

Chester World Development Forum

Minutes of Committee Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 14 June 2021 at 7pm



- 1 **Welcome** : TG chaired the meeting
Present: TG, BP, AM, JT, GW, VJ and LC
Apologies: GM
- 2 **Minutes and matters arising:**
 - Committee meeting 26-4-21
 - JT revised the accounts in time for the AGM
 - TG formally proposed the addition of GM and GW on to the committee
 - AM sent a note around about the different organisations involved in “Drop the Debt” campaign
 - Re JT’s suggestion of targeting HSBC and Barclays over their continued funding of fossil fuels – not possible to take action at the moment but keep in mind for future
 - CWDF AGM 11-5-21: no matters arising
TG asked GW about fundraising for Henry’s Sidsaph’s school but no further information available yet
- 3 **Post mortem: CWDF “Extra” 7-6-21 – TED Talk, “How Africa can keep rising”**
 - Any lessons to take on board re future “Extras”?
Comments:
 - Unfortunate that talk was 4 years old but it does seem that the situation is much the same now.
 - We need to make sure there are 2 drivers as both Suttleworths and Tony Walsh were left in the waiting room. Very difficult for GM to lead the meeting and keep an eye on people wanting to join. JT will act as second driver in the future.
 - Concerns raised that not many members joined. GW suggested opening it up on social media as a trial session and see what happens
 - JT noted how many people on our mailing list – only 100 and thinks we should have a much wider email list.
- 4 **Finance update:**

JT – we have balance of £565.44 - £562.41 in the bank and cash in hand £3.03
Some organisations have not yet paid and we need to decide what to do about it.
JT raised the issue of giving a donation to CHWAREC as payment for the room hire as it seems the organisation is struggling. Committee agreed.
(JT has subsequently been to the Unity Centre with the cheque and has received a cheque from Chester CND for £70 as the group is no longer operating)
AM mentioned that the laptop keeps highlighting that the battery needs replacing but as it is always run off the mains this shouldn’t be a problem. **AM will seek advice from Ged Riley**
- 5 **Website/Social Media update:**

TED talk was posted on Facebook and Twitter. In the last 28 days 26 people have seen the posts.
The total page likes is now 156. GW thinks we should aim for a target of 200 by end of year
Twitter – there have been 104 “impressions” but not as much been posted on Twitter. 10 followers at present
GW will try to get Twitter people to like Facebook page as well. **She will also post the July talk on Facebook now.**

6 Future CWDF and related events, Zoom based (later ones possibly “Hybrid”):

- **CWDF Forum-by-Zoom Tues 13th Jul: “Fair Tax Now”**
Speaker Justin Thacker, Director of the Campaign Church Action for Tax Justice. It calls for fairer national and global tax systems, and puts forward a range of policy proposals designed to make the tax system fairer for all.
TG has taken over contact with Justin Thacker in place of BP
- **CWDF Forum Tues 14th Sept: “A Year of Summits”**
Gill Miller will provide an overview of the major international gatherings that have taken place and are still to take place over the course of 2021 – including the G7 and G20 gatherings and, not least “COP 26”
(Need to explore Zoom-hybrid option?)
JT will be going in to Unity Centre to deliver cheque so will check on situation and duly book the centre
- **Mon 1st – Fri 12th Nov – COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference, Glasgow**
Suggestions for action
 - GW - Bringing groups together to discuss what’s happened in past year. Are things any better? Discussion on outcomes of COP? Update on what actions groups have undertaken over past year?
 - JT will put out some “feelers” to Chester Sustainability Forum, MP, Green Party, CFoE.
 - Hold an event at the university?
- **Friday 5 – Saturday 6 November: CWDF participation in Chester Sustainability Forum’s Cathedral Exhibition?**
Discussions re the exhibition still in the very early stages but CWDF should be able to take part. Some concern about holding it that weekend as some groups may want to go up to Scotland. Question as to whether we should invite “Possible” to join us. Committee thought it might be difficult now but **JT will contact them anyway.**
New flyers will need to be printed.
Must be discussed at July meeting. VJ will look up the earlier information on possible printers.

7 CWDF Diary: No additions

8 AOB:

BP handover issues: BP thinks he will be out of action end

August, early Sept. **JT will create a gmail account for sending out emails. He will check that everyone on the circulation list including groups gets the email and then ask them to send him any details of events to go in the diary.**

GW will put that information on our Facebook page.

To be reviewed by committee – we are aware that some people not joining in even though they’ve paid subs. Perhaps we need to target them with personal invitation to the Sept meeting

JT: Reported on Fairtrade Steering Group – HS has put together all sorts of ideas for promoting Fairtrade in other parts of Borough. For instance – a project with 22 of CWaC libraries to focus on Fairtrade. Looking to get “flagship employer” and it looks like Sykes Cottages could be the first. Neston continues to be very active. Can now get Fairtrade pulses from Malawi so looking for an outlet. Suma might be interested. JT thinks the group is getting stronger and they are confident that the message will get through to other parts of the Borough.

BP: Raised the issue of boundary changes which would lead to Chester having 2 MPs. Chester South will go as far as Bridgemere, Chester north will be linked with Neston.

TG: Received letter from Susanne Freegard (Shropshire Global Justice) to inform us their meetings are now on Tuesday so she’s not able to attend our meetings

- 9 **Arrangements for next email and surface mail circulations:**
Reminder email to go out on 6th July at the latest promote next Forum meeting
GW will update contact page on website and Twitter

- 10 **Arrangements for next Committee meeting. – Mon 5 July via Zoom.**
JT will send out link for next committee and Forum meetings
Suggested date for committee meeting in summer holidays - 26th July ???