

# LENTON AND DUNKIRK ANTI POLL TAX UNION

## HOW TO FIGHT WAGE ARRESTMENTS

After 9 months of the Poll Tax, the campaign stands strong and the Tories are in a mess - so much so that they even had to ditch Thatcher! The Council however still continues to do their dirty work! In the City they are planning to take unpaid poll tax from our wages, but we can stop them - and here's how!

### 1. FOULING UP THE FORM

If the Council manages to issue a 'liability order' against you from the court, they can apply to your employer for an "attachment of earnings". But only if they know who your employer is! They'll send you what is called a SUMMARY OF MEANS form to fill in. **Make it as difficult as you can for them to get the info!** The Council says it may take you back to court if you don't fill the form in. We recommend you follow the example of non-payers in Coventry - 12,000 haven't returned theirs, despite a possible £100 fine and a criminal conviction. So far the Council hasn't done anything - perhaps they're short of court time! Alternatively, you can delay the proceedings by sending the form back incomplete, with questions. **BUT MAKE SURE YOU DON'T FILL IN YOUR EMPLOYERS NAME & ADDRESS OR WHERE YOU'RE EMPLOYED!**

### THE QUESTIONS

Some of the questions explain themselves but you could ask the council for more information on some of them. Examples:

Question 1d) - "In what capacity are you employed?"

You could ask - does this mean... am I full-time or part-time? Am I on a permanent or temporary contract? What is my actual job description? What is my actual job title?

Question 2a) - "What is your pay before deductions per week/month?"

Do deductions include rent/mortgage or trade union subscriptions?

**Use your imagination - but avoid details about your workplace!**

If you don't return your form, or you send it back incomplete, the Council may send round an "official" - actually a bailiff - to try and intimidate you into filling in the form or paying up. **DON'T LET THEM IN!** Phone round your friends & local Anti-Poll Tax Union (APTU) and get the bailiff chased off. After a few runs for his money, he won't come back for anyone else!

If you get a threatening letter saying the Council will send you to court if you don't fill in the form, then contact your local APTU. Remember, this is only a delaying tactic. **The real fight against wage arrestments is where you work!**

### 2. STOPPING WAGE ARRESTMENTS

Once the Council has your employers details, they can apply for an "attachment of earnings". But they can only take a limited amount each week e.g. from a max of £100 take home they can only take £9 + £1 administrative costs. You'll probably end up paying less per week even if they are successful!

### CAN THE DEDUCTIONS BE STOPPED?

**Yes!** Workers in some factories e.g. Pork Farms have warned they'll strike if wages are deducted or if anyone is victimised for non-payment. However big or small the firm, the boss will be worried about industrial unrest and therefore can be forced not to comply with the Council. They could be fined £400, but it seems unlikely that the Council will be able to find the court time!



<u>Net Earnings (Per wk)</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Net Earnings</u>	<u>Deductions</u>
Less than £35	Nil	£110-£120	£11
£35-£55	£1	£120-£130	£12
£55-£65	£2	£130-£140	£14
£65-£75	£3	£140-£150	£15
£75-£80	£4	£150-£160	£18
£80-£85	£5	£160-£170	£20
£85-£90	£6	£170-£180	£23
£90-£95	£7	£180-£190	£25
£95-£100	£8	£190-£200	£28
£100-£110	£9		

### START ORGANISING IN YOUR WORKPLACE NOW!

- \* Start a petition with your workmates, insisting the bosses don't deduct. Use the petition to call a meeting & invite a speaker from your local Anti-Poll Tax Union. From this meeting a workplace APTU can be set up demanding no deductions from wages + building support for anyone victimised. If you aren't unionised then maybe you can start signing people up to the relevant trade union?
- \* Take a resolution to your union meeting/get your workmates to come and support it.
- \* Approach, or get your union to approach, the workers in the wages department - if there is one - and encourage them not to implement "wage arrestment".
- \* If your boss does try wage arrestment then the people you've got involved need to be prepared to organise effective action.

