

MASS MEETING UNANIMOUS – CONSULTATIVE BALLOT NOW!

Thank you to everyone who attended the mass meetings on Friday, and it was great to see that it was standing room only in Kilmarnock as hundreds of you came along to have your say and to agree next steps, which was a unanimous vote for an immediate consultative ballot over industrial action.

There was a great debate, with much anger expressed at the open threats now being made by Diageo management to slash redundancy packages to statutory if there's any industrial action, as well as fury over the leaks of the packages to the press with the clear implication of the stories being that you're greedy to want better for you and your families.

You made it very clear that no amount of money can compensate for the loss of jobs and the devastating impact that this will have on your communities, which are already unemployment black spots meaning for some people the chances of getting further work will be very limited.

And how can it be greedy to be fighting to keep the site open, but for a fair share of the vast wealth of the company should you ultimately lose your job? The company is clearly smarting at the accusations of corporate and individual greed, but let's look at the facts:

- Paul Walsh as earnings of £3.5million for one year – it would take 140 years for the average worker in Kilmarnock to earn that
- Company reports for year ended June 2009 show that Walsh also holds Diageo shares worth in excess of £6million, and Nick Rose (Finance) holds shares worth more than £4million
- For the last two years, Diageo has made **over £2billion** profit – without the loyalty and dedication of our members this simply wouldn't have been possible
- The company plan to cut costs by a staggering £40million every year as a result of the restructuring – and they just weren't prepared to listen to our plans that would still have made substantial increases in profit because they want every penny they can get

No wonder the decision was unanimous in endorsing both a full industrial action ballot and an immediate consultative ballot to allow all our members to demonstrate to management that they won't be bullied into rolling over and giving up the fight. Stewards will distribute ballot papers over the next two weeks and a further mass meeting has been organised for Friday 23rd October at 7.30pm, venue to be confirmed – watch out for the notices on the notice boards.

**UNITE IN DIAGEO – FIGHTING BACK
FOR SCOTTISH JOBS!!**