

MONTROSE FAIRTRADE FORUM

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 25th January 2018 at 3.00pm at Madison's, Montrose High Street

Present: Ian Sykes, Edith Fraser, Lynne Ogg, Dennis Laidlaw, Pam Robinson

1. Apologies: received from Kelly Ann Dempsey

2. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of December 14th were approved and signed.

3. Member Updates

a) Council: EF had attended the Zone meeting and reported back that there had been a proposal for a Wine event in Arbroath during Fairtrade Fortnight, but no official confirmation of this. KAD had proposed a meeting/visit at Sacred Grounds coffee processors in Arbroath. There would be an exhibition of Fair Trade Gold mining touring the Zone, starting in Carnoustie. We could possibly house this in the Library.

b) Churches: There were no updates from the churches.

c) Businesses and Retailers: As DL was at the meeting, the date of February 26th was agreed for the coffee-tasting, and the FTF would be allocated about half the seating in Madison's for the event. The profile interview and article would be done in time to have the article in the paper the week beginning 19th Feb. PR would deal with this. It was agreed that invitations for the event should go to Councillors and other high profile people in the town. LO offered to prepare a box of FT products to raffle during the event, to raise funds. DL said there would be no charge for the event.

PR had attempted to contact the manager of Aldi, so far without success, but would continue her efforts.

d) Education: IS has not yet managed to see the Rector of the Academy.

The SFTF has not yet sent us information about a possible speaker. PR to contact them again.

e) Flagship Employer: There was a lively discussion about the terms Flagship employer when referring to Scotmid, as this is not the same all over the Zone, where there are no stores in some towns. However, as there seemed to be no suitable substitute that would denote the special relationship between Montrose FTF and Scotmid, it was not changed for the time being. LO said she was waiting to hear about a Zone event and requested as much support as possible should such an event be organised. Lynne had had an approach from Hillside asking for advice about a wine-tasting for FT Fortnight, but no request for financial support.

f) Community Groups: IS said he would try again to contact Peter Davidson

g) Website: EF offered to look at the website if passwords etc could be obtained.

f) Publicity: IS and PR talked about the archives that they had seen at Peter Stevens' with a view to photocopying pictures to form a timeline of the progress of FT in Montrose from 2008 until the present. Lynne offered the services of Scotmid graphics dept to produce a 'timeline' in images for display at the AGM. The pictures should be obtained as soon as possible. Thanks to Peter were noted for the time and trouble he has taken over ten years to organise and maintain the archive.

4. Archivist's Report: see f) above.

5. Treasurer's Report: IS reported that after all payments had been made the bank balance stood at £178.52

6. Fairtrade Fortnight: the Farmers' Market of March 3rd would be covered by FTF and FTAG with help from the MCT. (The new banner would be used for the first time, so might justify a picture in the press?)

The coffee-tasting was confirmed for 26th February at 3pm, details to be confirmed. Speaker for AGM and possible schools event still unknown at time of writing. As a possible back-up PR would contact Sally Romily of the One World Centre. The next meeting would plan specifically for the AGM and FT Fortnight

7. Any Other Business: there was no other business

8. Date of next meeting: Thursday, February 8th at 3pm at Madisons in Montrose High Street