# Minutes CND AGM,

# Arlington Conference Centre, London

# Saturday October 15th 2015

**Present**: approx 100 company members of CND, members of CND Council, CND officer team & CND staff. Minutes: Linda Hugl.

Council meeting?

**Opening remarks**

Dave Webb opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He reported on the deaths of David Rumsey, Alan Mackinnon, George Farebrother and Ray Davies who were remembered for their work.

**Elections**

The General Secretary announced that Jeremy Corbyn was now unable to accept his nomination as a Vice Chair due to his commitments as the newly elected leader of the Labour party. It was unanimously agreed to accept the officer proposal that Jeremy Corbyn be made a CND Vice President. It was also unanimously agreed to accept the officer proposal that Caroline Lucas MP become a Vice President.

**Officer Hustings**

The candidates made their hustings speeches: Dave Webb candidate for CND Chair; Linda Hugl, candidate for CND Treasurer; Daniel Blaney and Sarah Cartin (in absentia), candidates for Vice Chair.

The constitution allows for a vacant officer position to be filled by CND Council if requested by the CND Officer team.

**Resolution 1**: ‘All Officers endorsed in the ballot, results to be announced later, are elected’, was carried unanimously. It was later announced that all the officers were endorsed in the ballot.

**Resolution 2**: ‘Subject to results of the election, 15 Council members are elected’ was unanimously agreed.

The following were deemed elected: Adam Beese, Sophie Bolt, Jenny Clegg, Roslyn Cook, Tom Cuthbert, Ian Fairlie, Alasdair Ibbotson, Clive Lewis MP, Anna Liddle, Vijay Mehta, Tony Staunton, Jim Taggart, Carol Turner, Hannah Tweddell, Katy West.

**Resolution 3**: ‘All Council members nominated by the nations, regions, specialist sections, Y& S CND (see below) are endorsed’, was carried unanimously.

CND Cymru: Michael Freeman, Jill Gough, Jon Plumpton; Scottish CND: Janet Fenton, Veronika Tudhope, Arthur West; East Midlands CND: Ian Cohen, Andrew Gibson, Lesley Matthews; London Region CND: Isobel McHarg, Jim Brann, John Morris; Cumbria Area: Joan West; NW Region: Philip Gilligan, Owen Sloss, Peter Wilson; Kent Area: Wendy Rumsey; Southern Region: Nigel Day; SW Region: Penzance Area: Peter LeMare; Exeter Area: Tom Milburn, Plymouth Area: Michal Lovejoy; Yorkshire Region, Sylvia Boyes, Adam Stacey; Christian CND: Caroline Gilbert; Labour CND: Joy Hurcombe; Youth & Student CND: Mark Soames, Imran Damji-Laurenson, Ellie Kinney.

**Campaigns Presentation**

General Secretary Kate Hudson presented highlights of the year’s campaigning activities, which were detailed in the conference booklet.

In response to questions she commented: it isn't known when the Trident vote will take place, March June and even before Christmas have been mooted or there may not be a vote; the November lobby of parliament will be followed by a Christian CND meeting; NATO and Ukraine a concern but NATO is CND's third priority, Trident being the first; we have record of the Trident position of newly elected MPs; some MPs have changed their mind and it is very important to lobby, they are very concerned about their own electorate; CND will remind MPs about the illegality of nuclear weapons and that they take on legal responsibilities if they vote in favour of Trident; MPs from other parties also need to be contacted, Tories concerned about conventional defence spending and so may be persuadable, MPs who changed their minds will be encouraged to say why; CND's job diversification arguments, supported by Jeremy Corbyn will be a key part of future arguments; Unite has an anti Trident policy; Joy Hurcombe to be congratulated for her continual and now successful lobbying for the release of Shaker Aamer from Guantanamo; more active members needed and that will be encouraged at the international conference on Sunday; a membership drive is ongoing, building on the momentum, of the Labour Party leadership election; the SNP, Jeremy Corbyn and the forthcoming Trident vote are providing an historic opportunity to get rid of Trident.

**Resolution 4**: ‘The annual report is accepted’, was carried unanimously.

**Resolution 5**: ‘All those involved in working on behalf of the campaign during the year, the Officers, council, staff, volunteers and members/activists are congratulated’, was carried unanimously.

**Accounts**

The Treasurer Linda Hugl reported on the 2014 accounts as described in the Conference booklet. She also detailed the progress of the 2016 budget preparations and the difficult financial situation and subsequent staffing restructuring that was being consulted on.

**Resolution 7**: ‘The 2014 accounts are accepted’, was carried, unanimously.

**Resolution 8**: ‘All those involved in working on the accounts, the Treasurer, AFG, Finance Officer and the Accountants are thanked for their work’, was carried, unanimously.

**Auditors**

**Resolution 9**: ‘The accountants MHA MacIntyre Hudson are re-appointed to audit the accounts’, was carried unanimously.

**Special resolution 1: Audit**

The Treasurer spoke on the need to change the audit rule to enable the new Compilation Report of CND's finances to take place and for the audit rule to reflect common practice, as recommended by the auditor. In answer to questions, she stressed that this would not prevent a full audit from taking place if Council or the auditor felt it necessary.

The resolution was overwhelmingly agreed by the 3/4 majority required, with 3 against and some abstentions and the Articles of Association will be amended accordingly.

**Special resolution 2: Youth and Student CND**

Mark Soames spoke on unifying Youth CND and Student CND to reflect what is happening currently. In answer to questions he reported that it would cover young people up to the age of 25 and any student, whatever their age.

The resolution was agreed unanimously and the Articles of Association will be amended accordingly.

**Fundraising appeal**

A rousing fundraising appeal noting the unique opportunity upon us, from Bruce Kent raised £1,023.31.