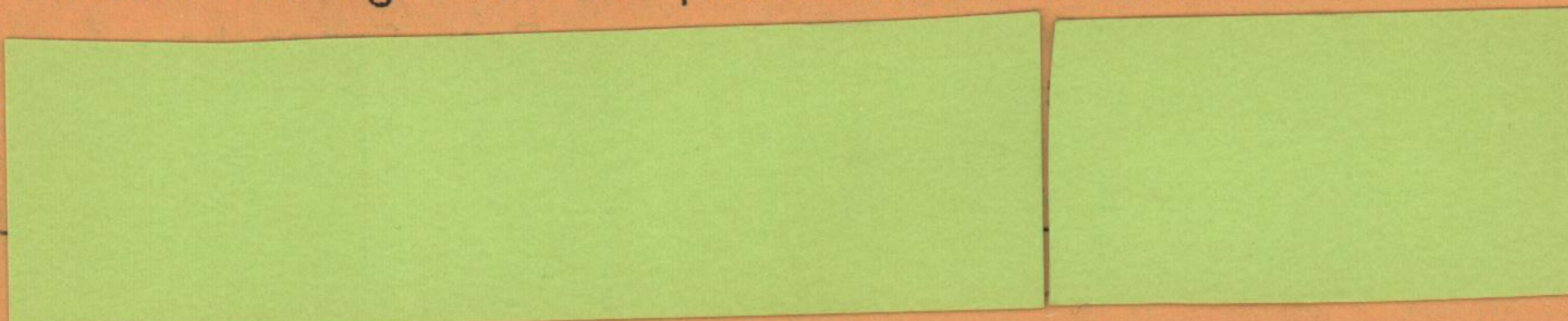
### MODEL RESOLUTION FOR TRADE UNIONS

1. We are utterly opposed to the Poll Tax, and will support any member who is victimised for non-payment. We will campaign throughout the union for support for non-payment, and call on Labour Councils not to collect the Tax.
2. The Tories are to blame for cuts in local services - not non-payers or the Anti-Poll Tax Campaign. However we condemn Labour Councillors who are doing the Tories dirty work, and pledge full solidarity with council workers fighting the cuts.
3. We will strike alongside those workers to defend local services and against the poll tax.
4. We call on workers in the Wages Dept. not to deduct money from the wages of workers not paying the tax, and will take action - including overtime bans, work to rules & strike action - if our employer co-operates with an "attachment of earnings" order, or victimises anti-poll tax activists & non-payers in any way.
5. We will affiliate to the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation, and will campaign for the Union to do so nationally.

---

Lenton & Dunkirk APTU meets every Wednesday night at 7.30pm at the Marcus Garvey Centre on Lenton Boulevard. Access through the car park round the back.

For more information phone: -





# Lenton And Dunkirk Anti-Poll Tax Union

## PRESENT

FUNDRAISING BENEFITS

AT THE

GREGORY HOTEL  
LENTON BOULEVARD

WHOLESOME  
FISH

Sunday July 22nd

RAVE  
SOUNDS

Friday August 17th

8 Till 11pm

£2.00 waged    £1.00 unwaged



## THE POLL TAX IS NOT DEAD — YET!

We are being told the Poll Tax is finished and the fight is over. But what has the Government actually said:

- a) It will take 2 years to remove the Poll Tax.
- b) That they will take £140 off next years bill.
- c) They will not let anyone off last year's Poll Tax.
- d) There will be a new tax which will be in 2 parts -
  - i) A property tax (still not worked out).
  - ii) A personal charge i.e. they will keep the idea of the Poll Tax.

To pay for the cut they have increased VAT by 2½%, so every time we buy something we're paying for the Poll Tax. They may remove education from Local Government control, which means an increase in Income Tax, and they may abolish County Councils. This will make it even harder to have any influence over what politicians & bureaucrats do to us.

### WHY ARE THEY DOING THIS?

The mass non-payment campaign has made it impossible for them to administer the Poll Tax. This is a massive victory, we have demonstrated our power, but we must not stop while we are winning! They had to make some changes before the elections in order to buy support.

### WHY DID THEY INVENT THE POLL TAX?

Let us not forget that this was a tax that benefited the rich. Not only do we all pay the same, however bad our housing, but the more run-down an area we live in the higher our Poll Tax is likely to be, so we lose twice!

