



**MINUTES OF BRISTOL TRADES UNION COUNCIL HELD ON
30th September 2020
Via Jitsi**

1. ATTENDEES

Sheila Caffrey (President - NEU), Simon Crew (Secretary - UNITE), 9 from Unite, 1 from UCU, 3 from PCS, 1 from NUJ, 1 from USDAW, 1 from ASLEF, 1 from GMB, 1 from RMT. **Guest:** Dave Chapple (TUCJCC).

2. APOLOGIES:

1 from UNITE and 1 from NUJ

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

These were unanimously agreed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING: Nigel Costley is the TU rep on the Mayors History Commission.

5. REPORTS

Delegate from RMT spoke on protecting jobs, government funding, dealing with the Welsh Government. Conditions will be under attack and we need to be aware a real battle is coming. Delegate from ASLEF agreed and advised they had seen the first 0% pay offer.

Dave Chapple spoke of his work as JCC rep, setting up Trades Councils such as Jersey and increasing TUC support for Trades Councils. Dave encouraged branches with members in Bath and B&nes to affiliate to Bath Trades Council.

Delegate from NUJ reported redundancies in Bristol Live and the BBC.

NHS Demos – A delegate from Unite reported on 2 demos where our banner was present and the President spoke at one.

NSSN Lobby at TUC – Roger reported and advised the aim to pressure the General Council to be more proactive.

Glos Strikes – The Secretary attended a meeting and a Key Workers Summit is being organised, members agreed to support this.

6. MOTIONS

The delegate from GMB proposed and Simon Crew seconded the submitted motion:

This Trades Council notes:

1. That the number of claimants for work-related Universal Credit has more than doubled since March. The ONS estimates that there are 3.4 million people actively seeking work.
2. That a large proportion of the 9.4 million furloughed workers will not return to work after October.
3. That this will affect those who keep their jobs, as well as the bosses, attack our pay, hours, workloads and contractual rights.

This council believes

4. unemployment is a product of the capitalist system, which can only produce for profit, leaving millions idle while we need hospitals, schools, houses and a green new deal
5. That the trade unions, Labour Party CLPs and branches, and Labour councils have a duty to provide resources, including premises, for the unemployed to self-organise in the fight for jobs and decent benefits.

This council resolves

6. To build for and organise a socially distanced rally in the town centre to raise the issue of unemployment and the demands for no job cuts, jobs for all and Universal Credit set at the level of the national living wage and paid from day one
7. To invite other local labour movement and community organisations to co-sponsor the rally

8. At the same time to ask them to a meeting to discuss setting up an unemployed workers centre, how to give solidarity and support to defend every job and how we can help the unemployed to organise autonomously

9. To launch a petition to the council, calling for:

a. no local authority job cuts

b. resources, including premises, for the unemployed

c. them to campaign for the government to provide jobs for all.

A delegate from Unite proposed an amendment that 9a includes no cuts to jobs or services which was accepted. The delegate from NUJ proposed an amendment to delete 4 which was seconded by the UCU delegate and overwhelmingly defeated. The motion as amended by Unite's amendment was carried with 19 in favour and 1 against.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Cuba Solidarity Affiliation – it was agreed to reaffiliate
SWTUC Supporting Mental Health
TUC report from the Trades Council delegate

8. AOB

A delgate from Unite advised of jobs rally on 10th October. May Day – we should start planning for May Day 202, it was agreed the Secretary should look to recreating the May Day Committee.

The President thanked members for their attendance and patience in the technical problems we had. It was suggested to meet by Zoom next time.

Next meeting 28th October