

Chester World Development Forum

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Monday 6 November 2017 at Vicki's

1 Welcome: TG chaired the meeting and welcomed Sue

Present: TG, VJ, GG, LC, BP, AM, JT and Sue Bownas

2 Minutes and matters arising:

- Committee 2-10-17: JT has not managed to see Peter Benson. He hopes to see him at Transition Chester meeting tomorrow. Also hasn't had chance to speak to Mike Johnson as yet
AM gave quick update of Christian Aid's Big Shift Campaign. "Prudence Pig" had been filled with messages asking the banks to invest more in renewable energy and the poster had been presented to 4 local branches of major banks on 26th October – Lloyd's, Barclay's, RBS and HSBC by Katie and Brian Rowe, Trevor and Caroline Dennis, Ann McCarthy and Vicki Jenner. The bank reps received a letter which was to be forwarded to their CEOs and there was also a letter for staff telling them what the campaign was about.
VJ's details of dates for International Day for Eradication of Poverty (Oct 17th) and World Food Day (16th Oct) have been emailed out to everyone. Link in to our 25th Anniversary programme.
Re Nick Todhunter and International Development Society at university – no further progress with arranging a meeting.
BP has not been able to speak to John Freeman re contact for Ann Pettifor. Has left John a message but knows that John not been well so hasn't wanted to "pester".
TG attended last "Sustainable Chester" meeting about CWaC's "Low Emission Strategy" and TG urged committee to make comments on the strategy before 12th January. Cwac.gov.uk/lowemissionstrategy

3 Finance & Subscriptions, including:

Latest bank statement 31st Oct - £418.78 minus £2.60 expenses to AM
Re subs - SB paid for CAFOD and Neville Jones as individual

- Level of subs for 2018: Committee decided to keep the subs at same level for now as we may need some funds for next year's events. At AGM maybe discuss?
- Arrangements for Membership Questionnaire: AM had included a few ideas on JT's draft. JT will work on questionnaire further and send out the draft. Hope to give out and use in face to face situation at January meeting.

4 Progress with University contacts:

- Nick Todhunter re social media, & the International Development Society re joint sessions/activities. VJ not had much luck in arranging a meeting. Has emailed Nick twice and he knows about our meeting next week. BP been on their Facebook page and there have been a number of events which Society has held and been involved in. One of these was the students' involvement in "Walk for Freedom" in Chester. TG came across the march and spoke to Annabelle Hardy from charity called A 21 which campaign against modern day slavery

5 **Forthcoming meetings:**

- Tues 14th Nov: CWDF Forum meeting, with Colin Watson on Fracking issues – local and wider. CW has own equipment. **BP will see which room available**
- Tues 9th Jan: Forum meeting, Speaker Sarah Rowe re Climate Change & Internal displacement BP. **BP will book Unity Centre for this and other 2018 dates**
- Fri 26th Jan: Session with Chris Matheson MP – 7.00pm, Best Building Topics to mention – Oxfam issue “Turn up and speak for refugees”. **Ask members in advance whether they have a burning issue they would like to ask Chris about**
- Fairtrade Fortnight possibilities? (*26 Feb – 11 March*) – 3rd March, Fairtrade wine tasting at Hoole Community Centre. This is a provisional date.
10th March, 10.00 – 3.00, event in Storyhouse for children. Heather Swainston would like CWDF and groups to support. Theme will be “Come on In”. Fairtrade tea and coffee to be served hopefully. Producers’ stories to be displayed and then activities linked to that. Focus on bananas, chocolate and coffee. Perhaps need to have photos of other products which we can buy from Wesley.
- Events to reflect the “25 Year” theme?
“Grains of Rice” presentation?
Storyhouse – really support the event in Fairtrade Fortnight Conference in university on variety of issues including food
AM – contact Vocation for Justice re speakers
Decision taken to hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss events for next year.
Meeting to be held at Vicki’s at 7.30 on Wed Nov 28th

6 **CWDF Diary – update of 04-11-17 attached: any comments/additions**

28th Nov from 10.30 – 12.30 - Liz Aiello’s coffee morning on CAFOD’s World Gifts Re diary - BP trying to link in to Sustainability Chester diary but had some difficulties in transferring information.

7 **Issues from around the table/ AOB**

BP mentioned email from Chester CND asking for contributions towards advert which they want to put in paper. Suggestion that we give £50 towards the cost as Chester CND are active members of our group. Appeal to be included in next mailing AM and SB – Explained local CAFOD group’s plans for “Power to Be” campaign. Will have some cards for signing calling on Melanie Robinson, UK Executive Director at the World Bank, to use her influence to ensure the Bank invests in providing safe, reliable, affordable and renewable energy for poor communities

JT: Got involved increasingly with Colin Watson and Fracking Campaign

TG: Attended Global Justice Now meeting. Approx 40 people attended. Nick Deardon there and explained the GJN’s focus on the pharmaceutical industry. They are also campaigning on the humanitarian aspects of trade. S Africa and Ecuador taking the lead.

A S African lady talked about Aids and problems with obtaining up to date drugs.

Also concerns expressed about the aid budget and its focus. International Development Committee are holding an inquiry into the definition and administration of UK Official Development Assistance (ODA).

8 **Arrangements for next mailing, email and surface:**

Photocopying to be done on Wed this week. To go out – Reminder about next week’s meeting, poster for meeting from Colin Watson, diary update and appeal from Chester CND

9 **Next Committee meeting: Mon 4th December 7.30pm, Annie’s?**