

Arbroath Fairtrade Acton Group

26 January 2017

St Andrew's Church, Arbroath

The AGM was held first.

Chairperson Evelyn Fordyce opened the meeting by welcoming all.

The Minutes from the AGM of 19 January were approved by Helen Muir and seconded by Janice Swankie.

EF then gave Chairperson's Report on previous year 2016.

Included in report were mention of the many and varied activities that the group had taken part in over the last year.

Tributes to our late founding member Linda McDonald were also given.

EF finished report by asking that we continue as a group promoting the FT message, raising awareness at any opportunity and asking questions of our local supermarkets. (Paula Fenwick suggested we look at individual supermarkets web sites for list of FT stocked goods – PF will look into this.) Also, that we continue to try to encourage new members to our group whilst mentioning that contact has been made with Timmergreens, Ladyloan and Muirfield Primaries and hoping to make contact with Arbroath High school in the near future.

The Treasurer's Report was then given by JS who noted that although the account still healthy perhaps we should be thinking about holding a Fundraiser in the near future. Trying to keep a balance of around £500 was recommended. (It was noted that no fundraising held for the group at all last year.) Accounts approved by Noela Watson and seconded by Jean Glass.

Election of Office Bearers.

Evelyn Fordyce to continue as Chairperson.

Secretary – Karen Bowie to stand down.

Paula Fenwick elected. Proposed by EF and Seconded by JG.

Jancie Swankie to continue as Treasurer.

Note of thanks was given to KB for work as Secretary over the past two years.

The meeting was then closed.

The Ordinary meeting opened, led by EF.

Present: Noela Watson, Jean Glass, Helen Muir, Janice Swankie, Paula Fenwick, Rebecca Brown, Evelyn Fordyce and Karen Bowie.

Apologies: Sheena Welsh and Alice Dewar

1. Minutes of Meeting 29 November 2016, approved.

2. EF reported that though unable to attend the last Zone group meeting, Kelly Anne (KAD) has intimated :

- although she won't be organising a FT fortnight event this year , a curry making event is to be held on Saturday 11 March at the Angus Farmers' Market (This being influenced by Forfar group's recent curry tasting initiative – see attached Zone group Minutes for more info.)
- suggestion from Forfar group that the Bake Off (held usually in October) changes it's format slightly and instead of inviting judges to the Angus Farmer's Market, where the Final usually takes place, we use the folk in attendance to be the judges. This way they are "involved" with the FT Bake Off and hopefully will take something away from the experience.

As a follow up to the Zone Minutes KAD informed EF and KB that Scotmid in Montrose keen to be involved with the Zone group and as a result will work with the Montrose group to organise a FT fortnight event in the form of a Wine tasting evening /Quiz night. Date not set but KAD will get back to us with details.

Group agreed these all good ideas and EF will give our response to suggestions when attending next Zone group meeting (30 Jan 2017, 12 noon, Montrose Sports Centre).

3. EF and HM reported that the recent talk given to members of Inner Wheel was good success with EF, AD and HM being made to feel very welcome.

4. Discussion for marking FT Fortnight in Arbroath then followed. Ideas included a Tea Dance, Coffee Morning and Pancake Afternoon.

It was decided to hold a Pancake Afternoon with JS kindly offering to do the "baking". It is proposed to hold this in Old and Abbey Church Hall on 4 March 2017 from 2pm – 4 pm. Posters, fliers and tickets to be produced to promote event which will include a Cake and Candy stall and the raffling of a FT hamper which will be made up of FT goods donated by members of group. Possibility of Tea dance in the future.

5. AOCB: HM has been in touch with Traidcraft asking for more info on both farmers and producers and will keep group informed with any new initiatives/developments.

No date for next meeting decided (to be discussed at Tea Afternoon on the 4th March)

Meeting closed with everyone thanked for attending.