

Chester World Development Forum

Minutes of Committee Meeting Zoom session held on Monday 31 Aug 2020



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

2 Minutes and matters arising:

- Committee 3-8-20:
 - LC has called to see Abdun Noor and received the subs for CAMCC. AM and LC haven't yet had chance to see Abdun re the other issues. **Will do asap**
 - **AM will contact Bernie Draper tomorrow**
 - JT contacted Linda and Romy and had a reply which sent to all.
 - TG has reflected on issue of how to contact government advisors. Seemingly the increasing role of advisors is changing the dynamics of ministers' roles TG feels he needs to speak to Chris Matheson first.
 - JT invited Chris to join us for Namrata's talk on 8th July but he's not yet had a reply.
 - BP wrote review/update which went out by email and surface mail.
 - **AM to check with Ciara whether she has seen The Tablet article**
 - LC – Hannah who runs the Lache Larder store is in Croatia at present so LC not been able to get more details.

3 Recent events, brief comments:

- Chester Friends of Palestine: *Stop Arming Israel* Vigil, 22 August. TG attended. 8 people turned up. The group were going to stand by The Cross but moved by empty shops in Northgate. Held placards saying "Stop arming Israel" and some people took notice. Only 2 dissenting voices. Could be further vigils – maybe monthly.
TG wondered whether we could do something similar re climate change. XR rebellion doing something so perhaps we could join forces. JT has contacted them.
Re Interfaith for Palestine. Joseph O'Neill has organised various Zoom sessions. **BP will send the details round to everyone to see what we think.** He is now somewhat detached from CFoP
- Colin Watson Funeral, 25 August: AM reported that Catherine had put together a very special service at St Werburgh's with some beautiful music. There were some very moving tributes from Fr Paul and friends of Colin and Catherine. Catherine says she's been overwhelmed with cards and messages of support.

4 Finance update, plus:

- Balance: £313.56 in the account plus £21.04 held in cash = **£334.60**
- JT suggestion for donation to DEC Coronavirus Appeal in memory of Colin Watson. A donation of £50 in memory of Colin was agreed upon. JT will write a check and then reimbursed himself.
Re should we give donation to CHWRAC for hire of room? Committee agreed to pay for next meeting and then review again as it looks like we won't hold meeting there until next year.

JT informed us that the Co-op branch in Chester is to close. He can pay through the Post Office but needs special envelopes which JT will get asap.

5 CWDF leaflet – latest on re-design, plus:

- Comment re “rather dated” logo – need for re-vamp?
BP explained the symbolism behind our logo and thinks it important to keep because of this. BP also would like something on the back of the flyer to give some information on what we do, where and when we meet etc particularly for those without internet. Also it is wasted space.
Front of flyer seems to meet everyone’s approval now apart from one of the “bubbles” which can be easily moved

6 Future CWDF events, Zoom based:

- **Forum Tues 8th September:** Speaker Namrata Bhattacharya-Mis “Global Health Update”
BP to circulate invitation on 1 or 2 September, with Zoom link as provided by Gill to be sent to respondents. Limit of “20 screens” to be suggested.
GM will welcome and introduce Namrata who will speak for 45 mins. TG will then take over for business meeting.

- **Chris Matheson Q&A Thurs 1st October, 6.15pm.** *Thoughts re topics*

- The integration review
- Zero carbon Britain
- Trade deals
- Debt cancellation

TG will email these topics to Chris so he can prepare

- **CWDF November Forum:** *Date and topic to be settled:*
Still unsure about date of “All Creation Waits” or indeed whether it will take place at all
Committee agreed to change the date of the next full Forum meeting to 3rd November and invite Stephen Maund.

Further suggestions? AM suggested Ciara Hogan, CAFOD Shrewsbury to give us update on campaigns. **AM to contact her**

7 CWDF Diary: Latest issue 29 August attached. VJ had email from Chester CND.

VJ will send to BP to go in the diary

JT will get update from CFoE.

Both things to be sent this evening to BP to go in the diary

8 Arrangements for next email and surface mail circulations

BP will send out email this week and AM will do photocopying on for surface mail.

9 AOB: TG asked BP about Hiroshima service – BP took part and read a statement from Pope Francis about nuclear weapons. AM attended. Sadly no microphones were used so we couldn’t hear most speakers

JT will recirculate the information about banks and investment in fossil Fuels so we can reflect on future actions. **Mention at Forum next week**

10 Arrangements for next Committee meeting. – Mon 5th October via Zoom