

Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole

**Trades Union
Council**

uniting the community

**ANNUAL REPORT
2012**

Introduction

2012 has been a momentous year for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Trades Union Council. After years of regular meetings, but little in the way of activity, it was decided to redevelop the organisation with a focus and emphasis on campaigning. Key to this is the ongoing need to recruit more and more branches into the organisation, ensure decent attendance at meetings where local concerns can be discussed and to re-establish the trades council as the hub of union activity in the area. It is crucial that BCPTUC is seen as relevant to the concerns of local trade unionists – and this year has certainly helped breathe new life into the organisation. By working together we can ensure that 2013 is even better.

A year of development

At the AGM in January 2012, the following motion from the Bournemouth and Dorset NUJ branch was adopted:

"In light of the current political and industrial climate, there is an urgent need for the Trades Council to develop its natural role as a co-ordinator of local activities, campaigns and events - in order to assist both individual unions and the wider community to promote their shared values and policies as effectively as possible. The Trades Council should therefore enhance its structure and organisational techniques with the following programme of development:

- Commission the design of a suitable, eye-catching logo
- Set up a website to act as a hub of local union and community information
- Embark on an intense campaign of recruitment and affiliation from local trade union branches
- Adapt the current organisational approach to encourage fewer meetings and more activity-based events. For example, business meetings could be replaced by a series of public meetings and street stall activities, which raise the case for trade unionism and its wider aspirations
- Seek to promote trade union principles in local schools as part of the Citizenship curriculum
- Adopt the annual trades council programme of work where appropriate as the minimum basis for practical work throughout the year

In addition, this AGM calls on the incoming officers to use this programme as the basis for securing a development grant from the South West TUC."

Over the next twelve months, the trades council worked through the terms of the motion, agreeing changes to practices along the way. Specifically, the following work was undertaken:

1. A trades council logo was designed and turned into a lapel badge
2. A trades council website was set up (with thanks to Kevin Smith) and can be seen at www.bcptuc.org
3. The trades council has secured more branch affiliation this year than in 2011 (see section on Affiliations for details)
4. It was agreed to hold four business meetings every year (one of which would also be the AGM) with the flexibility for additional Campaign meetings to be called on

an as and when basis. In addition the constitution, standing orders and Campaign Fund rules were also amended in line with this new approach

5. The trades council has adopted those parts of the national work programme that it is able to undertake locally
6. Grants towards this development work were received from both the South West TUC and the national TUC fund
7. A formal re-launch of the trades council took place in May 2012 (see section on Events for details).

Events

Throughout the year the trades council has either organised or supported a number of local events/activities:

Workers' Memorial Day – On 28 April 2012, the trades council laid a wreath at the war memorial in Poole Park to commemorate all those who had died at work. The event received coverage on the local TV news.



Trades Council members and supporters mark WMD

DVLA Dispute – Support was given to the local PCS branch in its lunchtime action over the closure of DVLA offices.



PCS members hold a protest outside the DVLA in Bournemouth

M10 Pension Strike Solidarity Night – On the eve of the 10 May 2012 pensions' strike by PCS and other unions, the trades council held a successful evening of speeches and live music.



(From l-r) Dave Higgins (UNISON), Michael Derbyshire (PCS), Berewyn Long (PCS), Neil Duncan-Jordan (President), Mandy Priest (PCS) and Steve Attwiil (UNITE) at the M10 Solidarity Event

Trades Council Re-launch Meeting – On 31 May 2012, the trades council held an official re-launch meeting with guest speakers Nigel Costley, South West TUC secretary and Rodney Bickerstaffe, former UNISON general secretary. The event was also used to present the outgoing trades council secretary, David Lockwood with a presentation for his many years of service.



(From l-r) Rodney Bickerstaffe, David Lockwood and Darren Brown (Secretary)

Remploy Campaign – Support was given to UNITE members facing the closure of the local Remploy factory.

Tolpuddle Martyrs' Festival – The trades council had a presence at this year's event.



Author Owen Jones speaks at a fringe event at Tolpuddle backed by the BCPTUC banner

Workfare/ATOS Demo – The trades council supported a demo outside the Bournemouth Job Centre and issued a statement over the workfare programme being used by the local college.



Demonstration outside Bournemouth Job Centre with Shelley Wilson (Unison) (front right)

No to Regional Pay Protest – Support was given to UNISON and other health service unions in their ongoing campaign against the South West NHS pay cartel that has been set up in the area.



