

# Chester World Development Forum

## Minutes of Committee meeting held Monday 5 March 2018: at Annie's

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

### 2 **Minutes and matters arising:**

- Committee meeting on 5-2-18:  
LC has sub from Elizabeth Bott of CAMCC for 2017  
The incident re Stuart Shuttleworth's hasty departure from the Chris Matheson discussion evening has been resolved. Was just a misunderstanding.  
Re sending CM Forum minutes etc - BP will speak to CM about selected material to be sent to him. We need to avoid overloading him with information  
AM has spoken to Vin and Eileen Brennan re possibility of them coming to talk on their recent trip to El Salvador. They seem somewhat reluctant.  
JT has made contact with CAAT and Helen Tandy for potential speakers (See later note)  
TG has contacted Baroness Lynda Chalker re speaking at our June 22<sup>nd</sup> event but had no response  
AM been paid expenses for surface mailing

### 3 **Finance & administration issues, including:**

- Current bank balance: Bank statement will arrive tomorrow but last one was £489.78. Donation of £50 has been made to Christian Aid (following Sarah Rowe's talk in Jan). Subs been paid in. Bank statement did indeed arrive the next day and shows our balance as **£554.78** as at 28 February. Adding on cash-in-hand of £7.82, the CAMCC 2017 arrears payment of £15, and Annie's subscription of £8 for 2018, then deducting mailings expenses of £10.09 paid out, gives us an effective total of **£575.51**
- JT sent up to date paid lists.
- Members' Questionnaire: only about 12 responses and no new major ideas came through.

### 4 **Arrangements for future Forum meetings:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> March – speaker Mike Johnson on Amnesty International. No equipment needed
- 8<sup>th</sup> May – Forum AGM: Suggestion for speaker from SB - Traidcraft volunteer speaker who (we think) lives on the Wirral. SB and AM heard him speak in Heswall on Fairtrade. **SB will find out his name – see if he is prepared to come**
- 10<sup>th</sup> July – speaker to be arranged. Possibly Helen Tandy to speak on “Ethical Investment and Divestment”. **JT will follow this up.**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> June - special 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event – vacancy for special guest?  
LC suggested holding the event in Hoole Community Centre instead of Wesley. Parking much better and can have alcohol. Decision made to hold on to Wesley just in case but **LC will ask at Hoole Community Centre for 22<sup>nd</sup> June or any other Friday in June (except 15<sup>th</sup> June which not good for VJ).** Could do own food or

shared table and possibly music/dance/entertainment. BP suggested showing slides of our 25 years done by BP. Suggestion of having a special cake. Aim to get other members involved. Perhaps seek advice from HS about “games” she uses in schools to get people involved.

- JT spoke about idea of having more in depth discussion led by expert speaker. JT had contacted CAAT. In principle they could send speaker but looks as if they would like to have Chris Matheson as our MP there. This may be difficult for him because of his political stance. One of CAAT’s campaigns is “Arms to Renewables”. Could we involve schools in the debate?

**SB will contact John Murray about possibility of involving school and use of Emmaus Centre**

JT and TG and VJ went to Helen Tandy’s talk last week on “Ethical Investment and Divestment” and they were a bit disappointed. Sales pitch really. Could invite Helen to one of our meetings.

11<sup>th</sup> Sept meeting: Helen Tandy? Anthony McCarthy on his latest trip to Nepal and “Classrooms in the Clouds”

## **5 CWDF Diary – update of 2-3-18 attached:**

Fairtrade Producer in Wesley tomorrow and Funday in Storyhouse on Saturday. Note that Storyhouse will now serve Fairtrade tea and coffee and drinking chocolate

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

VJ: made the suggestion about redesigning CWDF’s leaflet and that could possibly be a project for graphic students at the university. **VJ will make contact with them. TG will liaise with BP.**

AM: handed out the poem on “refugees” from a book called “Syria with love”

SB: mentioned changes in the way CAFOD group operates due to falling numbers. Also gave some information on latest campaign which is “Share the Journey” focussing on the plight of refugees. More information to follow.

JT: Global Justice Now - very keen to see new trade deals subject to Parliamentary approval

JT: idea to set up Chester EU Remain group. Chris Matheson lending support but Group is not political. If interested please contact [chester.remain@gmail.com](mailto:chester.remain@gmail.com)

TG: reminded committee about the note from BP re the formation of a new interfaith group facilitated by Dr Joseph O’Neill and Mohammed Sarwar Ahmed. Their email is [chesterinterfaithforpalestine@gmail.com](mailto:chesterinterfaithforpalestine@gmail.com)

VJ: asked about an update on Chester’s “Sustainability Forum”. No news but **JT meeting Colin Watson on Thursday so will ask for update**

TG: Went to International Women’s Day last Saturday and talked to lady from Soroptimists. She was very interested in the Forum so TG passed information on to her. TG wondered whether CWDF could have a stall there next year. **LC will try and find out if that possible.**

## **7 Arrangements for next mailing, surface and email:** Leave until after our next Committee meeting

## **8 Next Committee meeting: Mon 9 April 7.30pm, Vicki’s**

Also next meeting is to be **Mon 30<sup>th</sup> April 7.30** at Annie’s:  
( Note change of date because 7<sup>th</sup> May is also a bank holiday)

*This date shows postponement for 1 week to avoid Bank Holiday Monday, 2 April*