

MONTROSE FAIRTRADE FORUM

Minutes of meeting held on **Thursday, November 2nd 2017 at 4.00pm at Madison's, Montrose Sports Centre**

Present: Ian Sykes, Edith Fraser, Pam Robinson

1. **Apologies:** received from Kelly Ann Dempsey, Lynne Ogg
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of November 2nd were approved and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:** These would be dealt with under subsequent headings

4. Member Updates

a) Council: KAD left the following updates for the meeting:

1. She was beginning to pull information together for the Angus Zone status renewal at the end of the year
2. She was calling a zone meeting for January to pool ideas for an event in FT Fortnight. Any ideas towards that would be welcome

b) Churches: EF submitted a report from the churches who had responded to her repeated emails. These were Old and St Andrews, the Congregational church, the Methodist church and Montrose South and Ferryden. Old and St Andrews operated via orders from the Traidcraft catalogue, Montrose South have a regular weekly stall at the back of the church, the Congregational church is using FT products for refreshments but only meets once a month and the Methodist church buys Fairtrade products when possible and its rep is on the FT Action group. (In the Baptist church the stock list is pinned up regularly and used from time to time. They are researching into a space for a regular weekly stall. There will be a stall at the café closest to Christmas and after church on the 17th)

c) Businesses and Retailers: It was agreed that Pam Robinson should get an appointment with the Aldi Manager.

The possibility of an interview with Dennis Laidlaw was again raised and PR agreed to look into this and arrange something in time for Fair Trade Fortnight.

A coffee-tasting was also considered as a possible event for the fortnight.

d) Education: There had been no progress on a meeting with the Rector of the secondary school. The Forum wondered if we could ask any visiting producer to do a talk at the school in the afternoon of the AGM?

e) Flagship Employer: LO had offered to pay £65 for a banner for the use of the Action Group and the Forum at public events. This is in preparation

f) Community Groups: It was suggested that Peter Davidson of the Links Community Trust would be a good person to contact in this area.

g) Website: No further updates

f) Publicity: EF said that she was currently using Twitter to publicise events as they happened in Montrose.

5. Archivist's Report: PS reported that he had found no FT wine in Aldi, although there had been roses, bananas, coffee, tea and at least one item of confectionary (PR would try and get an appointment to see the Manager of Aldi)

6. Treasurer's Report: IS reported a balance of £397.75

7. Any Other Business: It was felt that the Forum would need to do some Fundraising, perhaps in a coffee morning? This was not viewed very favourably, but ideas for a fundraising activity would be welcomed

8. Date of next meeting: Thursday December 14th at 4pm at Madisons in Montrose High Street