Demonstration against regional pay outside local NHS Trust AGM

Fair Tax Protest – Trades Council and Bournemouth and Poole Anti Cuts Coalition (BPACC) members handed out leaflets to the audience attending Jimmy Carr's performance at the Lighthouse Theatre, Poole at the end of September.



Members of the trades council and BPACC take part in the Fair Tax Protest

Freshers' Fair – The trades council, UNITE and BPACC had a stall at the Freshers' Fair for new students at the local college.

Poole Hospital Pathology Dispute – Support was given to UNITE members in their dispute over working conditions with Poole Hospital.

For a Future That Works Solidarity Evening – On 28 September 2012, the trades council organised a public meeting to encourage attendance at the October TUC national demo, featuring James Meadway from the Coalition of Resistance.



James Medway explains the case against the austerity programme

Affiliations

This year, the trades council has received affiliations from the following branches:

CWU Bournemouth and Dorset Amalgamated Branch
FBU Dorset Branch
GMB Bournemouth B40 Branch
NUJ Bournemouth & Dorset Branch
NUT Bournemouth Branch
PCS Dorset DWP Branch
PCS Wessex MOJ Branch
UCU South Region Retired Members Branch
UNISON Bournemouth Local Government Branch
UNISON Poole Local Government Branch
UNISON Dorset County Local Government Branch
UNISON Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital Branch
UNISON Dorset Health Branch
UNISON Dorset County Local Government Branch
UNITE Bournemouth Transport Branch
UNITE Dorset Amalgamated Branch
UNITE GPMU Branch
UNITE Tolpuddle Branch

Officers

At the AGM in January 2012, the trades council elected four new officers as follows:

President – Neil Duncan-Jordan (NUJ)
Secretary – Darren Brown (UNITE)
Treasurer – Steve Attwill (UNITE)
Vice President – Gareth Drinkwater (UNISON)

The year ahead

• Living Wage Campaign

Over the coming year, the trades council has agreed to take part in the South West TUC's project on the Living Wage. One in five workers in the South West - 482,446 people - earns less than the living wage and the South West TUC is pressing employers to agree to the new Living Wage rate of £7.45 an hour. The living wage is a voluntary rate of pay designed to help low-paid workers to afford a basic standard of living. The South West TUC has calculated that in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole around 78,000 workers would benefit from the introduction of a Living Wage. The aim will be to encourage local authorities across the region to pay their staff the Living Wage, as well as pushing the Local Economic Partnerships (LEPs) to adopt it as part of their economic strategy and encouraging private sector employers to recognise the benefits of paying it to their staff.

• Regional Pay Campaign

The south west is at the forefront of attempts by 20 NHS Trusts to introduce regional terms and conditions – which could lead to staff having to work longer hours and lose annual leave without any improvements in pay. The trades council recognises that this campaign goes to the heart of what unions are all about – defending

working people. You can sign the petition at <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/36063>.

- **Anti-Cuts Campaign**

Back in November 2010 the trades council called a public meeting which led to the creation of the Bournemouth and Poole Anti Cuts Coalition (BPACC). Together the two groups have campaigned against the national and local governments' austerity measures and will continue to do so throughout 2013. Please make sure your union branch is affiliated to BPACC by visiting www.bpacc.co.uk.

- **Other campaigns**

Throughout the coming year the trades council may also wish to take part in or support the following activities:

