

Hartlepool for Global Peace and Justice - Minutes of Meeting on 12/01/15

Present Bill White, Sheila Deacon, Chris Eddowes (chair), Richard Eddowes, Diane Wanduragala, Jennifer Kerridge, Michael Unwin, Irene Green, Martin Green, Keith Gorton

Apologies: Lynn Fletcher, Susan Atkinson.

Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 8th.December 2014 were accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising:

- **Mare Nostrum.** KG explained that letters expressing our concern about the EU's & the UK Government's responses to the ending of the Mare Nostrum exercise had been sent to the 3 NE MEPSs & to Iain Wright. Replies had been received from Paul Brannen & Jude Kirton Darling but not from Jonathon Arnott despite a reminder being sent. PB & JKD had provided a link to an article by Claude Moraes (MEP for London & chair of the European Parliament civil liberties, justice & home affairs committee) that was encouraging. Claude Moraes will be pushing for an inquiry into the ethics & resources being utilised by Member States. It was agreed that the Group should write to Claude Moraes expressing our support for his action & to subscribe to the Labour In Europe newsletter in order to keep us better informed.

Action KG to write to Claude Moraes & subscribe to the Labour In Europe newsletter.

- **Meeting with Iain Wright.** Will be on Friday 23rd January at 7.30pm at St Georges. Topics to be raised with him will be
 - Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership
 - Sterile Seeds
 - Trafficking
 - Mare Nostrum
 - Climate Change

Fairtrade Fortnight Runs from 23 Feb to 8 March. MG explained that there will be a stall in the Middleton Grange Shopping Centre on 5 & 6 March. Volunteers are required to man the stall.

Action All Members to supply MG with their availability for helping on the stall.

There will be no Fairtrade Bus in Middlesbrough, Stockton or Hartlepool because all suitable buses had failed MOTs. Catcote Academy plan to have a Fairtrade week starting 2 March & a Fairtrade Tea Party on 5th March. The FT Fortnight theme is "Back to Basics" ie to focus on sugar, chocolate, coffee. With this theme in mind it is hoped to organise a Chocolate Cake Baking Competition with judging at the Catcote Tea Party.

Fairtrade General Rev Nick Moore has joined the Fairtrade Town Steering Group (FTTSG). The FTTSG had received a donation of £350 from councillors.

A café on York Road had opened that sells FT coffee, tea & cakes made with FT ingredients. A new FT Brochure for the town is being produced by Catcote Academy.

General Election 2015 It was agreed that the Group should arrange a husting at St Georges on, or around, 22/23rd April. It will be a private meeting & invitations will be sent to candidates from Conservative, Labour, Liberal, UKIP & Green Parties. It was suggested that Peter Gowland be asked if he

would chair the husting. All members were asked to think of another possible chairman in case it was not possible to get Peter Gowland.

Action CE to approach Peter Gowland & All Members to think of an alternative chairman

Correspondence None other than that covered earlier in the minutes.

AOB None

Next Meeting 9th February at 7.30pm St Georges