

HARTLEPOOL FOR GLOBAL PEACE AND JUSTICE

Minutes of meeting held on 12th March 2018

Present: Chris Eddowes (Chair), Richard Eddowes, Martin Green, Irene Green, Lynn Fletcher, Diana Wanduragala, Bill White, Jennifer Kerridge, Tahir Selby, Mustjab Khokar, Keith Gorton

Apologies: Michael Unwin, Katie Trueman

Minutes Minutes of the meeting on the 8th January were accepted as an accurate record except that they should have referred to David Golding & not Goulding.

Matters arising.

- **Sainsbury's Letters.** No replies had been received. It was not known if Catcote Academy had received a reply. It was agreed that HGPJ write to Sainsbury's HQ expressing our disappointment that we had not received replies.
ACTION:KG Action continues
ACTION:MG MG had contacted Adam Gardener at the FT Foundation. Adam Gardener said that the FT Foundation were in significant discussions with Sainsburys & it was best not to pester them.
- **UK's supply of arms to Saudi Arabia.** KG had received a reply from the Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP, Minister of State for the Middle East and North Africa that explained that the export license criteria had been met at the time of application. KG felt strongly that subsequent violations of International Humanitarian Law should have resulted in the suspension of supply of arms. He had written again to Mike Hill MP & he had forwarded the letter to the Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP.
- **NE-CAP AGM.** LF explained that it had been postponed to 16 April 5.30 for 6.00 in the Clement Stephenson lecture theatre in Newcastle University.

Fairtrade & Fairtrade Fortnight

- **Fairtrade Fortnight.**
 - MG reported that FT Fortnight had been good if not spectacular. There had been events relating to the theme "Come on in and share in Fairtrade" at Clavering & Throston Primary schools, Catcote Academy & at St Georges church. Catcote Futures had not been able to hold an event during FT Fortnight but were planning to hold an event shortly. The event at Catcote had been attended by MG & KG & was very good & was covered by the Hartlepool Mail. The stalls in the Middleton Grange shopping centre & in St Georges church sold £55 & £40 of FT products respectively. The quiz in the shopping centre did not do so well & probably needed a more proactive approach to engage the public. CE suggested that next time we could engage the shops & put the quiz into Hartlepool Life.
 - This was the first time that Catcote Metro had manned the shopping centre stall & they had done very well.
 - It is hoped to present the FT Fortnight trophy jointly to Lisa Richardson (Cadcote) & Abby Davies (Throston).
- **Fairtrade General.** It was noted, with surprise, that the FT Foundation was promoting a fundraising appeal. It was decided that HGPJ should give £25 to the appeal (from the £40 raised at the St Georges coffee morning).

Invitation from the Mosque

TS & MK explained that there will be a pre-charity walk (London) reception dinner on 18th May at the Mosque to which members of HGPJ are invited. The national charity has raised very large amounts of money in the past.. As part of the idea to interact with local organisations, the dinner is designed to get local charities together – not to raise money – but if people wish to give, they can. Whatever money comes in, 100% goes to charities. It is hoped to hold a charity walk in Hartlepool in 2019.

In response to questions, TS & MK explained that, in the past, money has been given to a large number of charities & that delegations have gone to refugee camps to give aid directly to recipients.. Charities do contact the organisers but this is not necessarily so.

Correspondence

An email had been received from the Jubilee Debt Campaign which indicated they were extending their campaign to the cancelling of debts in the UK. Members questioned how legitimate debtors would be identified. LF suggested that the thrust of the Campaign would be to target lenders & their approaches that led people into unsustainable debt.

AOB None.

Next Meeting Monday 9 April at 7,30 pm, St Georges.