



Bringing Workers Together

**Minutes of the Trades Council meeting held on:
21st September 2011 at 7:00pm.**

Location: CVS Offices, Guild Hall Precinct, Preston.

Committee present:

Terry Bayes (TB) Lynne Wallace (LW) Phil Crowe (PC) Dave Savage (DS)
Dave Rochester (DR) Glyne Greenidge (GG) Ian Leeming (IL) Jim Leigh
(JL) Ruth Wigmore (RW) Chris Lomax (CL) Darryl Fryer (DF)

Guests/observers present:

Mick Mulcahy (MM)

Apologies for absence given:

Derek Barton (DB) Andy O'Donnell (AO) Gavin Hartley (GH) Matthew
Brown (MB), Sarah Robinson (SR) Janet Newsham (JN),
Les Parker (LP) Patrick Coyne (PC) Andy Guy (AG) Peter Baily (PB)

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed

Presidents Report TB asked the committee to introduce themselves and welcomed two new attendees Ruth Wigmore and Chris Lomax from Unison. TB was concerned about the Health and Social care bill going through parliament at the moment and the privatization of the NHS. Terry mentioned there is a meeting to support the NHS on the 21st October 2011 at St Josephs Club, Harpers Lane, Chorley at 7.00 and encouraged everybody to go. TB was concerned over the council moving the fire service control room from Fulwood to Warrington.

Secretary's Report. The bid for £300 for the TUC grant has been sent to fund the promotional items for the trade's council. LW is chasing delegate's money at the moment as every penny counts.

Treasurers report. PC has completed the accounts for last year and they are ready to be audited. PC assured the committee that any donations to PAC are accounted for separately but held in the same bank account LW has the paperwork for all the contributions and expenses clearly showing the donations to PAC have only been used only for PAC. PC did provide a break down of expenditure from the current account for 2011

Preston against the Cuts. (PAC) JN and DF attended the fresher's fair at UCLAN it was a very good day and over 250 leaflets were handed out DF thanked the Unison delegates for the generous contribution of promotional items which went down very well with the students. CL agreed to contact students from the Left Network and invite them to future meetings. PAC had been invited to address the Unite area activists meeting JN had attended and was very well received thanks were expressed to JN.

Preston Guild. JN has submitted the bid for the funds on time to the Heritage lottery fund. LW also said volunteers will be needed to do the leg work for capturing media and hopes the students from UCLAN will get involved. Discussed using banners of companies that have closed down since the last Preston Guild to show the decline in employment in the city. LW stated we wanted Unions to make firm commitments of what they are going to do at the Guild and be aware of the costs involved especially if we don't get the

funds from the Lottery. Unite is hoping to get a float, a banner and their general secretary to attend. LW was anxious that Unions should communicate to avoid duplicating work and present a professional front to the public and they should use the Guild Sub Committee to make sure this happened. A meeting of the Preston Guild Committee was arranged on Wednesday the 28th September between 7.00pm -9.00pm. in the Stanley Arms, the meeting is open to all affiliates of TUC. DS volunteered to represent PCS on the committee

TU Education Unit. The unit is going well courses are continuing but LW encouraged people to use it or we could lose it and asked people to spread the information about the courses to as wide a TU audience as possible. RW stated she was the Branch education officer for Unison and would like to receive any emails regarding courses. A thirty six week equality course had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers and it was thought short courses were a better option

Remploy. A handout was distributed but we have been unable to contact GMB. TB said he will try and contact GMB personally

November 30th day of action. (N30) 29 Unions are balloting members for taking strike action. LW suggested an organizing sub committee to make arrangements for the day and proposed it should contain a delegate from each union involved. DS volunteered from PCS and will organize the meetings which will be regular and will arrange for leaflets to be completed and handed out both before and on the day. LW will book the flag market for the day and the plan is to have a rally on the flag market from 12.00 to 2.00 with a possibility of a PA system and music and local sympathetic celebrities. Unison has 2000 retired members who have been asked to help distribute literature as they will be badly affected.

Correspondence As per Emails sent

Any other business

Liverpool Council Unite union has been in dispute with a private contractor who has taken over some work from Liverpool city council the workers are being treated abysmally being fired and forcibly made redundant. LW asked for written information she could forward to delegates

A TUC organized march will take place on the 2nd of October 2011 it was agreed that individual unions should make arrangements for their members to attend. JL agreed to take the trades council and PAC banners

Local newspapers MM suggested members wriing to their local news papers with stories of how the cuts are affecting them, local newspapers are always looking for stories and it's a good way to get our alternative argument out to a wider audience

Date of next meeting Wednesday 19 October 2011 at 7.00pm CVS Offices, Preston

Lynne Wallace

Secretary

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