

Hartlepool Global Peace & Justice Meeting 12/12/2016

Apologies: Lynn Fletcher, Keith Gorton, Irene Green

Minutes of 14/11/2016: approved.

Matters Arising:

Andy Lie: coming on 13th February, to St George's & will be advertised at Churches Together. The topic will be Palestinian Observers, with a powerpoint presentation followed by Q & A

The Mosque has been sent the information about our group. (Note: Fahan Ali, change for previous minutes).

Tax Dodging: Keith Gorton was to ask Christian Aid whether Hartlepool Borough Council's response was satisfactory. He is not here today to report.

Ceta website circulated by Martin Green.

The pop-up Fair Trade shop in Middlesborough was helped to fill its rota as a result of Martin's request for help to the group. Keith, Diana & her neighbour + friend were able to help.

Fair Trade:

PreChristmas Coffee Morning raised £125 for Jenny Medhurst & £12 for HGPJ fund. MG suggested we needed to look into more publicity for the sale next year.

The FT Town Steering Group: 12 present at the last meeting. Martin Rycroft, Middleton Grange Manager, has joined the Steering Group but was unable to attend the last meeting. He has offered the use of the Management Suite for meetings.

Planning for Fairtrade Fortnight: looking for as many possible participants from different groups. there is a possibility of joining with Stockton for some events e.g. a Flash mob? involving schools? writing & performing? Possibly approaching the Council for some funding? FT Fortnight will need to be well publicised.

There will be a FT biscuit baking competition for schools.

Big Schools' Event on June 23rd. Expect about 12 schools to be involved, putting on stalls showing what they are doing re fair trade.

FT Fortnight packs will be arranged for all participating schools.

The Steering Group now has a Youth representative, from Manor School.

Discussion re Cadburys, which has been taken over by an American corporation & dropping the British FT mark. Their 'competitive price' & Fair Trade Foundation's apparent endorsement of this/ Keith Gorton had some correspondence with The Co-op re closing shops.. Sylvia Tempest was also raising the issue with Labour group & / the Council. Martin Green also wrote to the Co-op but received an unsatisfactory answer.

Correspondence, including campaigns:

Global Justice Now have sent a card for us to sign & send re reporting on migrants.

Jubilee Debt Campaign re Credit Suisse & ? lending money to Mozambique, which is now in a debt crisis. Also Ghana - see Guardian article, -

Asking for a change in UK law- see Drop It postcard for MPs.

Date of next meeting: Monday 9th January.