



## Minutes of Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Present: Chris Eddowes (chair), Lynn Fletcher (minutes), Irene Green, Martin Green, Jennifer Kerridge, Bill White

Apologies: Richard Eddowes, Keith Gorton.

1. Minutes of meeting 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 –accepted as a correct record.
2. Matters arising: Letter to the Chief Executive of the Council re Tax Dodging – unsure whether Keith has done this yet
3. Fairtrade – Martin reported:
  - a) He attended a Fairtrade regional forum was in Sunderland where Fairtrade Fortnight was reviewed and town representatives shared their experiences in maintaining their Fairtrade status.
  - b) There was a good turnout for the local Fairtrade meeting. Councillor Lesley Hamilton attended and promised her support. Social media was discussed and it was agreed to discontinue the website, boost the Facebook page and start a Twitter feed. Martin asked the Council to have a Fairtrade page on their website and Carl Richardson has become involved in this.
  - c) Plans are being made for a Fairtrade Fair to showcase Fairtrade School activities.
  - d) Martin is working on getting a young people’s representative on the local steering group.
  - e) Catcote Academy was runner up in a national Fairtrade competition, winning £100.
  - f) There is a need to re-visit Fairtrade premises in the town – **Chris** will circulate the list and comments from visits can be passed to Martin.
4. Aftermath of Brexit was discussed. **Chris** to circulate an email from Christian Aid, which encourages supporters to write to the press with positive comments about refugees.
5. Human Rights Act – Martin circulated information from Amnesty International. Given the lack of information currently available about Conservative plans to replace this with a Bill of Rights, at present we maintain a watching brief.

6. News from NE-CAP – Lynn reported on:
  - a) Plans for the ‘Eve of Run’ event at St Thomas’ Church in Newcastle on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. There is a meeting from 4.30 to 5.30, with speaker Andy Biggs, Chief Executive of Traidcraft and music by Gareth Davies-Jones. After refreshments, there will be a service of blessing from 6.00 – 6.30.
  - b) There is to be a national climate campaign from 8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October, led by Christian Aid and including regional events. NE-CAP will be signing up for this so Lynn will keep this group informed.
  - c) David Golding is still working hard to support the “Save Druridge” campaign, including a recent television interview.
  
7. Correspondence:
  - a) Letters from Iain Wright, MP, re the Aid Budget (he thought there was no real challenge to this) and CETA (whilst he is against ISDS in any form, he did point out that there were some trade benefits for the UK). Lynn added that the debate on the Aid Budget can be found on <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/125692>
  - b) Traidcraft have sent a card re Trade Justice, for supporters to send to the Attorney General. **Chris** to get more copies.
  - c) JDC summer report, with an emphasis on Greece.
  - d) Brochure for One World week, October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, theme ‘Including You’. **Chris** contact Churches Together to see if anything is being planned that we can support.
  
8. Date of next meeting – August 8<sup>th</sup>. Apologies in advance from Chris and Richard.