



Minutes (LPD 1171-1180) of an inquorate meeting of the London Production Divisional Committee held at 1130 on Saturday 21 March 2015 in Conference Room 1 at BECTU Head Office, 373-377 Clapham Road, London SW9 9BT

1 Present

Roy Dawson (Props Branch), Maxim Ford (Camera Department Branch), Phil Hooley (Post Production & Facilities Branch), Ian Noah (Writers Producers & Directors Branch)

Chair: Peter Cox (Post Production & Facilities Branch)

Vice Chair: Nick Ray (Certified Grips & Crane Technicians Branch)

Secretary: Tony Scott (Animation & New Media Branch)

Supervisory Official: Tom Bell

2 Apologies

Mark Thornton (Lighting Technicians Branch), Peter McInerney (Film Artistes Branch), Karen Cohen (NEC), Jane Perry (BBC Division), Tim Potter (Camera Department Branch), Roger Bowles (Camera Department Branch)

3 Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was submitted, and, with the addition of matters arising, it was **Agreed (LPD 1171)** to adopt the agenda.

3 Minutes of previous meeting

LPD letter 20 was submitted, and it was

Agreed (LPD 1172) to change Maxim Ford from an observer to Camera Department Branch representative in present, to change 'Mick' to 'Mike' in the observers of those present, and change 'Sound Branch' to 'Writers Producers & Directors Branch' in apologies, and with the inclusion of these amendments to endorse LPD Committee minutes (LPD 1156-1170) version 1.1 of the meeting held on 8 November 2014.

4 Matters arising

- a) Status of this meeting - It was noted this meeting is inquorate, and under 3d of the LPD By-laws (version 1.2) the minutes of this meeting will be subject to ratification at a subsequent quorate meeting.
- b) BECTU finances – In connection with the General Secretary report at the last meeting, it was reported there was nothing further to report at this stage.
- c) Annual Conference 2015 – Following discussion, it was **Agreed (LPD 1173)** to propose to the RPD Committee to have a joint meeting on the morning of Sunday 10 May 2015 at Annual Conference.

5 Branch and membership reports

The January and February 2015 LPD membership statistics, extracted from the relevant NEC Reports, were submitted. They showed an overall LPD membership increase, however this had the effect of reduced subscription income. Following discussion, it was

Agreed (LPD 1174) to note the January and February 2015 LPD membership statistics.

Following discussion, it was

Agreed (LPD 1175) to recommend to the NEC the following four new branches are formed from areas which currently reside in the Production General Branch: Assistant Directors Branch, Production Supervision Branch, Chaperones Branch, Location Security Branch.

- a) Animation & New Media Branch – Nothing to report.
- b) Camera Department Branch – The current situation in the branch was discussed.
- c) Certified Grips & Crane Technicians Branch – A planned lunch in April 2015, to celebrate thirty years of the branch, was reported. It was also reported that a branch meeting had asked the question if the union could arrange to offer health insurance and was considering whether to make a proposal to the NEC – others responded saying the union had traditionally opposed private health care, and asked the branch that, if it wished to make such a proposal, to make such a proposal via the LPD Committee.
- d) Post Production & Facilities Branch – Ongoing branch activities were reported, along with the sending of six representatives to Annual Conference 2015.
- e) Props Branch – A meeting of Props Masters, held on 16 March 2015, was reported, along with a further meeting of Props members the day after. It was noted a further meeting would take place on 24 March 2015.
- f) Writers Producers & Directors Branch – It was reported the branch have organised a meeting, to be held on the evening of 25 March 2015, concerning film policy after the General Election, which has invited representatives from the main political parties to explain their respective positions. A discussion then took place concerning how the Film Policy Committee relates to this meeting. A proposed proposition from the branch was then discussed, and it was

Agreed (LPD 1176) the LPD Committee meeting held on Saturday 21 March 2015 calls on the NEC to support and lobby the Federation of Entertainment Unions and TUC to support, in principle and help find funding for an editorially independent, internet-based TV station promoting trade-union and labour-movement voices and values, to a mainstream audience. This would cover issues corporate media ignores or distorts and be a democratic counterweight to a narrow agenda dictated by the interests of a small, rich minority. It would adopt cooperative models of working and sharing the rewards of its work. Editorial policy would be guided by democratic, trade-union principles funders and trustees would jointly agree, with the aim that unions are the main funders but revenue from sources like foundations, crowd funding and ethical advertising would help secure its independence. The station would also employ progressive-minded media professionals in sectors FEU members represent and provide an audience for the many independent films and programmes on social issues, or with a social, ethical, or progressive political dimension lacking mainstream distribution.

6 Communications

A report was given of the 17 February 2015 meeting of the Communications Committee, whose work includes the responsive recoding of the BECTU site, that workshops at Annual Conference are unlikely to happen due to a busy agenda, and that a guide has been produced for the use of branches concerning writing propositions for Annual Conference. The next meeting of the Communications Committee takes place on 7 July 2015.

7 Annual Members Forum 2014

A discussion about the last Annual Members Forum, held on 22 February 2015, took place. This meeting discussed the future of BECTU and the PACT feature film negotiations – on the latter it had been agreed that all branches produce departmental rate cards and give PACT until 1 April 2015 to agree to reopen negotiations, otherwise the rate cards would be imposed by the union. It was then

Agreed (LPD 1177) to note the Annual Members Forum that took place on 22 February 2015, and to hold the next forum on January or February 2016.

8 Reports

- a) NEC - The NEC minutes of 28 January 2015 (NEC 110837-10880) were submitted, and following discussion, it was
Agreed (LPD 1178) to note the NEC minutes of 28 January 2015 (NEC 10837-10880).
- b) Divisional – Reports were given of the Press and Broadcasting Freedom Conference and the National Pensioners Conference.
- c) Equality – No report.
- d) Health and safety – The Secretary said the Deregulation Bill has now completed its passage through Parliament. The situation is now somewhat confused, and, although an improvement on previous versions of the bill, would have to await the introduction of regulations in the next Parliament for further clarification. The TUC has [summarised the situation](#) on the Stronger Unions site.
- e) Training – Nothing further to report on LPD 1166, concerning referring to the Training Committee the procedure applied to how media related courses are evaluated by Skillset, and how this process could be improved, at this stage.
- f) Film Policy Committee – Following discussion in connection with LPD 1167, it was
Agreed (LPD 1179) to refer the re-examination of the composition of the Film Policy Committee to the LPD AGM due to be held on 20 June 2015.
- g) Copyright Working Group – In relation to LPD 1168, concerning who convened meetings of the Copyright Working Group, the SO said it was Tony Lennon.
- h) LGBT Committee – It was reported than individual has responded to the call for a representative under LPD 1169, but subsequently had to stand down. It was then
Agreed (LPD 1180) the SO seeks nominations for the LGBT Committee from the LPD membership.
- i) Young Members Forum – No report.

9 Any other business

None!

10 Dates of future meetings

(NEC: Sunday 29 March 2015)

(NEC: Friday 8 May 2015)

(BECTU Annual Conference Eastbourne: 9 May 2015)

LPD Committee (includes LPD AGM): Saturday 20 June 2015

(NEC: Sunday 28 June 2015)

LPD Committee: Saturday 5 September 2015

(NEC: Sunday 20 September 2015)

LPD Committee: Saturday 14 November 2015

(NEC: Sunday 29 November 2015)

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