Holocaust Memorial Day

Workers Memorial Day

May Day

Tolpuddle TUC Festival

Pride Bournemouth

Fresher's Fair, Bournemouth University

Statement of Accounts

Num	Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Running Balance
		Opening Balance		0.00	
Month Ending 31/01/2012					
25/01/2012	OPENING BALANCE 2012		Other Income : Gifts Received	749.12	749.12
	Total Month Ending 31/01/2012			749.12	
Month Ending 29/02/2012					
15/02/2012	Cheque Number 100303	Miscellaneous	-25.00	724.12	
21/02/2012	Cheque Number 100305	Miscellaneous	-15.00	709.12	
23/02/2012	Cheque Number 100306	Miscellaneous	-30.00	679.12	
28/02/2012	Credit 000150	Other Income : Gifts Received	760.00	1,439.12	
29/02/2012	Cheque Number 100307	Miscellaneous	-7.92	1,431.20	
	Total Month Ending 29/02/2012			682.08	
Month Ending 31/03/2012					
07/03/2012	Cheque Number 100293	Miscellaneous	-100.00	1,331.20	
28/03/2012	Secretary Expenses Darren Brown	Secretarys Expenses	-17.72	1,313.48	
	Total Month Ending 31/03/2012			-117.72	
Month Ending 30/04/2012					
05/04/2012	Cheque Number 100304	Miscellaneous	-122.00	1,191.48	
10/04/2012	TRADES UNION CONGRESS	Other Income : Gifts Received	300.00	1,491.48	
24/04/2012	Greater Manchester Hazards Centr	Miscellaneous	-15.58	1,475.90	
	Total Month Ending 30/04/2012			162.42	
Month Ending 31/05/2012					
04/05/2012	Remploy Dispute - Unite	Miscellaneous	-50.00	1,425.90	
10/05/2012	Dorchester and Weymouth TUC	Miscellaneous	-50.00	1,375.90	
10/05/2012	F Jones Catering	Miscellaneous	-150.00	1,225.90	
11/05/2012	Delegate Expenses - Darren Brown	Miscellaneous	-153.00	1,072.90	
17/05/2012	Royal British Legion	Miscellaneous	-30.00	1,042.90	
18/05/2012	The Print Agency	Miscellaneous	-38.40	1,004.50	
21/05/2012	The Country Florist	Miscellaneous	-37.50	967.00	
21/05/2012	FSigns	Miscellaneous	-87.80	879.20	
25/05/2012	TUC Robin Hood Tax Campaign	Miscellaneous	-20.00	859.20	
29/05/2012	Letsget Group	Gifts	-141.60	717.60	
	Total Month Ending 31/05/2012			-758.30	
Month Ending 30/06/2012					
07/06/2012	November 30 Strike Committee	Xfer from Deleted Account	1,612.80	2,330.40	
07/06/2012	FBU Region 14 Affiliation Fee	Affiliation Fees	45.00	2,375.40	

Num	Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Running Balance
07/06/2012		Unite the Union - South West	Expenses Received	100.00	2,475.40
07/06/2012		NUJ Bournemouth Affiliation	Affiliation Fees	20.00	2,495.40
07/06/2012		PCS DSS Dorset 25/636 Branch	Affiliation Fees	20.00	2,515.40
07/06/2012		SW TUC Regional Account	Affiliation Fees	200.00	2,715.40
07/06/2012		Unison Dorset Health Branch 2103	Affiliation Fees	300.00	3,015.40
07/06/2012		Cash	Other Income : Gifts Received	29.00	3,044.40
07/06/2012		GMB Bournemouth B40 Branch	Affiliation Fees	42.00	3,086.40
07/06/2012		CWU Bmth & Dorset	Affiliation Fees	55.00	3,141.40
08/06/2012		Solidarity Magazine	Miscellaneous	-20.00	3,121.40
08/06/2012		Poole Pottery Retail Ltd	Gifts	-108.99	3,012.41
08/06/2012		Delegate Expenses - Darren Brown	Miscellaneous	-209.42	2,802.99
28/06/2012		BCPTUC Relaunch - Elstead Hotel	Miscellaneous	-340.00	2,462.99
Total Month Ending 30/06/2012				1,745.39	
Month Ending 31/08/2012					
24/08/2012		Dorchester & Weymouth TUC	Miscellaneous	-50.00	2,412.99
30/08/2012		Unison Dorset Branch	Affiliation Fees	100.00	2,512.99
30/08/2012		UCU South Retired Members	Affiliation Fees	25.00	2,537.99
30/08/2012		Mrs Cox	Other Income : Gifts Received	30.00	2,567.99
30/08/2012		BCPTUC Sale of Badges	Other Income : Gifts Received	5.20	2,573.19
Total Month Ending 31/08/2012				110.20	
Month Ending 30/09/2012					
10/09/2012		Royal British Legion	Miscellaneous	-30.00	2,543.19
17/09/2012		Jones	Food	-120.00	2,423.19
17/09/2012		The Print Agency	Miscellaneous	-32.40	2,390.79
19/09/2012		Darren Brown Expenses	Job Expense : Reimbursed	-24.24	2,366.55
21/09/2012		Unison Poole Branch	Affiliation Fees	25.00	2,391.55
Total Month Ending 30/09/2012				-181.64	
Month Ending 31/10/2012					
03/10/2012		Coalition of Resistance	Charitable Donations	-41.20	2,350.35
10/10/2012		Darren Brown Expenses	Job Expense : Reimbursed	-36.00	2,314.35
Total Month Ending 31/10/2012				-77.20	
Month Ending 30/11/2012					
01/11/2012		ERIS Affiliation	Bills : Membership Fees	-25.00	2,289.35
Total Month Ending 30/11/2012				-25.00	
Grand Total				2,289.35	2,289.35

