

Agenda - UCU London Retired Members 29th June 2018 2pm

Apologies

Minutes and Matters Arising

UCU Congress Report

There will be a discussion of the unusual events at this year's congress and our attitude to the proposed recall congress. We shall need to discuss how to progress those motions that were not taken, in particular the "Windrush Scandal" motion.

Heathrow extension

Discussion in the light of the decision by the government to extend Heathrow Airport.

Racism at UK universities - Frank

A busy weekend

13 July: TOGETHER AGAINST TRUMP NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

14 July: UNITE AGAINST TOMMY ROBINSON, TRUMP & THE FAR-RIGHT

Pensioners Parliament

Our delegate cannot attend the branch meeting, but has submitted a written report, see below after minutes of last meeting.

AOB

Minutes - UCU London Retired Members 9th April 2018 2pm

Apologies

Ed, John, Paul, Cherry, Demetrios, Janet, Meg, Richard, Ronald, Norman, Neil, Gareth, Frank, Richard, Ian, Kate, Greg, Pete

Minutes and Matters Arising

date on minutes wrong, Maggie was present

USS dispute - report from NEC.

USS investment in 3rd London Airport at Heathrow

This branch calls upon the UCU NEC to insist that USS disinvests from any company investing in or in any way involved in the Heathrow 3rd runway as a matter of urgency. We believe that such investment is not a safe place to invest our members money and call upon the UCU Action Committee to formulate a long term campaign to secure such disinvestment.

Carried

Amendment to Annual Conference

Amendment to EQ4

new point 7 - As part of the growing racist atmosphere, the recent increase in deportations.

new point iv - Support and encourage initiatives which oppose the growing pattern of deportations both at a local and national level, working where possible with other trade unions and the TUC.

Motion for UCU London Region Committee.

As part of the growing racist atmosphere, we note the recent increase in deportations, particularly of retired people from the Caribbean. We shall support and encourage campaigns against deportations both at a local and national level, working where possible with other trade unions trades councils and the TUC. We welcome the initiative from Caribbean Labour Solidarity to initiate such a campaign in London.

Carried

Motion to Retired Members meeting at congress

Pension inequality -

This branch deplores the gender gap in pensions between male and female retired university and college staff and calls upon UCU to review this situation so that years taken in order to care for dependants shall be counted towards a pension.

Carried

Election of delegates

Maggie and Geoff

Campaign Against Climate Change TU conference - Report

Videos available

To inform the Greener Job Alliance of this resolution

This branch endorses the "Joint Statement on Just Transition in the UK", in particular the reference to the need to "transform key sectors, through publicly and community owned energy supply, transport infrastructure, investing in energy efficiency and sustainable heating in our homes and in industry".

We believe that if global temperature rises are to be kept below 1.5 degrees, it will be necessary to organise a militant grass-roots campaign to fight for our union's policies of

- Energy democracy and rapid transition from fossil fuels*
- Stop airport expansion*
- No fracking*

- *Promotion of alternatives to short-haul flights, including publicly owned rail in UK and Europe*
- *A genuine commitment to reducing lethal air pollutants*
- *A just transition employment strategy to climate jobs and well-paid, skilled, sustainable employment*
- *Improved links between anti-war, refugee and climate campaign movements*
- *Action against trade treaties threatening climate justice*
- *A Climate Justice Fund funded by wealthy nations and polluting companies.*
- *Landscape re-greening*
- *Against unsustainable bio-fuels*
- *For state-funded retraining to enable a just transition for those workers moving from polluting industries.*

Gaza - Officers' action - Banner on demonstration - endorsed.

later Petition: To impose an immediate two-way arms embargo between the UK and Israel <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/216561>

David Rosenberg - letter sent - write to NUJ:

We call on the National Union of Journalists to remind its members of the fine principles in its code of conduct and in particular the first four:

"A journalist:

- 1. At all times upholds and defends the principle of media freedom, the right of freedom of expression and the right of the public to be informed.*
- 2. Strives to ensure that information disseminated is honestly conveyed, accurate and fair.*
- 3. Does her/his utmost to correct harmful inaccuracies.*
- 4. Differentiates between fact and opinion."*

Save Kensington and Chelsea College

Seek report back from London region

NPC - Our motion on ESOL and the older immigrant - next step

Pensioners Parliament - Meg delegate 100 pounds not spent last year.

Open University - Job cuts and No-Confidence

Write to MP - Support and deplore - No Robots teaching robots.

Treason project - invitation

AOB

- Threat to TUPE
- TUC conference on Care - what will happen to carers.
- Redundancies in Higher Education - 80 at Greenwich - not following legislation.
- RMT two years of campaign on train. April 25th demonstration.

- NHS 30th June big March - problems structured into Health and Social Care Act.

A Brief Report of the National Pensioners Conference in Blackpool Tuesday 12 June-Thursday 14 June at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool (Fuller notes will follow)

*March from 1.15 to the Winter Gardens from Adelaide Street.700 pensioners with Trades Union Banners.

*2pm Official opening of the NPC Parliament at the Pavilion Theatre by the Mayor of Blackpool,Ian Coleman,who spoke about the work of the NPC.

Ron Douglas(President of NPC) gave the mayor a cheque which he promised to give to the charity of his choice which is Brian House a children's hospice catering entirely for children and young adults who have life threatening illnesses who live on the Fylde Coast.

The following speakers were then introduced and spoke about the following.

*Liz Davenport Regional Organiser for the NW Region of UNISON spoke about the Care Workers for Care Campaign.

The NPC works tirelessly to improve Social Care and supports all campaigns.

*Mick Newton spoke about the UK mineworkers Pension Association and the fight to claim their pensions

*Dr Gemma Carney from Queens University Belfast—she spoke at great length about the inequality in the pensions market and the new pension scheme which will seriously affect workers in the future,

*Mike Cash – General Secretary RMT talked about the role of the unions and the fight of Southern Rail Network.

* Jan Shortt General Secretary of NPC talked about the NPC it's function and how it's members fight from local campaigning through to national campaigns.

Wednesday a choice of sessions*Social Care: Time to bring about real change (Pavilion Theatre) :Chair Dot Gibson: the Speakers :June Clark (RCN Pensioners Network) and David Bridson (Age UK).The session looked at the on going crisis in social care and considered what might be contained in the forthcoming Green Paper,as well as suggesting alternatives.

*Pensions inequality and intergenerational fairness .The Chair : Brian Sturtevant Speakers Dr Jo Grady (Sheffield University) and Neil Duncan-Jordan (NPC).The session discussed the ongoing inequality in pension provision and how this is part of the current debate about the need for intergenerational fairness.

*Understanding Funeral Poverty.Chair Norman Jemison: Eric Cromb (Scottish Parliament Funerals and bereavement group) The session looked at the growing problem of funeral poverty,the reasons why it is on the increase and why it is on the increase and how it can be tackled.

*Active Minds- hosted by the association for Education and Ageing *Older women travelling safely:hosted by NPC Women's Working Party2*Solidarity Singing Workshop hosted by the UNITE the Union Glasgow RMA

Afternoon sessions*The NHS:70 years on and still going strong? The current health of the NHS,including the impact on STPs and Accountable Care Organisations.

*Making public transport accessible to all

*Tacking loneliness the growing issues of loneliness.

Evening Social in the

Empress Ballroom.

Thursday : Closing Session with Bianca Todd,Dot Gibson,Jan Shortt,Mark Srewoka (PCS Secretary)