READING'S ONLY NEWSPAPER PRESENTS ..... RED RAG MEETING RED RAG MEETING RED RAG MEETING

(Minutes of the Red Rag collective meeting on Sunday Feb 28)

1)DISTRIBUTION The only urgent problem at the moment is that John (distributes in Caversham) is moving. Someone (who?) to write to the more far-flung readers in that direction and ask them if they can collect from Acorn or contribute to postage. Postage abroard is getting rather expensive - someone (who?) to include a note to our overseas readership (but not to Jura) asking if they really want the rag and if they can contribute towards postage.
Lesley pointed out that she is quite happy to dispatch the postal copies.
It was agreed to ask the distributors to check that all the addresses they deliver to are correct (over the next month or two, i.e. no rush).

2)ACORN Agreed to carry on producing at Acorn. Acorn is/are happy about it provided we tidy up more diligently in future and check that it's OK to work there on an issue-to-issue basis. Agreed to use paper from Acorn but to keep a small stock of our own for "emergencies", to buy up a stock of ink and stencils from Acorn (for storage and use there) to avoid confusion of who owes how much every issue, to carry on looking for a better printer. Linda Peek has access to a duplicator & can do some printing in advance of production weekends. Acorn are sending off a batch of artwork for colour photocopying (to make technicolour badges); agreed to invest in 2 or 3 designs --- send your ideas (check at Acorn about the size) to Paul, 65 Alexandra Rd this week.

3)EDITORIAL POLICY We discussed the need to divide reporting from polemic and agreed that "copy will usually go under 'news' unless there is strong doubt about whether it is straight reporting or not, in which case it should go under 'platform' and should be signed in some way.Platform should always carry an introduction/disclaimer."
Also agreed that the news section should have credibility as news, ie must distinguish fact from comment.

4)PERSONNEL Discussion of the problem of communication between the two production groups and also with peolpe not specifically in one of the groups. Decided to speed internal communications via a diary to be kept at Acorn. Suggested that one person from the non-production group should drop in on the production.

5)OUTLETS Unemployment Centre, Central Library and Wholefoods all possibilities. The cover could be more distinctive (also more informative ?).

6)MONEY $£$£$£$£$£$$£$£$£$£$£... We have £65:48 . Bankers orders currently bring in about £5 per issue (cost per issue currently £20 to £25) . Re-distribute bankers order form(?). Should print a finance section in every issue. Decided to put a tin in Acorn.

7)RESPECTABILITY?? Lesley and Mark are negotiating with Residents Associations and the Trades Council (resp.),both of which are looking for some medium of intercommunication, to see if there's any way we can (& are prepared to) help.

8)MAYDAY Agreed to produce a Mayday bumper issue, mostly printed in advance, at a stall on the day (stall costs £7:50) and to distribute as normal.Thrash out details at next meeting.

9)TYPISTS were asked to keep comments to the end of articles.

10)If we get to hear of events could we make a habit of telling Mike/John just in case they haven't heard?

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That's all till next time ... SUNDAY MARCH 28 ... Pete C. will arange a venue.

x x Nick x x