

Chester World Development Forum



Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13 November 2018 in The Unity Centre

1 **Welcome:** Terry Green chaired the meeting

Present: Terry Green, Brian Turner, Terry Walsh (Chester CND), Mark Rideal (Chester CND and Chester Friends of the Earth), Katy Rowe (Christian Aid), Brian Rowe (Chester Friends of Palestine), Vicki Jenner, Bernard Payne, Ann McCarthy (CAFOD), John Tacon, Lindsay Cussons (Bahai'), Sue Bownas (CAFOD), Linda Shuttleworth, Heather Swainston and Elizabeth Bott (CAMCC)

Apologies: Margaret Lord, Gerald Grant and Gill Miller.

2 **Minutes/ notes of Forum meetings, and matters arising:**

- Forum Meeting of 11th September 2018: At Matthew Jessop's suggestion a donation of £50 has been made to Stephen Maund's project.
- Chair to report on key issues covered in Committee meetings held on 1st October and 5th November 2018:
 - Committee meetings have largely focussed on the way forward over the next 25 years for the Forum. The main focus for the coming year will be climate change and CWDF is hoping for some collaborative work with other local likeminded groups such as Chester Friends of the Earth and Sustainable Chester
 - A donation has been sent to MUCAARD to support Romy and Linda Tiongco's work in The Philippines
 - TG asked SB to give us update on situation with Traidcraft
Traidcraft was to cease trading at end of November but because of support received it is not going to finish but will be cutting down on business. Staffing levels will go down from 60 staff to 10. The new model will focus on food items and a much reduced number of craft items. Of course there is much concern for producers. Traidcraft Exchange will unusually hold a Christmas appeal. Other drastic cuts include the closure of the warehouse in Gateshead. All of this has implications for Chester Fairtrading.
Good news from CWaC – the council have reaffirmed their commitment to Fairtrade. On 26th Nov at 10.30 in HQ the application to continue as a Fairtrade borough will be submitted.

3 **Admin matters:**

- Treasurer's report:
Current balance - £231.21 and £20 in hand
New subscriptions form will go out after Christmas with the end of year letter. The form will be revised in light of GDPR

4 **"Chester Meets the World"** – looking at ideas for the Forum's future priorities and its collaboration with other groups including the central issue of climate change/ climate justice. A discussion on the way forward is needed and the suggestion is that we hold an open meeting in March. The big question is how do we get local people involved. HS suggested perhaps the way forward was to run with "plastics" as that is already a local focus. LS felt that people already on board with plastics issue as a result of media publicity so it may be better to focus on fossil fuels and getting local people to think about how to heat your house, what food you eat and how you cook it and how you travel.

- 5 Chester Zoo initiatives on Sustainable Palm Oil** – taking up the challenge.
A brief report on the challenge was handed out to those present

6 Arrangements for forthcoming events:

- Full Forum meetings 15 Jan, 12 March, and 14 May (AGM)
- Consideration of Diary listings (Diary update to be tabled): No additions tonight but if anyone has anything, BP can put in diary
And Albert has couple of events coming up – HS will send details to BP
Sustainable Fair in Handbridge - VJ will send information to BP to be included in the diary
- Consideration of events/ activities from “around the table”
JT: Middle 2 weeks of January – public enquiry concerning the appeal by IGas into the planning refusal for gas well testing at Portside, Ellesmere Port. Enquiry to be held in Chester Town Hall. JT encouraging members to attend.
BT: In relation to this - Netherlands stopping fracking altogether because of the damage it's done. Tremors there had caused damage and the tremors were not as strong as the ones felt in Lancashire. Also, not one single company in US is now making a profit from fracking
TG: Issue of air quality - TG looked on Council website – 46 measures approved but report still in draft form from Oct 2017. The video link is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shAmA6ileOA&t=8s>
JT: news on Heather Lannin. She is waiting for rehabilitation at Clatterbridge.
Good news is that she is getting feeling back in right side

7 Date of next Forum meeting:

Tuesday 15th January, 6.45 for 7.00pm at The Unity Centre.
Speaker: Helen Tandy on the topic “Ethical Investment/Divestment”