

MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATIVE TRADE UNIONISTS GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 AUGUST 1979
AT CONSERVATIVE CENTRAL OFFICE

Present

Fred Hardman (Chairman); Geoff Campbell; Tom Ham; Ken Thornber;
Dan Harrison; David Exley; Martin Gillate (CCO).

Apologies

Ken Hutchinson and David Sinnott.

1 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

2 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

3 Report of the last James Prior Meeting.

There was a discussion that revolved principally around the subjects of the government's Development Aid Programme, in particular relating to the training of apprentices by companies, and problems about the cut in public expenditure in local government. Mike Watts submitted a paper to James Prior for his consideration with a copy to Patrick Jenkin. Fred Hardman also discussed with Mr Prior his attendance at the TUC conference in September.

4 Subjects to be discussed at the next Prior Meeting

These subjects will confirm the basis of discussion at the next Prior Meeting:-

1 The school leaving age and its relation to employment in industry.

2 The Health and Safety at Work Act - David Exley, Ken Thornber, Tom Ham and Geoff Campbell are to submit examples of this Act from their respective work places.

3 Industrial action in specific key industries.

5 Procedures for the next CTUNC AGM and Standing Orders of CTUNC

The Chairman suggested and it was agreed that at next year's AGM the meeting will start by dealing with matters arising from the previous year's AGM minutes and on the conclusion of that and the agenda for the AGM itself, the meeting will then go into a normal meeting of the CTUNC, in order to maintain continuity.

The suggested standing orders put forward by the Chairman

were accepted with various alterations, these being:-

Paragraph 4 - delete the first sentence, and in the second sentence the words 'not exceeding three minutes'.

Paragraph 10 - the word 'they' in the second sentence should be the first word in sub-section one, ie 'they contain . . .'. In sub-section two, first sentence, the word 'shall' to be deleted. In the second sentence the brackets are to be taken out and the sentence is to read 'additional voting figures are to be announced at the meeting'.

It was proposed that there would be a rules revision conference next year, but in the meantime the standing orders would be used to cover any change of rules before that time. Copies of the standing orders will be sent out with the agenda of next year's AGM. The Standing Orders will be cleared by the next CTUNC 22 September 1979.

6 Party Conference

The Chairman announced that Geoff Campbell's motion on free enterprise had been chosen as one of the motions to be debated at the Party Conference, he extended his congratulations. Martin Gillate informed the meeting that there would be a CTU reception at 12.30 pm on Wednesday 10 October in the Masonic Room of the Imperial Hotel. A cash bar will be available and Fred Hardman asked Martin Gillate to look into the possibility of food at this reception.

There will also be a daily news sheet published by CTU Committee on the previous days debates, Martin Gillate emphasised the need for members to help in the daily distribution and contribution of the daily news sheet itself.

There will also be a CTU stand in the main hall of the Winter Gardens at Blackpool.

7 CTU Annual Conference 1979

Martin Gillate explained that this would be held in Nottingham on Saturday 17 November 1979 and would be called the CTU Annual Delegate Conference, since only 500 people would be required to attend.

Motions would be required for the conference by 22 September to be discussed by the CTU General Purposes Committee plus the Chairman of the CTU Ken Williams.

8 TUC 1979

Martin Gillate explained that there will be a daily news sheet or bulletin commenting on the previous days debates and that this will be arranged at Blackpool by the CTU Officers and Betty Philpott. There will also be a fringe meeting on Thursday 6 September in the Warbreck Room, Imperial Hotel, Blackpool from

6.30 onwards. The guest speakers will be Jim Lester MP, Under Secretary of State for Employment, and Peter Bottomley MP, President of CTU.

9 Swinton

James Prior is to be the principal guest speaker at Swinton on Friday evening, 31 August. The whole of the Swinton course will be taken up discussing the Government's Working Papers on Industrial Relations. The course will split into syndicate groups chaired by various members of the National Committee on the course or well-qualified shop-stewards.

It was hoped that other members of James Prior's employment team will be able to attend as are members of the Conservative Back Bench Employment Committee. The conclusions of the weekend will be recorded and sent out to James Prior's office and will be regarded as merely an expression of opinion rather than the actual policies of CTU.

10 Further General Purposes Responsibilities

The Chairman felt that this responsibility should be considered in the light of the proposed new structure to be brought in for the full time CTU Organisers and therefore the Committee agreed that they would like to discuss future structure and the future organisation of CTU with the full time Organisers in the near future.

11 Any Other Business

There was the question of the expenses paid to the members of the CTUNC and it was decided that this would be explained fully at the next meeting.

The article on Private Health Care will be circulated to all groups in order to explain the background to the recent agreement brought about by the EETPU and the Electrical Employers.

There was a discussion on publicity and David Exely explained how Yorkshire Area had produced pens and scarves and generally the response to them had been good. The idea of a car sticker is to be looked into by Martin Gillate.

12 Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 22 September 1979 in The Griffin Hotel, Boar Lane, Leeds at 10 am.