

2

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CENSORSHIP

NATIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at 6.45, Friday, 4th February, 2000 at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1.

*Damian Steer.*

Present: Ted Goodman (Chair), Dave Bird, Kent Boulton, Chris Hardman, Basil Stein, Mark Taha, Mary Hayward.

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. The minutes of last meeting were signed as correct.
3. Matters arising:

1. Westminster sex shop policy - Basil Stein to write to them again.

- ii. Select Committee on Culture - 2 replies, one an acknowledgement, one not interested. Janet Anderson (deputy to Chris Smith) to be contacted after the outcome of the BBFC case was known. To be asked how many people she would accept in the delegation.

- iii. Video Appeals Committee - judicial review hearing due 10th February. Damian Steer had agreed to observe and report. It was decided by 4 votes to 3 that no press release would be issued until after the hearing, though Dave Bird as an individual planned to publish something before then.

- iv. Basil Stein to draft an updated version of the 1988 policy statement on indecent photographs of children.

4. Balances: HSBC - £124.83p, Girobank - £45.91p

5. Contacts with other organisations

- i. The possibility of reciprocal mailings was discussed and it was agreed in principle to take up the idea. Mary Hayward to write to War on Want who had raised the matter with CAC, send them a copy of the existing flyer and ask how many they would need.

- ii. It was decided by 5 votes to 2 to renew CAC's affiliation to Liberty and by 4 votes to 3 that Mary Hayward should submit a motion on Section 28 for the AGM in June.

6. Use of the media

- i. Press releases must be OK'd by the Chair or the Hon. Secretary. The agreed wording must be the one used.

- ii. Soundbites - there may not be time to get the OK but the person asked should try. In interviews, we must all distinguish between CAC policy and our own views.

- iii. Mary Hayward warned that reproducing press cuttings in a print newsletter may result in legal action and fines. Whether the same applies to a website is not clear.

PTO

7. New members of Council - must be members of CAC first.

8. Arrangements for meetings - item held over.

9. Any other business

i. Basil Stein and Mark Taha both hoped to attend the BBFC 'roadshow' in London on 28th February.

ii. Mary Hayward to write to the producer of The End of the Affair about the BBFC's insistence on giving the film an 18 certificate.

10. Date of next meeting - 24th or 31st March.