

Policy regarding confidential matters discussed by the National Committee

Following the Treasurer's report of fraud presented to the October 2019 National Committee meeting it was agreed by consensus that the matter should remain confidential while the authorities investigated it. This agreement was not minuted and the matter was subsequently publicly disclosed in a manner seemingly designed to cause as much distress as possible. To avoid this situation happening again I believe that we need some form of procedure for explicitly deciding that a matter is confidential and then a method of recording the decision.

In the case referenced above the matter was considered so sensitive that the relevant document was tabled rather than distributed in advance. I wonder if putting the word "Confidential" in heavy type in the heading of the document would have helped.

If a delegate believes that something should be considered confidential then he or she should propose this as a motion to vote on in the same way as all other decisions are made. If the motion carries the General Secretary will minute the decision along with the record of the confidential discussion and any conclusion reached. The minutes, excluding the record of the confidential matter, will be circulated amongst those who attended the meeting as normal with the confidential matter as an appendix. Only the minutes, not the confidential appendix will be available for general release.

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