

Chester World Development Forum

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 4 April 2016 at Annie's

- 1 **Welcome:** TG chaired the meeting
Present: TG, LC, KS, PB, GG, BP, JT and AM
- 2 **Minutes and matters arising:**
 - Committee 29-02-16: PB no luck with speaker on TTIP. HS contacted by JT re talk. TG written to John Williams re delaying his talk. Action aid and tax – come back to later. BP got in touch with Joanne and no further joy regarding website. JT sent out note re non-payment of subs
TG been in touch with Peter Speers re possibility of holding a debate/hustings on EU referendum. Peter couldn't think of anyone to speak so TG hadn't taken matter any further. BP spoken to Brian Holroyd and emailed Fr Paul (chair of Chester Churches Together) re Hustings. BP also been in touch with Robin Wendt. Would need speaker for and against. "For" - Lord Harrison has been suggested. Against - possibly UKIP member Stephen Wolfe. Committee has expressed an interest in supporting such a debate possibly to be held in CHS. Suggest that contact Chris Matheson's office – can they think of anyone? **AM to contact Labour office. BP will follow up academia (via Gill Miller and politics dept at university), CWAC and Peter Speers**
 - Forum 8-03-16: JT and HS will take the Fair trade issues that were raised at this meeting to Steering Committee to look at for next year's Fairtrade Fortnight
- 3 **Future Forum meetings/activities:**
 - **AGM 10th May**
 - Speaker Jim Holmes: **JT will contact, give briefing and inform him of time allocation. The talk and photos will possibly focus on Afghanistan. JT will also ask whether he needs equipment**
 - Annual report: Completed apart from donations. Excellent account
 - AGM business: No increase in subs this year. Need new surface mailing secretary as KS retiring. Suggest we appeal at the AGM. **AM to speak to Vicki Jenner to see if she will come on Committee**
 - **Forum 12th July**
 - Selecting a speaker: Suggestions - Stephen Maund on his latest project or DVD on Fairtrade as back up
 - **Possible session with Stephen Twigg MP:** We now have Friday dates in September/ October on offer from Chris Matheson's office, but unsure whether they relate to Stephen Twigg's availability and the best time for GM at university. **TG will contact GM again asking which dates most suitable for her in Sept/Oct and relay that to Chris Matheson.** Stephen Twigg chairs Commons Select Committee on International Development
- 4 **CWDF Diary – update of 2-04-16 attached:** **AM to send BP latest email from Peter Benson with info to go in diary**

5 Finance & administration issues:

- Website hacking issue: BP – we need email for backing up information. BP has been in touch with Mike Roberts but Mike has not got back to him. BP has had to phone Mike again. Still no reply. BP has been feeding data etc back on to website so that we know have a functional website. We need however to back everything up for safety and we need to know whether we are on more up-to-date version of Wordpress. **BP will try Mike Roberts once again.**
- Current bank balance: As of March 18th balance was £490.71. JT has received a £20 donation from Michael Melville.
- Progress with 2016 subs: JT has produced a sheet which shows individual and group payments of subs. Many outstanding sub payments – 15 individuals and 8 groups. **AM will chase up Chester Fair Trading via Helen Connor, Amnesty International via Peter Hobson and VSO Cheshire Group via Linda Shuttleworth. TG will chase up Wesley Church. JT will chase up CDEC and Chester FoE. KS will chase up Hoole URC.** Some churches get freebies and they may be prepared to accept emails and be able to print out own fliers rather than have surface mail?
- Arrangements and items for next mailing (surface and email) – including handling the copying at CDEC. 2 reports - HS talk on Fairtrade and Rob Elsworth's presentation on Paris Agreement. BP will get copies for photocopying at CDEC to KS for 25th April.

6 Issues from around the table:

PB: given JT information on public services and how they are kowtowing to big business.

JT: Commented on the success of the "Fundays" in Grosvenor Park organised by HS. There was a good attendance on both days.

7 Next Committee meeting: **Mon 2nd May 7.30pm, Annie's**