

Minute of LAZIR Inaugural meeting 1st June 2019 at Euston, London

Present: Jon (and son Alex!) (JDR) , Pete Gregson (PG), Ian (ID), Gerry (GD), Dee (DP)

1. Election of office bearers.. Chair= PG, Vice-Chair= ID, Secretary= GD, Comms= Jon, Event Co-ordination= DP
2. Review of current membership – discussion of ETs of Sian and Stan; CPGB influence of LAW. SWP challenges (eg Stop The War, support for Fol in Scotland)
3. Website – PG to build; to include sections on
 - a. LAZIR Endorsements
 - b. LAZIR Initiatives- Twinning Cities, Fundraisers for Palestine, Touring speakers for CLPs, events
 - c. INSIDE LABOUR + UNION ACTIONS:
 - i. Rogues gallery
 - ii. Lawyers sympathetic to mounting ET defence on charges of bogus AS
 - iii. Model anti-IHRA and anti-JLM motions for CLPs, union branches; Motion successes and failures; CLP leanings, etc; how the NEC leans;
 - iv. Labour Lobbying – complaints and news
 - d. OUTSIDE LABOUR:
 - i. Political video docs on IHRA/Palestine/ Media Coverage
 - ii. Resource- links to articles, LABOUR contact details, Labour actions*
 - iii. Other groups- Liberty; Neturie Karta, FOA, Indian Workers Association; Kilburn Unemployed Workers Group; IJAN
4. Facebook page (ID to build), [now at <https://www.facebook.com/LAZIR-Labour-Against-Zionist-Islamophobic-Racism-2081545662140843/>] Admins= ID, PG, GD, JR
5. Google Group for internal Comms- PG to arrange
6. Discussion on players at JVL, LAW: “Left Zionists” who criticise Israel but support Zionism
7. Getting increased membership- taking flyers to events+ meetings, media coverage of LAZIR initiatives in Workers Weekly, Morning Star, RT [PG to contact Afhsin Rattansi) , possible patrons..
8. We may review our Aims and Policies – there some discussion about how we reference JVL. DP will consider possible re-wording, which will be circulated to members for approval.
9. DONM - TBA

**This idea “borrowed” from JVL AGM proposal by George Willmers*

A separate “resource” section to the LAZIR website could also be usefully added, listing useful research and educational resources under subclassifications such (a) books, (b) links to useful informational websites, (c) video resources (e.g. the Witchhunt film, Real News Network videos, Palestinian video resources, interviews with Jewish an Israeli socialists), (d) links to other activist organisations etc.

Late suggestion from Dee that we advocate that “all Labour candidates take lessons on the middle east - not just on anti-Semitism, but also on the historical causes of the problems there.” Also Dee will run a letter-writing campaign on behalf of Lazir,

responding to various allegations in the newspapers and websites on AS issue, which would be co-ordinated from the website and on FB.