in writing (attached – see also the LDCND website) and a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the year's campaigning, fund-raising and other activities.

4.2 Treasurer. There was a gratifying surplus of £183.20 on the year, with continuing assets back above £1000.00. Special thanks are due to Andrew King who has accepted the role of Inspector of Accounts and who very kindly assisted with the preparation of the summary presented to the AGM.

4.3 Membership. During the year a major effort has been made to update our membership and Newsletter distribution lists, and to create e-mail distribution lists to improve contact with members and sympathisers. Membership itself remains steady at around 150.

4.4 Reaching the Young. Paul Andrews reported that plans for 2010-11 had not proved productive but there are now firm plans for a workshop with Bruce Kent and a group of local sixth-formers in Lancaster in January 2012, to be followed by a public talk from Bruce.

5. Campaigning priorities agreed for 2011-12.

Our 2010-11 priorities stand for the time being, subject to refinement at our next Business Meeting, to reflect our discussion of the importance of addressing industrial diversification and other employment issues in our area.

- Stopping Trident.
- Reaching the Young.
- Opposition to Missile Defence and US bases in England.
- Broadening our campaigning base (eg through the Area CND groups, the Quakers, HANA, and UNA, etc.).
- Opposition to nuclear power (through HANA) by monitoring the situation on new-build and nuclear waste disposal.

6. Elections.

There was one resignation during the year (of Graham Kemp as noted above). The Press Officer position was still vacant, and one Member position was unfilled. All current members had agreed to stand for re-election. There being no nominations for any of the positions the 2011-12 committee will therefore be:

Dick Allwright	Joint Secretary
Joan Allwright	Joint Secretary
Paul Andrews	Education Officer
Graham Bartram	Newsletter Distribution Coordinator
Barbara Fairbairn	Newsletter Distribution Coordinator
Gill Goodridge	Member
Audrey Harland	Newsletter Distribution Coordinator
Karen Heath	Newsletter Editor
Andrea King	Membership Secretary
Marilyn Tahernia	Member
Jean Wangermann	Treasurer

In the absence of a Webmaster the Secretaries have taken over responsibility for maintaining the LDCND website, after receiving expert tutoring from Steve Jenkins of Transition City, but they remain seriously in need of technical support.

Although there were no nominations for any of the vacant positions, several people present did leave their e-mail address so that they could be kept in touch and informed about upcoming Business Meetings, which they were warmly invited to attend.

7. Date of 2012 AGM and next Business Meeting.

The 2012 AGM was set for September 27th.

The next Business Meeting has been set for Thursday, November 10th, at 13 East Road, Lancaster, from 7.30pm. It was not decided who will chair the meeting.

NB: During the meeting thanks were expressed to the Newsletter Editor, the Treasurer, the Secretaries and all those involved in distributing the Newsletter. Heartfelt thanks also to Paul Andrews and to Andrea King for chairing the evening.

Dick and Joan Allwright, Joint Secretaries, October 3rd, 2011.