

Chester World Development Forum

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 6 March 2017 at Annie's

- 1 **Welcome:** Terry Green chaired the meeting
Present: TG, JT, VJ, LC and AM
Apologies: BP, PB, GG

2 **Minutes and matters arising:**

- Forum 17-1-17 (*Attached versions for forthcoming circulation: Forum minutes + Stephen Maund talk*)
CWDF's donation to the DEC appeal for Yemen has now gone through and JT asked for acknowledgement to go to BP.
TG went to Amnesty International drama on torture. A difficult subject but he found the drama very effective thought provoking.
TG expressed thanks to BP for his great editing of Stephen Maund's presentation.
- Committee 6-2-17: JT been in touch with Rev David Roberts and he has retired. David will pass CWDF's contact details on to new minister for Vicars Cross URC who is also minister for Upton URC. Meantime CWDF will continue to email Rev Roberts keeping him in the loop.
AM contacted Cat Barton and she has agreed to speak at the AGM. AM had contacted GM re "Food for all" and climate change film. University is already showing a film on climate change on 7th March so decided delay Leonardo di Caprio's film until Oct
Committee agreed that we would still like to organise event/speaker on "food"/GM issue. **Committee to all look out for speakers on the subject – magazine articles/soil association/universities**
Re affiliation to JDC –there is a fee involved - small organisations pay £20 but our organisation would probably have to pay £50. Several CWDF members get all the information already which can be passed on. Committee decided that too expensive to affiliate with our present balance

AM agreed to bring JDC updates to Forum meetings

3 **Recent/Future Forum meetings/activities**

- **Syrian Refugee Public Workshop:** TG and JT attended and have written a report done to go out in next mailing. 3 refugee families already housed in EP. 4 families coming in April to be based in Chester. A charity called P3 are involved. Maybe need funds but not sure who's going to organise it as yet. Questions were raised about what should be bought/provided for the families – internet for instance?
- **Activities for Fairtrade Fortnight:** Funday went well in terms of numbers. Co-op still very much on board. They gave a lot of Fairtrade goods. TG heard nothing from Sainsbury's, JT heard nothing from Tesco's and AM heard nothing from Morrisons.
M and S at least had poster in cafe. **TG and AM will follow through with complaints on line**

- **Full Forum 14th March** To include:
 - Ann McCarthy on Vietnam: Up to an hour for talk and questions
 - Session with students re Sustainable Futures Project: Questionnaire gone out to Forum members. JT to continue as contact. They will give us update at meeting.
- **Forum AGM 9th May** Speaker Cat Barton re Chester Zoo environmental work. **AM to contact Cat in April again.** JT commented that there have there have been lots of online campaigns about palm oil. It is the spread of palm oil plantations that destroys the habitat of the orang-utans which the zoo are trying to protect.

4 **Finance & administration issues, including:**

- Current bank balance: £ 443.77.
- Progress with 2017 subs: JT has only received one cheque since beginning of Feb. Reminder to go out in next mailing

5 **CWDF Diary – update of 4-3-17**

Theatre in the Quarter – new play entitled “The Lost Boy”. Music by Matt Baker and being performed in St Mary’s creative space from 21st April until 7th May.

Action Aid asking for fundraising events to support East Africa famine. JT suggested donating money from next week’s Forum meeting to this cause.

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

2 potential new members or speakers - Nicholas Brooks and Jeremy Smith. They had spoken to Chris Matheson about world development matters and Chris put them in touch with CWDF. Jeremy in Latvia at present. TG has emailed Nicholas but not yet had a reply.

7 **Next mailing (email + surface, copying to be done 8/3):**

- Covering note/ reminder of 14th March Forum plus gentle reminder about subs and highlight the fact that students will be there
- January Forum minutes plus Stephen Maund talk
- Note re Syrian Refugees. This needs some editing before it’s sent out. There is some duplication of information because 3 different people have contributed. Needs to be condensed. **JT will try and do tomorrow.** If not possible to do before Wed then delay sending out until next mailing (JT did manage to edit the report and it went out in the mailing)
- Diary

8 **Next Committee meeting: Wed 5 April 7.30pm, Vicki’s or Annie’s if Vicki not available**