

Agenda UCU London Retired Members March 5th 2020

Apologies: Marilyn, Sybil, Richard, Ian

Minutes of previous meeting

AGM - Secretary's report and proposal for branch organisation

Solidarity with HE strikers - Steve

Financial appeal

Incinerators - Dorothea and Lesley

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-camden-using-edmonton-incinerator>

Save Wornington College - Meg

Motions

Green New Deal - Graham and Pete

This branch urges UCU to engage with national, regional and local authorities to ensure that climate emergencies are declared and that there are actions to, as a minimum, achieve net zero by 2030. Branches should incorporate Green New Deal (GND) bargaining into local claims to ensure that employers are engaging with staff and students. We recognise that UCU needs to ensure that our own plans are consistent with this approach.

We call upon the National Executive to

- declare a climate emergency and commit to reducing UCU carbon emissions to at least net zero by 2030 including resources to deliver this
- review the current training provision to ensure that climate action is embedded across course programmes and specific courses
- support GND bargaining and the appointment of Green Reps in all workplaces
- build joint campaigns with student organisations and unions as part of the mobilisations for COP26 in November
- ensure the prompt divestment of USS, Teachers' Pensions and any other pension used by UCU from any fossil fuel investment

Against Minimum Service Agreements [via Islington Trades Council] **Jan**

We are appalled by the Tory Gvt's plans to extract forced labour from transport unions in the event of a strike. We know all TUs may face similar attacks on TU action.

The plan to outlaw effective strike action through enforcing Minimum Service Agreements on any transport union is aimed particularly at the RMT – after a month of strike action at Waterloo from SW Rail RMT members.

We are proud to have actively supported the SW Rail RMT members picket lines who campaign to Keep the Guard on the Train and we oppose any further additions to the present horrendous Anti-Union Laws. We also are proud to pledge our support especially to Disabled and elderly passengers who may require assistance to get on or off trains.

We demand that the TUC also give their whole-hearted support to transport unions and members of Disabled and elderly passenger groups who face Tory attacks on the right to travel and the right to strike.

Day of action against anti-union legislation - Mike

The Tories are attempting to tighten even further anti-union legislation.

Their biased laws prevented the CWU from taking action despite a huge strike vote that burst through the 50 percent turnout 'threshold. Now Johnson is attempting to introduce minimum service standards on rail strikes - forcing rail workers to effectively scab on their own strikes.

We reiterate our opposition to anti-union legislation - and call on the TUC to organise a national day of action to oppose more anti-union legislation.

March 13th Climate Day of Action - Steve

Make 13 March Stop Climate Change day events in solidarity with the School Students strikes against climate change. The Region will be looking to facilitate a rally with the climate change students on that day in Central London.

VP election, casual vacancy - Mike

Book Launch invitation - Steve

Other Business

Minutes UCU London Retired Members - 17th September 2019

Apologies: Barbara, Geoff, Gareth, Sybil, Padraic, David, Geraldine, Pete F, Pete G, Frank, Roger, Janet

Minutes of previous meeting - Secretary

Report from Tolpuddle where Mayflower booklet on sale

Greener Jobs Alliance link to be circulated - *Pete* to send link to Secretary

Slavery and Reparations motion passed at region - *Secretary* to investigate possibility of a study of Kings College

Report from Congress - Alison thanked for report.

<http://ucu-retired-london.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Report-on-2019-UCU-Congress.pdf>

Campaign against the Cory Incinerator at Crossness

Support campaign, *Lesley* to co-ordinate Similar problem with Edmonton incinerator

Noise and Pollution from London City Airport

Secretary to write to Mayor stressing contradiction between the ULEV for car emissions and massive pollution from City Airport

Speaker - **Sam Mason, Political Officer PCS on "Climate Change and a Just Transition"**

Solidarity Climate Stoppage information

11am - 3pm on Millbank

9.00 - Waltham Forest Town Hall (11am Walthamstow Town Square)

10.00 - Newham, Stratford Centre

10.00 - Wandsworth, Tooting Broadway Station

12.00 - Hackney Town Hall, E8 1EA

12.00 - Southwark, London College of Communication SE1 6SB, 1pm Southwark Council offices SE1 2QH

12.00 - Islington Town Hall

12.30 - Camden - Pancras Square N1C 4AG

12.30 - Lambeth Town Hall, Windrush Square SW2 1EF

4pm - Interfaith event in Trafalgar Square

National Retired Members AGM - delegates Alison and Steve

We demand a just transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy, starting immediately with the phasing out of North Sea oil and gas extraction,

We demand an immediate programme for the insulation and draught-proofing of all homes, public buildings and businesses, as recommended in the One Million Climate Jobs booklet produced by the Campaign Against Climate Change

We demand an immediate nationwide Free Public Transport for All with a vast expansion of the network

As older people, affordable heating, warm homes as well as free public transport is especially important to us - To NRM AGM and London Region

Right-to-work checks – Hostile Environment

This branch of the UCU considers the practice of photocopying passports as part of right-to-work checks at higher education institutions to endanger the personal security of individual members. Whilst accepting this may be reasonable for longer-term (full- or part-time) posts, it is simply unnecessary for short-term roles such as PhD examiners, REF advisers etc. Instead, HEIs should ask to see passports or birth certificates and have a responsible member of their staff certify that they have seen them and have checked that they are fit for right-to-work requirements. The photocopying of passports for such short-term roles should stop forthwith.

To NRM AGM and London Region

Save Wornington College - *Message of Solidarity, Meg to write and Secretary to forward*

Save Our NHS in Kent - *Alison reported on SONIK*

"Yesterday I came home from work"

General Secretary to be invited to future meeting

Change reference to "Academic" on Website - *Secretary and Eugene to find form of words*

[Later: "Your membership of union need not end when you retire. Retired colleagues (or about to retire) are welcome to attend meetings

Meetings last up to two hours. Refreshments provided. We usually have an external speaker"].

Socialist History pamphlet "Treason: Rebel Warriors and Internationalist Traitors"

Book launch November 14th