

HARTLEPOOL FOR GLOBAL PEACE AND JUSTICE

Minutes of meeting on 13/3/17

Present: Chris Eddowes (Chair), Richard Eddowes, Diane Wanduragala, Martin Green, Keith Gorton, Bill White, Jennifer Kerridge

Apologies: Lynn Fletcher, Irene Green, Michael Unwin,

Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017 were accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

- **Tax Dodging** KG reported that he had not received a response from Christian Aid – they had agreed to check that HBC's procedures met the Sourced Campaign criteria. CE pointed out that there had been a change in the law & Local Authorities were now required to undertake checks to guard against tax dodging.
- **Andy Lie (Palestine Observer)**. The event was well attended. The presentation was well received although there was a feeling that it was not entirely independent. It prompted many questions. HGPJ had made a donation of £90 to the the Ecumenical Accompaniment in Palestine & Israel (EAPPI) & the Quakers had sent a letter in response. CE read the letter to the members. Anyone wishing to be an Ecumenical Accompanier in 2018 can apply to the EAPPI.
- **Lord Stern Lecture (Jubilee Development Lecture 2017)** was held on Thursday 2nd February at 5.30 pm, Curtis Auditorium, Herschel Building, Newcastle. The lecture was well received by the members who attended (MG, RE, LF, BW & KG) & Lord Stern was surprisingly positive about what had been achieved over the last 10 years & optimistic what could be achieved in the future.

Fair Trade

MG reported that FT Fortnight:had been very successful:

- Extensive coverage on ITV News & in the Hartlepool Mail of the abseiling launch.
- English Martyrs held a tombola at Tescos.
- A Bake-Off competition (biscuits, cookies) was held at Catcote Academy with 30 entries. CE won the raffle (an enormous cake) and was runner up in the baking competition.
- There was a Fairtrade stall in the Middleton Grange shopping centre. £152 of Fairtrade products were sold, Money off vouchers were given away for coffee at the Vestry & the Cornerstone café.
- A tea party was held in the Middleton Grange shopping centre by Throston Grange Primary School.
- MG & Daniel Measor (a member of the Hartlepool Youth Council) went to Houses of Parliament to attend the meeting of the All Party Committee on Fairtrade. Several MPs & senior figures from the Fairtrade Foundation were present. Rory Stewart (Minister of State DfD) gave a very positive & supportive presentation on Fairtrade. The Co-op also outlined its plans for developing its Fairtrade products.

NECAP AGM

Attended by CE & LF. CE reported that the activities of NECAP & HGP&J are dissimilar insofar as NECAP are very much focussed on climate change & in particular on the proposed development of open cast mining at Druridge Bay.

Correspondence

- Letter from the Quakers (see earlier in these minutes).
- The relatively low level of correspondence from Iain Wright MP was noted.
- CE tabled a report from Global Justice Now that outlined its concerns following the Brexit referendum & D Trump's election to the presidency.

AOB

- JK tabled a petition from Action Aid "Petition to Make Tax Fair". Individuals can sign.

Next Meeting 10 April 19.30 hours at St Georges