

Arbroath Fairtrade Action Group
Minutes of Meeting - 16th May 2017, St Andrews Church, Arbroath

Present: Rebecca Brown, Alice Dewar, Caroline Farquhar, Paula Fenwick, Evelyn Fordyce, Jean Glass, Jenny Lonie, Helen Muir, Noela Watson.

Apologies: Karen Bowie, Janice Swankie

1. Welcome and Goodbye

Caroline and Jenny were welcomed to the Arbroath Fairtrade Action group.

Evelyn gave a vote of thanks and appreciation to Alice for all the hard work she has contributed to the group over the last 17 years. Alice is resigning from the group but will help out at events on an ad hoc basis. Alice was given a lovely bouquet of Fairtrade roses and flowers from the group. A photograph of the presentation was sent to the Arbroath Herald. Alice donated £20 to the group.

2. Minutes of previous meeting 26 January 2017 approved.

3. Matters arising

List of Fairtrade goods **still to action – Paula**

Outreach – Timmergreens and Ladyloan

Evelyn made contact with Timmergreens. The Head Teacher made a further follow up call and hoped to involve staff in promoting Fairtrade. At the old school Fairtrade had been included in the curriculum, but had slipped due to being in temporary accommodation at Muirfield, while the new school was built. It was felt with staff and pupils now settled into the new school more should be done about Fairtrade.

Helen and Jean visited Ladyloan (Feb 17) and gave a talk about Fairtrade

4. Updates:

Pancake afternoon 4/3/17

The Pancake afternoon was run very well with good attendance. A vote of thanks was given to all who helped at the event, including the pupils from Arbroath Academy and Ellen Wilson, Head Girl at Arbroath High who gave their time to helping at the stalls and with serving. Scotmid courtesy of Lynne Orr donated two Fairtrade vouchers for the raffle. A raffle of the Fairtrade hampers was a novel idea and popular, as were the baking and Fairtrade and Traidcraft stalls. Special thanks were given to Janice for supplying the pancakes and to Helen for arranging free use of the hall. MP Mike Weir attended with his wife and daughter. £338 was raised.

Zone Group

Evelyn attended the Zone Group Meeting in Montrose on 30th January. Evelyn, Rebecca and three others from Arbroath supported the Montrose Fairtrade Wine tasting event on 27th February at the start of Fairtrade fortnight. Spice farmer, Bijumon Kurian gave an informative presentation showing his spice farm and the benefits of Fairtrade. Evelyn circulated photos of both the Pancake Afternoon and of the Wine Tasting and also copies to be kept on memory stick for further reference if required.

Fairtrade fortnight activities:

- St Thomas – at Sunday tea had a stall selling a selection of Fairtrade goods supplied by Sunrise shop in Brechin. Fairtrade baked goodies were available too.

- St Andrews – 36 Fairtrade Easter eggs were sold.
- Old and Abbey & St Johns – Pancake afternoon as detailed above.
- St Marys – Spring Fayre Fairtrade stall (manned by Alice and Karen) on 22/4/17 – over £70 raised. Half of the money to be donated back to St Marys.
- Knox's church – Women's World Day of Prayer 21/4/17, Fairtrade fruit was available and attended by Janice, Evelyn and Rebecca.

5. Churches

St Andrews – Looking to recruit new member to take over the Fairtrade stall from Alice. Notice in the bulletin. Caroline possibly can help but was suggested maybe a rota and a loan of money from the Fairtrade group to help buy goods to start up and then payback.

Old & Abbey – Helen and Jean continue to run every week but will be having a break over the summer.

St Marys – Evelyn mentioned that there may be a Saturday lunchtime concert so an opportunity to introduce a Fairtrade stall could be a possibility.

St Thomas' - continue to use Fairtrade coffee, tea and sugar at the weekly teas after Sunday mass.

6. Schools

Arbroath Academy – update from Karen.

"During FT fortnight the school held FT assemblies where a "tasting" event took place along with the pupils watching a film on the production of sportsballs. These two items made quite an impact as the pupils are still talking about them! All three assemblies (one for each house) were led by pupils, two from our school FT group. As usual we held a FT tuck shop - popular as ever and especially so with staff this year which was great to note! School group also delighted to be awarded the first of the new FT Foundations schools' awards; "The Fair Aware Award" and are now working on the next award which is "The Fair Active Award". Unfortunately we are once again without a teacher on the group and with exams now in progress the group has been inactive for a few weeks but they are super enthusiastic and so fingers crossed will be back in action ASAP.

Arbroath High School – Ellen Wilson, Arbroath High School Head Girl and Fairtrade representative gave information on Fairtrade Waffles, Smoothies and coffee morning at Arbroath High.

Evelyn contacted all the secondary and primary schools about the Fairtrade fiesta parade.

7. AOCB

- Tea dance – still no definite yes or no to this idea.
- Keptie pond – possibly running again this year, await further info. **Evelyn to check with Karen.**
- Fairtrade sign-up sheet – name changes required, form needs updated – **Paula to Action.**
- Additional signature required for signing cheques – suggest adding Paula.
- Evelyn suggested that we try and contact Sheena and Donald as unsure if they going to remain as members of the Arbroath Fairtrade Action Group.

- Request to have Fairtrade stall at coffee morning on 17/6/17,10.00 - Helen to contact Janice

8. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 22 August 7.30, St Andrews Church, Arbroath