



**MINUTES OF BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL HELD ON  
18<sup>th</sup>. DECEMBER 2019  
TONY BENN HOUSE**

**62/19 ATTENDEES**

Simon Crew (President - UNITE), Andy Robertson, Secretary, (RMT), Alex Kempshall, Communication Officer (Unite) and delegates from Unite (2) and UCU (1)

**63/19 APOLOGIES:**

Hugh Kirkbride (Vice-President – UNITE) and PCS (3), RMT (1) and Unite (1)

**64/19 PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS**

Simon Crew welcomed delegates and thanked them for attending despite the poor weather. He also made reference to the disappointing General Election result for Labour.

**65/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

These were unanimously agreed as a true record.

**66/19 MATTERS ARISING:**

59/19 (ii)

MOD. It is feared there will be a massive attack on Public Services Trades Unions as a result of the Conservative General Election victory.

**67/19 REPORTS**

University of Bristol Court Annual Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup>. December 2019

Simon Crew attended the above meeting. He reported the theme for the meeting was “Global Civic University” and that a number of workshops had been organised to discuss the future direction of the university. Simon’s group included the Deans of three

Faculty's including Engineering whose Dean felt that the "Civic" aspect was not being fulfilled due to the lack of involvement with local schools.

Questions were asked at the open session including on the Living Wage City. UOB states they are one of the leaders regarding the Living Wage.

Simon further reported that in response to a question regarding the appointment of Vice Chancellors one lives in Malaysia.

### **68/19 General Election Result.**

During the discussion regarding the devastating results for the Labour Party and movement the following comments were made;

- Role of establishment including the media who were opposed to Corbyn and policies including attacks from some Labour colleagues
- No real focus on Manifesto – kept chucking out "goodies"
- Problem of loss of engagement with people therefore people not voting
- Labour Party PPCs imposed on Constituencies
- Regarding the social media there needs to be a quick response to lies produced on this rapidly increasing medium eg. Anti-Semitism charges
- Lack of organisation in some constituencies
- Negative affect of Remain Alliance eg Stroud
- Labour Councils sacking workers and cutting services
- No clarity on Brexit – seen to be a reversal of policy regarding honouring of Referendum result therefore many long running Labour supporting constituencies in the North and Midlands voted Tory (approx 50)
- Regarding the prospects of ensuring a future Labour Government it was felt that there is a real need to build on the 10 million votes cast for Labour (more votes than cast for Brown and Milliband) and a need to maintain progressive policies to ensure the enthusiasm of young people

The TUC had issued a statement regarding the election result however delegates felt that the TUFL statement was more suitable therefore it was agreed to adopt and adapt the statement on behalf of Bristol TUC for the website.

### **69/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

UCU Details of how to make a donation to Dispute fund.

### **70/19 AOB**

It was agreed to place adverts in the Morning Star re New Year Greetings and 90<sup>th</sup>.  
Anniversary

President closed the meeting and wished everyone season's greetings

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.