

YEOVIL & DISTRICT TRADES UNION COUNCIL



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Minutes of the **Meeting** held Wednesday 21st April at Unity Hall Yeovil BA20 1JL

Present: Mark Hoskins, PCS; Dave Osborne, Unite/Amicus; David Kingdon, Unite/Amicus; Brian Wadsworth, Unite/Amicus; Bill Byrd, Unite/Amicus; Viv Willis, Unite/Amicus; John Burbidge, Unite (Visitor); and Ken Keable, Prospect (Visitor).

As The President and Vice-President were not present at the meeting, Mark Hoskins was nominated to chair this evening's meeting.

1. Apologies: Joe Conway, Unite/TGWU; Brian Macrae, Unite/Amicus; Rex Brown, Unite/Amicus and Andy Dowland, Unison.

2. Minutes: were read, after the following correction under "Reports, Delegates" delete "£6" and insert "£12" the minutes of the last meeting are accepted as a correct and true record.

3. Matters arising: under local matters reference the BNP. In the Yeovil Constituency leafleting had begun with 12 people volunteering; however it is noted that Chard and Crewkerne need organisation for leafleting. The meeting supports the Labour PPC Lee Skevington's letter to the Western Gazette expressing his refusal to take part in hustings meetings if the fascist took part; at this juncture delegates felt that the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) are **almost** as dangerous.

Mark Hoskins said that PCS are taking up a legal challenge against proposed changes to the civil service pension scheme.

4. May Day event: Received a donation of £50 from Dave Osborne's branch. Tickets have been parcelled out for people to sell, 40 tickets available behind the bar at the Labour Club. Will need an MC, someone to operate "the door" etc.

5. Officers reports: President: No report. The **Secretary** reported on the meeting on Working Class Political representation held in Bridgwater 15th April 2010 held jointly by The National Shop Stewards Network (NSSN) and The Somerset Association of Trades Union Councils (SATC); a full report was provided by Dave Chapple who chaired the meeting; Speakers from the Labour Party, Green Party, micro left parties and non-aligned, which provided quality debate.

The **Treasurer** reported that he received £200 affiliation from Unite/Amicus 1015 branch and £30 affiliation from the FBU. After this transaction, the balance stands at £851:25p.

Delegates: Our delegate, Dave Osborne to the South West TUC, will be attending the AGM at Croyde Bay 23rd- 25th April 2010. Dave highlighted some of the resolutions, e.g. covering manufacturing and the Closure of Cadbury's, the public ownership of Transport, the People's Charter, supporting the arts from Bridgwater TUC, Workers Memorial Day, The English Defence League; and an emergency resolution supporting sacked Land Registry worker, PCS member Jane Brooke.

6. Local matters: The meeting agreed to send a message of condolences to Rafel Skarbek of The Mid-European Communities Association in reference to the President of Poland, who was killed with other leading Polish Eminent people, in a plane crash.

"Dear Rafel, On behalf of Yeovil and District Trades Union Council I offer our sincere condolences, love and solidarity to you, to the Polish community locally, and to all Polish people on the death of President Kaczynski and many other leading Polish citizens in the recent tragic plane crash at Smolensk. Poland's history proves that the Polish nation has the strength and courage to endure this tragedy"

7. Press release: Press release in reference to the May Day event.

8. Correspondence: Leaflet giving details of this year's Tolpuddle Martyr's Festival, Friday 16th to Sunday 18th July 2010. We get more leaflets and promote the event locally.

Notice of another Conference after the General Election at The Easton Community Centre Bristol Saturday May 22nd, and on the same day, Right to work- Defend our services, fight for every job conference 11am until 5pm friends Meeting.

National Shop Stewards Network Conference Saturday 26th June 2010 at 11am, South Camden Community School, London NW1 1RG.

9. AOB. John Burbidge gave said 40 -50 people attended the meeting of the Sherborne Palestine Support Group entitled Why you shouldn't be afraid of Islam. The meeting showed there is a lot of common ground between Islam and Christianity, including a wide range of views on equality issues.

President _____