Midlothian Council Tuesday 24 March 2015 Item No 6 (a)



## **Motion to Midlothian Council**

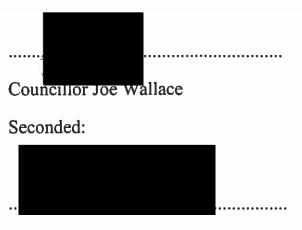
## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the miners' dispute

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1985, the historic and heroic year long miners' dispute came to an end. Brutalised and beaten in to submission by the UK establishment, the miners went back to their pits with their heads held high. However, their hopes for a better, fairer future for their families and communities at the start of the dispute were bitterly shattered.

This Council acknowledges the hardship faced by the miners of Midlothian in their struggle for survival against the onslaught of a Tory Government, for whom the people of Scotland did not vote, determined to not only beat the miners but their wives and children too by denying them welfare benefits.

We recognise the contribution miners and coal made to the economy of Midlothian and Scotland and we note that in 2013, of the 60million tons of coal used in the UK, 50million tons were imported from countries where the Health & Safety of the miners is not always of top importance.

Proposed:



Councillor Jim Bryant