Policing of events at Orgreave – Notice of Motion

N E Lincolnshire has a long standing, strong bond with the mining communities of South Yorkshire. It has served as their resort of choice since the rail link was put in, with many families owning their own holiday properties on the Fitties, and it has also become home to several thousand ex-miners and their kin, following retirement or through seeking work post redundancy when their pit was closed.

Because of this attachment, N E Lincolnshire Council believes that issues relating to events at the picketing of Orgreave on 18th June 1984 are not only of national importance, but are of local importance too.

Miners and their families, now residents in N E Lincolnshire, were adversely affected by the events of that day in terms of wrongful arrest, false imprisonment, ill-health, family breakdown and termination of employment - and as a direct result of policing tactics at Orgreave. A full investigation into the military style policing used on that day is long overdue and only a full public inquiry can fully investigate this.

This Council is disappointed by the past and present Home Secretaries’ failure to hold an Inquiry into the policing of events at Orgreave.

That the Council:

1. observes that the Independent Police Complaints Commission said about Orgreave on 18th June 1984 in their report released in June 2015 “that there was evidence of excessive violence by police officers, and a false narrative from police exaggerating violence by miners, perjury by officers giving evidence to prosecute the arrested men, and an apparent cover-up of that perjury by senior officers”.
2. believes in the light of such statements that the Home Secretary

 needs to review the decision that there should be no enquiry

 into such events.

1. notes that 95 miners were arrested and charged with riot

 offences, but were all later acquitted amid claims that police at

 the time had fabricated evidence.

1. requests that the Chief Executive write to the Home Secretary and ask that he takes into account the opinion of this Council and accepts that

 there is widespread public concern about events at Orgreave

 and calls for him to order a full public inquiry into the deployment and

 actions of the police on 18th June 1984, and to hold meaningful

 discussions with the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign, The NUM and . concerned MPs.

Proposed by Cllr Ros James Seconded by Cllr Chris Nicholls