



**MINUTES OF BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL HELD ON  
19<sup>th</sup>. DECEMBER 2018  
TONY BENN HOUSE**

**49/18 ATTENDANCE**

**Officers** Simon Crew, Unite, (President), Hugh Kirkbride, Unite, (Vice-President), A. Robertson, RMT (Secretary),

**Delegates** PCS (1), Unite (2), UCU (1), NEU/NUT (1)

**50/18 APOLOGIES**

ASLE&F (1), RMT (1), Unite (4), NEU/NUT (1), PCS (2), NUJ (1)

**51/18 Minutes of meeting** held on 28<sup>th</sup>. November 2018 were read and agreed as a correct record.

**52/18 Matters arising**

44/18 Motion - "Municipalisation of the Buses"

Hugh Kirkbride reported the Buses Branch has not yet responded.

**53/18 Reports**

**(i) University of Bristol Court.**

Hugh Kirkbride, Simon Crew and 2 others attended this meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup>. December on behalf of Bristol Trades Union Council.

Simon Crew reported that the proposal to drastically reduce the number of Representatives on the Court was carried. Simon opened the debate in opposition to the proposals stressing that within the Court's Statutes Bristol Trades Union Council is guaranteed places on the Court as Representatives of the working people of Bristol. The other delegates also contributed to the debate. Hugh reported that some Convocation members supported us.

The result of the vote means that 20 seats will be allocated for unions and business but there was no indication of how those seats would be divvied out, and nominees from those bodies would be appointed to Court by the Chancellor. Further Consultations will take place over the next 6 months.

**(ii) CWU Campaign re Closure of Crown Post offices.** A number of delegates attended the rally in support of the CWU event on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup>. December held at Castle Park and at the Galleries.

**(iii) Housing crisis Campaign.**

8 delegates distributed leaflets near St. Catherine Place in Bedminster on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup>. December 2018. There was a mixed response from the public however people were reading the leaflets (despite the foul weather).

A discussion took place on how best to progress the Campaign with a view to holding a day event.

**(iv) Meeting with Bristol Mayor 13<sup>th</sup>. December 2018**

We were advised on 7<sup>th</sup>. December of a meeting with Marvin Rees to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and although it was to be a "South West TUC delegation only" it was suggested by the TUCJCC Representative at the SWRTUC Exec that it would be good to have Bristol Trades Council represented if possible.

Hugh Kirkbride attended the meeting with the Mayor along with Nigel Costley (TUC), Ines Lage (TUC), Karen Cole (Unite), Kevin Beazer (CWU), Nick Ireland (USDAW). The Mayor was accompanied by Kevin Slocombe and Simon Cowley.

Matters discussed included;

### **Living Wage:**

The Bristol Trades Council point about enshrining collective bargaining into the Bristol Living Wage process was agreed at the TU side pre-meeting and that Hugh could raise it as a potential mechanism. Marvin Rees and Kevin Slocombe agreed and asked Nigel Costley to re-write the couple of drafts he had done to include references to collective bargaining.

### **City Gathering:**

The TU side to this meeting were all invited to this event which is being held on Friday, 11 January 2019 in City Hall .

### **Apprenticeships:**

Nigel Costley explained the problem of under-payment of apprentices, particularly in hairdressing. The principle TU demand was that the Mayor should lean on training providers to add paying the correct rate to their checklists (Reflexions have a virtual monopoly on hairdressing training), and this was agreed in principle.

### **Adult Skills:**

Both sides agreed that radical changes were needed to broaden the funding of adult skills programmes, and it was agreed that Matt Gillett (Unite & ex-CWU) would meet the City Council to pursue the TU agenda in more detail.

### **Dying to Work Charter:**

This charter, pioneered in the Midlands, protects the employment position of those diagnosed with terminal illnesses. Bristol City Council has agreed this in principle, as has DAS Insurance. They therefore agreed to do a joint signing / PR event.

### **Night Economy Board:**

The remit of this is extremely vague, but the Mayor's view seems to be about planning the hospitality industry. Hugh raised the issue of health, and specifically mental health, impacts of night working, and Nick Ireland spoke about the assaults and threats to night workers. This may not have been what the Mayor wanted to hear, but we are invited to contribute to further discussions.

### **Relations with Full Council:**

The Mayor would welcome input from the TUs in the city. It was agreed that Bristol TUC would look at putting forward questions, initially based around the agenda discussed today. This would fit with a Spring campaign on the Living Wage.

### **Next Meeting:** 3 April 2019.

Arising from the report concern was expressed that Bristol Trades Union Council may have been excluded from these discussions without the intervention of the TUCJCC Representative and that whilst the principal of collective bargaining in relation to the Living Wage was accepted by the Mayor the same principle was not being practiced within the City Council as there are instances of Trades Unions being ignored.

### **(v) Bristol International Airport Consultative Committee**

Hugh Kirkbride reported that the airport - used by 8.5 million passengers this year has asked North Somerset Council for permission for a development that would see the

existing terminal enlarged, a bus and coach station created on the roof and an extension to the Silver Zone long-stay car park.

It has also requested a change to the seasonal restrictions on night flights so there is an annual cap on movements instead. The idea would be that, by 2026, the airport would run an additional four flights a night during the peak summer season. It was anticipated that over the next decade more than 1,000 new jobs would be created. Hugh has urged that recruitment for these jobs take place in deprived areas and that these are quality skilled jobs.

There would be an impact on local traffic therefore changes are suggested to the A38 junctions with West Lane and Downside Road.

Arising from the report, concern was voiced on the environmental impact these proposals would have.

**(vi) SWTUC Women's Event.**

A delegate reported the above had recently taken place with only 2 weeks notice given however some 50 delegates were in attendance. Items discussed included Pay Gaps and the Menopause. Another event will take place in the New Year and it was requested that Trades Councils be invited.

**54/18 CORRESPONDENCE**

**1. CONGRESS HOUSE**

TRADES COUNCILS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 8-9 JUNE 2019 – WILL NOW BE HELD IN BOURNMOUTH CONFERENCE AND CONSULTATION ON COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS. It was agreed the Secretary resubmit our previous response to the consultation.

**56/18 AOB**

Reported that the National Pensioners Convention (NPC) are organising a "Dignity Day" on 1<sup>st</sup>. February 2019.

Sheila Caffrey (NEU/NUT) reported that the NUT ceases to exist from 1<sup>st</sup>. January 2019 and there has been a reorganisation of Branches within the Regions therefore this will be her last meeting as a delegate to Bristol TUC however, she is hoping to be able to attend Bath TUC.

Meeting closed at 2045