



**MINUTES OF BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL HELD ON  
25<sup>TH</sup>. SEPTEMBER 2019  
TONY BENN HOUSE**

**46/19 ATTENDANCE**

**Officers** Simon Crew, Unite, (President), A. Robertson, RMT (Secretary), Tom Mewies, PCS, (Treasurer), Alex Kempshall, Unite, (Communications Officer)

**Delegates** Plus the following Unite (3), PCS (1), NUJ (1), UCU (1), and USDAW (1)

**Visitor** NEU (1)

**47/19 APOLOGIES**

Hugh Kirkbride, Unite, (Vice-President), RMT (1), PCS (1) and Unite (1)

**48/19 Minutes of meeting** held on 31<sup>st</sup>. July 2019 were read and agreed as a correct record.

**49/19 MATTERS ARISING** None

**50/19 REPORTS**

(i) SWTUC Executive

Simon Crew reported on a recent meeting he had attended where the following were discussed;

- Future Leaders and Young Workers Group – event to be held on 7<sup>th</sup>. November
- Living Wage campaign – Bristol Mayor seeking to make Bristol the first Living Wage City in the country however outsourcing an issue. Aiming to create Living Wage Zones eg. Temple Meads area development with the University of Bristol.
- Dying to Work Campaign – Some Health Trusts have signed up.
- TUCJCC Representative reported that the Trades Union Councils' Motion to Congress giving Trades Councils a bigger voice at Congress was defeated due to major unions not supporting.

Airport Consultative Committee – Airport has a Carbon Neutral aim.

- Going Green – Climate Change Strikes. TUC had supported the recent action however some committee members felt that the TUC needed to reach out to the climate change activists as it appears many of our policies are contradictory with their aims.
- UOB Court. SWTUC has appointed a delegate
- Trade Unions’ Campaigns – CWU reported that Royal Mail Postal Workers are being balloted for Industrial Action.
- Various Trade Unions reported on their campaigns.

Arising from the report the USDAW delegate reported that the Co-op are changing Contracts for new starts to include Saturday and Sunday working along with changes to Pensions. He also reported that the company has in-house trainers and this has resulted in a 20% increase in TU membership. It appears that Supermarkets are attacking the terms and Conditions of employment of their staff in response to competition from Aldi and Lidl supermarket chains.

It was agreed to invite a speaker from the CWU regarding their anticipated industrial action.

With regard to the Climate Change strikes;

Simon Crew reported that he had attended one at his daughter’s school. The Children’s Demo received a good response from the public, including motorists at the initial stages. It was reported that 10,000 people participated.

A Unite delegate, with regard to Carbon Free issues, reported that the Council wishes to remove all Gas appliances for cooking from their High Rise properties and replace with Electric which is 50% more expensive. In addition, H&S statistics show that more fires are caused by electric cookers.

An NUJ delegate was of the opinion that Parking Zones and the potential banning of Cars etc within the City could be discriminatory especially with regard to trades people etc who rely on their own transport to carry out their business within the city.

A PCS delegate said that there is a serious air pollution in Bristol resulting in 300 deaths per year and that there is a need to look at other solutions eg free public transport linked to an integrated transport system.

## **51/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

### **SWTUC**

Copy of Manifesto for Creative and Cultural Industries

noted

Copy of SWTUC guide to population and migration	noted
Notification of SWTUC Pensioners Conference 2019 and Nomination and Registration	noted
Cuba Solidarity Campaign – Renewal of Affiliation 2019	actioned
ACTSA – Renewal of Affiliation 2019	actioned

#### **45/19 AOB**

May Day and International Workers' Memorial Day (IWMD) 2020

Alex Kempshall, Unite, reminded delegates IWMD will fall on the Tuesday and 1<sup>st</sup>. May (May day) will be on the Friday.

It was agreed that we need to seek speakers and to distribute initial publicity asap. We need to also involve the Labour and Co-operative parties.

A discussion arose regarding having the May Day celebrations on Friday which is a working day and it was felt that if we held it on the Saturday it would attract more working people. An example were given of celebrations held on the Saturday in Wells this year which was very well attended.

If we do hold our celebrations on May Day then we should consider having some sort of Social event in the evening.

Being no further business the meeting closed at 2025