COVENTRY TRADES UNION COUNCIL. DELEGATE MEETING
THURSDAY 21ST November 2019 7.30pm
KOCO, ARCHES INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, SPON END, COVENTRY

1. Apologies.
2. RMT- update delegates on the current industrial dispute.
3. Climate Change Motion – see attached
4. Discussion – Frank Keogh Unite- update on attacks on the NHS
5. Minutes of October Delegate Meeting- see attached
6. EC Report – see attached
7. Treasurers Report
8. Correspondence and actions
9. Combatting the Far Right – proposals-
   Nominate a named contact who will act as ‘responsible person’ for ensuring rapid communications
   are sent out to all Delegates and affiliate branches on notification of a far right mobilisation.
   Nominate a substitute for the above role in the event that the responsible person is away or unwell
   etc.
   Nominate a further four people who will be immediate contact points for the ‘responsible person’.
   1.) - A person to take first steps ref mobilisation, i.e.coordinate communication with trade union
      branches, anti fascist campaign groups and labour movement bodies, via a CTUC coordinated phone
      tree (Phone Tree A);
   2.) - A person to take first steps ref stewarding and security i.e. develop a group of people and
      coordinate a Steward mobilisation and a second phone tree (Phone Tree B). With agreed and reliable
      contacts willing to act to ensure safety and to effectively counter threats of physical violence from far-
      right protesters;
   3.) - A person to act as a police liaison officer to ensure CTUC communicate effectively with the
      police and try to minimise the risks caused by negative police behaviour towards protestors;
   4.) - A person to agree to contact the media and place appropriate content on the CTUC Facebook
      page.
10. Industrial reports
11. International Issues
12. Diary Dates
13. Any Other Business

Coventry TUC is sad to inform delegates of the death of Vince Butler. Vince played a major role in Coventry TUC
as a delegate from Amicus Rolls Royce (now Unite) and later UNISON. He also served as Treasurer. Vince was
an Honorary member of Coventry TUC. As a full time Amicus convener at Rolls Royce's Ansty plant, he won an
Employment Tribunal in 2003. His funeral is Friday 22nd November at Canley Crematorium, 2.15pm
EC Report

Delegate meeting agenda items

1) Climate emergency motion
2) Wholly owned subsidiairies in the NHS - Frank Keogh
3) Combating the far right

Action points

A) Circulate D Kersey’s paper on combating the far right - Secretary
B) Circulate details of potential Britain First meeting/conference on 16/11 as they become available - Secretary
C) Book Venezuela public meeting for January 2020 due to the December general election - D Nellist
D) Order 100 copies of the Health Campaigns Together pamphlet demolishing the Tory NHS claims - D Nellist
E) Circulate details of UCU strikes to delegates - Secretary
F) Follow up what has happened to plaques and trees in the rememberance garden - President
G) Clarify what CAR are seeking about combating workplace racism - D Kersey or S Leahy
H) Include Hope not hate pamphlet in correspondence - Secretary
I) Invite Gemma from TUC JCC to speak at a delegate meeting – President
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<tr>
<th>Minutes of a CTUC Delegate Meeting Thursday 17 October 2019</th>
<th>Actions</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 Apologies:</strong> T Logan (Unite), J Swift (Unite), B Gittins (Unite), K Sandhu (Unite), D Kersey (Unison), A Hammond (Unite), S McKie (CWU), S Walsh (Unite).</td>
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<td><strong>2 Discussion of CWU Royal Mail ballot:</strong> Des Arthur explained this started in 2017 with the ‘4 pillars’. That ballot had a 73.4% turnout with 89% voting yes. That achieved a good deal without the need for action. The new CEO Rico Back has looked to undermine this agreement - CWU ADC 2019 agreed to protect the agreement leading to this ballot. CWU used online communications with members and have sold the message to the public – the changes will mean 40,000 job cuts and decimate the service. The turnout this time was 75.9% with 97.1% yes vote. The dates for action haven’t yet been decided but there are key pressure points coming up. Pickets will be at every Royal Mail and Parcelforce site. The meeting agreed to: (a) publicise the dispute and any action to delegates, (b) seek an update at the November delegate meeting and (c) invite a speaker from CWU and from UCU to the Tom Mann lecture before Len McCluskey speaks.</td>
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<td><strong>3 Discussion of NHS:</strong> Fran Keogh was unable to attend but offered to come to another delegate meeting. Pat McGee explained the Sustainability and Transformation Programme was brought in back in 2016 to achieve £267m ‘savings’ with no explanation how this would be achieved. Locally over £343K has been paid to PwC for consultancy for this. STPs have been so discredited that they’ve been re-branded: ‘Better health better care better values’. New name, same plan. This is supposed to be a 5 year plan but after over 3 years there’s still no detail and the plan is due to be ‘refreshed’ in autumn 2019. The concern of many NHS staff and supporters is that this will go down the Accountable Care Organisation model used in the USA. These reorganisations are supposed to save money that can be released into care, but there are no guarantees that any savings will be released to where they’re needed. The meeting agreed to: (a) advertise and encourage delegates to attend the stroke ‘engagement’ consultation meetings, (b) encourage people to read ‘the lowdown’ on what is happening in the NHS and (c) advertise the Coventry KONP meetings that take place on the fourth Thursday of the month at the council house.</td>
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<td><strong>4 Minutes of the September 2019 delegate meeting:</strong> 5) Tory protest – thanks to Unite for organising the coaches. 6) Climate change – government’s response to XR protests has echoes of their attacks on TUs in the 1980s. The green new deal meeting on 26/10 will be followed by a meeting in side room at MCH. 9) Uplift – thanks given to CTUC for donation.</td>
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<td><strong>5 Report of October 2019 EC meeting:</strong> 8) Tom Mann – will arrange stalls for TUC, unions, NSSN, KONP and any others who ask. Want TU banners to be hung around the hall. Delegates to arrive at 18:30 to prepare for 19:00 opening.</td>
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<td><strong>6 Resolutions:</strong> Climate change – EC to revise motion and put it as 1st item on delegate agenda.</td>
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<td><strong>7 Treasurers report:</strong> £7,286.29, probably around 5,000 after expenses. Signatories for the account have been updated. D Nellist is exploring alternative account providers.</td>
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<td><strong>8 Correspondence:</strong> 12) Cuba Solidarity Campaign – agreed to publicise public meeting on 16/11. 18) Green new deal for Coventry – agreed to publicise meeting on 26/10.</td>
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<td><strong>9 Combating the far right:</strong> For discussion at the November EC meeting.</td>
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<td><strong>10 Coventry city of culture:</strong> Report included in correspondence. P Street will see Julie O’Connell in early November.</td>
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<td><strong>11 International issues:</strong> Ecuador reinstated fuel subsidies. D Cozens will share materials.</td>
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Climate Change Motion - submitted by Coventry NEU, amendments in red and underlined submitted by Darrall Cozens

