

The defendants have proposed a new co-ordinating committee consisting of Manjit, Junior, Qureshi, Sahota, Courtney, Kuku and three U.B.Y.L. members.

This proposal on the face of it is to unify the campaign. We understand the need for unity in the campaign but we feel that this proposal is not the correct framework to achieve that unity.

The new framework proposes Courtney, Kuku plus 3 UBYL members - this represents the UBYL Defence Committee. Only four people are invited from July 11th Action Committee. Therefore there is an in-built majority ~~for~~ political point of view to carry the day, ie. the view of UBYL Defence Committee.

July 11th Action Committee believes in a broad based campaign and mass campaign amongst the black community and the working class as the only force which can secure victory.

We support the Bradford 12 not only because they specifically face the charges but also because those charges represent a prelude to an attack on the black community and workers organisations. We recognise the attack on UBYL but feel that the campaign as a mass campaign cannot be successfully built on that platform alone.

We also believe that the campaign must involve all progressive forces in a properly constituted General Assembly to implement the policy of the Co-ordinating Council, provide a forum for democratic discussion and carry the work of the campaign.

July 11th Action Committee has already begun a campaign of leafletting, re-awakening support amongst Bradford people, getting support nationally, getting support from the Labour and Trades Union movement. We planned a national demonstration and rally around the strategic question of bail at the moment and exposing the racism of the State as regards this trial.

The General Body, after being destroyed, was resurrected and enthusiasm and the spirit to work for the campaign was rekindled. A very productive meeting was held with support groups and we were on the way to a National Mobilising Committee. We produced badges and had begun a mass sales campaign. Excellent posters have been produced and fly-posted.

The campaign was not split by July 11th Action Committee, and we find the proposals of the defendants disturbing because of the following reasons:

1. The proposals bring back into the mainstream of the campaign Courtney Hay who

(a) instigated a walk-out from July 11th Action Committee after losing a democratic vote to disband the Secretariat. This motion was put because Courtney took policy decisions without consultation, drafted leaflets without consultation, organised activities without consultation, and completely by-passed the Co-ordinating Committee which was democratically elected by the relatives.

(b) concrete examples of bad organisation under his leadership were:

- the coach to a picket in London turned up at 5am. People were waiting but the organisers did not turn up till 6³⁰am. Meanwhile the coach driver had left.
- under his leadership the second Arcadian meeting was a total

failure.

- under his leadership the General Body was not recognised and support in Bradford was falling.

- no mass leafletting was organised in Bradford.

2. Courtney, after walking out, instigated a split in the campaign by forming a separate defence committee.

3. Courtney consistently opposed the broadening of the campaign by refusing to recognise the General Body at all.

4. The UBYL Defence Committee was not succeeding in generating support in Bradford. At a meeting organised by them at the Arcadian Cinema only a handful of people turned up. The organisers failed to arrive. The Cinema was dishonestly booked under the name of July 11th Action Committee.

For these reasons we feel that the new proposed framework is not a proposal for unity. July 11th Action Committee has a broad base of support. Dissolving it cannot carry the campaign forward.

In the face of the fact that a significant number of activists cannot work with Courtney, we would put forward the following proposals for your consideration.

We recognise:

1. The need for a unified campaign
2. the need for a broad based campaign
3. the need for a General Body
4. that any campaign must have the support of the defendants.
5. that ~~all~~ of the 4 nominees from the July 11th Action Committee have chosen not to serve on the proposed new co-ordinating committee.

We propose therefore:

1. that the UBYL come into the July 11th Action Committee. We do not oppose UBYL and welcome them onto the co-ordinating committee and the General Body to pose their political position along with other organisations.
2. The campaign be directed by the relatives, defendants, and the co-ordinating committee in partnership.
3. July 11th Action Committee directs the national campaign.
4. Courtney should not be a member of the Co-ordinating committee because a significant number of activists cannot work with him.

The only way to win this campaign is with unity and a mass campaign. We must involve all progressive elements and mobilise them. We feel that our proposals are the correct way to carry the campaign forward and therefore submit them for your consideration. If these proposals do not meet with the approval of the defendants, then we will follow your original wishes at a meeting next week, and dissolve July 11th Action Committee. This matter is urgent, and we hope for a reply next Thursday.

STATEMENT supported by

Manjit Singh
Junior
Amjad
Ali Hussein
Amin Qureshi
Geoff Robinson
Dave Harrison.

Sahota, for the I.W.A., broadly agrees with the Statement, but it has not yet been formally discussed at their meeting.