

**Time:** 6pm – 8pm

**Date:** Tuesday 12th May 2020

**Venue:** Via Zoom. Please [register here](#) to receive an invitation by email.

You don't have to download the Zoom software to join the meeting, but if you want to, you can [download Zoom](#) for free onto a laptop, tablet or smartphone. You can also join by phone.

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## Agenda

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting (14<sup>th</sup> March AGM)**
  - Accuracy
  - Matters arising
- 3. Special Guest Speaker: Dave Nellist: Unite & the Labour Party**

Dave first served as a Labour County Councillor in The West Midlands in 1982, and subsequently became the Labour MP for Coventry South East. He was expelled in January 1992 for refusing to pay the Poll Tax or repudiate Militant. He served as a socialist councillor in Coventry for a further 14 years, and has been the Chair of the Trade Union and Socialist Coalition (TUSC) since 2010.

Unite is the largest financial backer and affiliate of the Labour Party. Affiliation bars Unite from supporting candidates from any other political party to serve in national or local government. It has now been shown that while Unite members worked for an election victory, Labour Party insiders were working against the interests of workers, with some very serious allegations exposing a toxic party culture. The meeting will discuss whether we should continue with our affiliation to the Labour Party, and if we did not, what the alternatives might be.

- 4. Workplace Updates**
- 5. Reports:**
  - Adoption of Buddying Scheme
  - Covid-19 Response meetings (see also Health and Safety [Toolkit](#))
  - Environmental meeting (see also article [here](#))
  - Fighting for Our Lives – Maintenance Staff and Operatives meeting
  - Finance: Quarter 1 Accounts (Jan-Mar 2020)

**6. Motions**

**7. Donations and Affiliations**

- Request for affiliation to Labour Housing Group (see below)

**8. AOB**

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**Request for affiliation to Labour Housing Group**

The Labour Housing Group (LHG) seeks to ensure that housing of the highest possible living standard is available for all members of the community regardless of their means.

As a socialist society affiliated to the Labour Party we work within the movement, both nationally and locally, to develop and promote workable socialist housing policies through our members.

Members receive a regular newsletter and email updates. They are entitled to attend and vote at the annual general meeting, policy days, regional LHG events, and annual Labour Party Conference fringe event. They can also contribute to policy debates and discussions through LHG briefings, propose campaign ideas and write articles, and join a local LHG branch or set one up (there is an active London branch)

Group membership (CLPs, Union branches, Labour Groups, Labour Party affiliated organisations) costs £30 a year. The easiest way to join is online at <https://labourhousing.org/membership/>, and this link can also be used for any individual members to join.