

Chester World Development Forum

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5 April at 3.00pm at Annie's



1 Welcome: TG chaired the meeting

Present: TG, JT, AM, GM

Apologies: BP, VJ and LC

2 Minutes and matters arising:

- Committee 7 February - circulated by Annie 22 February
 - TG emailed Chris re Gordon Brown coming but had no reply. (Subsequently met with Chris at an event and he said that there would have to be a really big audience for Gordon to come. When asked about chances of Hilary Benn coming – Chris said maybe via Zoom)
 - Kathryn Gornall been approached re doing social media. Seems unlikely that she would come on committee because she has so many other commitments but could do social media. Do Facebook and possibly Instagram??
 - GM had done poster for Dom Brain event and booked room. AM had contacted Christian Aid.
 - GM contacted Mark Bendall and he is willing to give a talk in Sept. entitled “Challenges in global politics: misuse and misgovernance” We will think up questions re development to follow
 - Re Paul Tacon coming – think of Nov time and GM will look up what would fit in with university studies.
- Forum Meeting - Dom Brain on 2 March at the university. John has prepared a note which can now be circulated. Andrew Binns from Christian Aid had recorded the talk and send the link to AM. **AM to forward that to JT for distribution to members.** Committee commented that it was a very interesting talk but we were very disappointed with attendance from both university students and our members. GM noted that it was the day of a strike at the university which may have had a bearing on that.
JT will draft a note about how disappointing the numbers were.

3 Finance update:

Bank balance on 28 February statement was £399.41. Since then, £43 cheques paid in, and £101.30 paid out for Dominic Brain's travel expenses >> estimated £341.11 in the bank. Early in May, JT expects to receive a statement as from 30 April. To date, no further cheques or notifications of payments have come to him. I have £13.83 in petty cash >> **£354.94.**

If we hold a further 4 Forum meetings at The Unity Centre, this will cost £120 in room hire and deplete our funds to around £235. In September, we will have to pay our website hosting fee of around £40. Therefore, in answer to Terry's question, I think we definitely do need to chase up non-payers, and we have very little scope for any further outlays or making any donations. If everybody listed did renew their subscriptions, we could expect to receive around £140~150. JT will only be able to confirm the details once the next bank statement arrives in about 4 weeks' time, just before our AGM all being well.

Pam Price has requested a sub form – **AM will post one through her letter box.**

AM will remind SB about Chester Fairtrading's sub.

Chester CAFOD group no longer meeting.

JT will send out general reminder and then follow up with individual requests if no response.

4 Website/Social Media update: Nothing to report

5 Future CWDF and related events

May 10 – AGM:

GM will organise a Zoom link. JT to bring his laptop and be co- host. Up to now we have no speaker.

Suggestions:

GM - suggested Anne De Reybekill – Interserve co-ordinator in Pakistan. She could possibly offer a “reflection” following election in Pakistan and help us to understand their electoral system. TG will get in touch.

(TG has been in touch with Anne who didn't feel she could be our speaker).

AM - has been looking at the latest CAFOD campaign which focuses on human rights issues in S. America and their impact on development.

TG - Green Christian and its interest in food systems. Could link this with Green week in September.

JT: Shuttleworth's to talk at July meeting

JT to book Unity Centre for remainder of 2022.

7 CWDF Diary: Nothing to add

8 Arrangements for next email and surface mail circulations:

Diary, note re coming to events, Dominic Brain's report back, note with the link to the recording from Andrew Binns – all to go out after Easter

9 AOB:

Issue of sending out information from our member organizations was discussed following an email from Chester Friends of Palestine. Should we send out any information from our member organisations even if it is not an issue we support? Should we only send out information that is related to development?

It was agreed that we should look back at early reference materials/documents/constitution for clarification.

AM to get in touch with BP re reference materials. GM will take charge of it and we can relook at possible discussion re issue of our original documents and constitution/terms of reference possibly at AGM?

AM: shared some information from the group “Possible” asking for people to email their MP about supporting a frequent flyer levy. Hello@wearepossible.org

JT: Nigel Farage's latest campaign: Part of a commentary taken from The Independent, 8th March 2022

What one thing could we do in the UK to make the world a worse place? Nigel Farage not only has the answer, he is already trying to make it happen: He is campaigning for a referendum on the UK's plans to hit [net zero](#) emissions by 2050. On a Union Jack-bestrewn website for his new campaigning outfit called "Vote Power Not Poverty", the reason provided for opposing the UK's legally-binding net zero target is that it "will do nothing to deliver any meaningful benefit to the global environment but will destroy British jobs and lead to massive increases in energy bills year on year". All of these claims are [demonstrably false](#). Furthermore, there is nothing on the website in the way of evidence to back them.

10 Arrangements for next Committee meeting – Monday 2 May 2022?