More than this it was a way to force cuts in local services, and lay the blame on local councils. Lastly, it forced a lot of people off the electoral register in an attempt to avoid registration, making it easier for the Tories to be re-elected. They admitted that by making everyone pay for local services it would make "high spending" Labour Councils less likely to be elected.

### WHAT NOW?

We still have to fight off the bailiffs, and we still need to disrupt the registration process and block them in the courts. Our demands are:

- a) ABOLISH THE POLL TAX NOW - however they try to disguise it!
- b) REMOVE THE INCREASE IN VAT.
- c) AMNESTY FOR ALL NON-PAYERS.
- d) FREE ALL POLL TAX PRISONERS.

This is not the end, but the beginning of the end. We have shown our power. We can win and we can stop Governments walking all over us. They need us, but we don't need them.



## BAILIFFS and how to beat them!

The FIRST thing to remember about bailiffs is that they aren't likely to visit you. There are only a handful of them, and 60,000 of us - so the chances of them coming to your door are pretty slim.

The SECOND thing to remember is that if you follow these simple rules, they can't touch you:

1. Never let them into your house.
2. Keep ground-floor doors & windows locked.
3. Phone us as soon as you hear from them.

Bailiffs are just like vampires: invite them into your house once and they can come back at any time, using force if necessary. But if you never let them get past your front door, they can't ever touch you!

The Council are also using **RECOVERY OFFICERS** to try and get us to pay the poll tax. These do the same job as bailiffs, but don't have the same powers. If someone comes to your door, it's more likely to be a Recovery Officer than a bailiff - but you can only find out by talking to them, which isn't a good idea because they try and trick people. The best thing to do is *politely* tell them you're busy and **CLOSE THE DOOR IN THEIR FACE**. Then phone us as soon as you can.

If you have a room in a shared house, make sure that other people living there know to keep the front door locked. If the bailiffs get past the front door, they are allowed to smash down other doors to help them carry out their dirty work. Put a notice on the inside of the front door, to remind the other people you share with.

Sometimes, they push a letter through your door threatening to come back in a week or so and steal your things. It's almost always just a bluff, and they go away and annoy someone else instead. But sometimes they leave a date and time that they'll be coming back. **IF YOU GET A LETTER LIKE THIS, LET US KNOW.** Tell us when they're coming, and we'll arrange a street party to welcome them. They'll be sorry they ever show their faces.

If bailiffs or recovery officers visit you, or if you just want to know more about what to do to be safe from them, phone one of these numbers:

Lenton & Dunkirk Anti-Poll Tax Union meets every fortnight on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm at the Marcus Garvey Centre, Lenton Boulevard. Next Meetings: 8th May; 22nd May; 5th June; 19th June; 3rd July; 17th July.



**ARRIVING SOON**

At : MARCUS GARVEY CENTRE

**CHUMBAWAMBA**

**OCT 12th**

LENTON BOULEVARD NOTTINGHAM 9 'til 2am

MEMBERS & GUESTS £4 /£3 /£2

Waged / Low Waged / UB40-NUS

Advance Tickets : Selectadisc , Forbidden Planet, Good Vibrations,  
Basics

**++FULL SUPPORT**

**OCT 26th**

**THRASH!**

GODFLESH-Confirmed

**NOV 9th**

**INDIE NIGHT**

**DEC 7th**

**RAVE!!**

INCLUDING DiY DJ's  
Out of Nowhere  
Sirius lightingFX

confirmed so far!!

**ROCK AGAINST THE POLL TAX - WHO ARE WE ?**

We are members of local Anti Poll Tax Campaigns based in the communities of Nottinghamshire working together to raise funds. By working together we're able to get bigger bands and put together a more interesting and varied series of benefits (and hopefully raise more money as a result!!). All monies raised will be divided equally between the groups involved (including the N.D.F. an organisation set up by local community Anti Poll Tax groups to defend all persons arrested for anti poll tax activities), These groups are :-

BEESTON, FOREST FIELDS/HYSON GREEN, LENTON/DUNKIRK, RADFORD, St. ANNS, and the Nottingham Defence Fund. If we're succesful then we will continue after Xmas and new participants are welcome, contact via any of the groups mentioned above.