

MONTROSE FAIRTRADE FORUM

Minutes of meeting held on **Thursday, June 29th 2017** at
4.00pm at Madison's, Montrose High Street

Present: Ian Sykes, Lynne Ogg, Pam Robinson

1. **Apologies:** received from Kelly Ann Dempsey, Dennis Laidlaw
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of May 4th were approved and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:** These would be dealt with under subsequent headings

4. Member Updates

a) Council: There were no specific updates from the council

b) Churches: No updates

c) Businesses and Retailers: The meeting was taking place for the first time in Madison's, in Montrose High Street. Those members present were very satisfied with the experience.

d) Education: Members talked about the potential in Primary Schools for becoming enthusiastic about Fair Trade, which was apparent in Borrowfield, as well as Rosemount and Ferryden. However as part of the town status, we would also need the secondary school on board, which was not the case at the present time. It was suggested that we should invite the new Rector of the Academy to come to the next meeting of the Forum, with a view to seeing the Fair Trade Group at the school re-started. Perhaps IS and PR could go to see him to talk about the possibilities.

e) Flagship Employer: LO was supporting other projects in the County at the present time, particularly with rice and curry spices in Dundee. The sincere thanks of the Forum were once more expressed for her involvement in Fair Trade campaigning

f) Community Groups: No updates

g) Website: Since David Alder of the Academy had talked to PR at the May Market, it was seeming more likely that we could involve him in the website and twitter in due course. It was suggested that he might be invited to the next meeting of the Forum, which would take place after the schools were back, with a view to this kind of help.

f) Publicity: KAD is actively using the Twitter account.

5. Archivist's Report: The archivist had noted that Fairtrade Foundation had required copies of minutes and so on with renewal applications up to 2012, but this seemed no longer to be the case. He wondered if we should check with the Foundation what they currently wanted to see. The committee noted his thoughts.

6. Treasurer's Report: Ian reported that the account stood at £545.72, of which £51.18 was held for the Action Group.

A cheque and letter had been sent to Traidcraft Exchange to donate the profit from the Wine-tasting of £180.50

It was agreed that rain protection and a banner for the Action Group stall at the Farmers' market should be purchased up to £200

7. Any Other Business: a) There was further discussion about the role of the archivist, and we wondered if there was still a role for archives or not, in this day of computer records and social media.

b) Lynne told us that Scotmid (our Flagship employer) has started up a new initiative called Community Connect, which gives money to local charities. This year, the top grant of £15,000 will be awarded to the winner of three charities which has the most votes. The Links Park Community Trust is one of the three winners, and so will need votes at the OGM in October. (More information on the Scotmid website.)

8. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of the Fair Trade Forum will take place on August 31st at 4pm at Madison's in Montrose High Street