Coventry TUC notes that:

• The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report from October 2018 which warns that “we have 12 years to limit climate change catastrophe”.
• 2018 was the 42nd consecutive year (since 1977) where global land and ocean temperatures were above the 20th century average; with the last five years being the warmest five on record.
• Climate change and other environmental threats will impact on the poorest people first and worst, in both the Global South and the developed economies.
• According to the International Organisation on Migration there could be up to 200 million people fleeing the effects of global warming by 2050, and these “climate refugees” currently are not defined as refugees.
• The future of our planet and humanity is at risk. The evidence is clear.
• Since 1988 some 71% of pollution worldwide has been caused by 100 giant corporations who produce to create profits for shareholders regardless of the effects on the environment.
• To stop climate change, we urgently need a different kind of society run in the interests of people and the environment and not the owners of capital.
• We call for a Green New Deal that includes the democratic public ownership of our industries and services for a just transition, involving all trade unions and communities, transforming our economy to reduce inequality and help meet urgent climate targets.

Coventry TUC recognises that the climate crisis facing our planet has erupted onto the streets of Britain with school student strikes and other protests involving young people.

The school student climate strikes, initially started by one Swedish school student, Greta Thunberg, have seen growing monthly strikes across the country involving thousands of school students.

We also note that whilst the Westminster, Scottish and Welsh Parliaments have declared a climate emergency as have many Midlands councils, too little is being done to reverse the impact on our climate.

We support the motion passed at the TUC at the 2019 Congress (see attached) and recognise that the trade union movement has played a significant role in the climate change movement.

The protests have forced the government to recognise a climate emergency, we now need to force them to act on that.

Although Tory anti-union laws make taking legal strike action difficult, we support the motivation behind the call for a climate strike.

We call on all trade union members to support the Climate Crisis day of action on 20th September by publicising and participating in events on the day and releasing a press statement.

Task Officers to be at the heart of the movement and to advertise to all trade unions to do whatever they can.

We also call on schools to:

1 Refuse to sanction any pupil who joins the Climate Strike protests
2 Do more to ensure that young people understand the impact on our planet by ensuring that there are opportunities within the curriculum
3 Promote discussions and activities so their voice can be heard.
4 Advertise schools to take part in the poster competition and local conference organised in October

Finally, Coventry TUC notes that:

On September 12th 2019 it was announced that a new planet had been discovered some 111 light-years from Earth, 650 million million miles. Scientists believe that its temperature range and the presence of water makes it habitable.

Science and technology are being used to search for habitable planets for us to inhabit as the methods of production under capitalism make OUR planet inhabitable from pollution!

Why not stop polluting OUR planet?

Given that since 1988 some 71% of pollution has been caused by the 100 largest companies, why not take action against them?

Their method of production is to make the greatest profit possible for shareholders and not to meet human need or the needs of the environment.

Why not bring them into public ownership under democratic control with a rational plan of production so we wisely use Earth’s resources to meet human need without destroying the planet?