



## NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS

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President: **N Wilson**  
Vice-President: **W Thomas**  
Secretary: **CJR Kitchen**

CJRK/CJRK

National Coal Mining Museum  
for England,  
Caphouse Colliery,  
New Road,  
Overton,  
Wakefield,  
WF4 4RH

4 December 2017

Dear Mr Dodds

**Re: Dewsbury County Conservative Association annual dinner.**

You will be aware of the sense of anger that mining communities feel with the news that the Dewsbury County Conservative Association will hold its annual dinner at the former Caphouse Colliery on the 10 March 2018.

It is a matter of common knowledge that members of the Conservative Party conspired to close and destroy the coal industry in the UK. In fact although they denied it at the time the Margaret Thatcher Foundation <http://www.margaretthatcher.org/> gloats and reveals the extent of the deception. The National Coal Mining Museum for England is open for everyone to attend and we all hope that remains so for the foreseeable future.

I think it wrong to allow the Museum to be used to be used by a political party that is clearly determined to keep rubbing salt into the wounds it created whenever it can.

Are the Board of Trustees for the National Coal Mining Museum for England satisfied that the strategic direction of the Museum is to enter the field of party political politics?

I would hope that the Board of Trustees will have chance to consider this and a statement is issued as soon as possible.

Yours Sincerely,

**C J R Kitchen**  
**Secretary**