

Harrow Agenda 21 Ethical Consumer Action Group

Community Premises Meeting Room

Tuesday 11th May 2010 6.30-8pm

Attendance:

Joanna Nathan (JN)

Manish Neupane – HA21 (MN)

Liz Binney – Wealdstone Methodist Church (LB)

John Cope – Brent and Harrow Oxfam Campaign Group (JC)

Sarah Kersey – HA21 (SK)

Apologies:

Jane Skelly – Harrow Friends of the Earth

Chris Messenger

Micheal Dean

Stan Rooke – Brent and Harrow Oxfam Group

Anna Brown

Katherine Talbort

1) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 16th MARCH 2010

LB corrected minutes Heather Henshaw is living abroad so wouldn't be getting involved in the group's activities.

2) DEBRIEF ON LOCAL EVENTS

JC updated on local Oxfam group activity. He had held a stall at May Revels at Harrow Heritage Museum. He had attended the University of Westminster meeting which had agreed Terms of Reference for its Fair Trade University Status Steering Group and said the next steering group meeting would take place on 5th July. JC commented that someone from HA21 Consumer Group might want to attend. SK said that maybe this could be advertised via the HA21 'In Contact' newsletter. JC said he'd also attended the AGM for the Cooperative Group. He also mentioned his local campaign activity had included highlighting the Robinhood Tax and Action Aid's campaign on biofuel. LB: said much of her time has been concentrating on stocking up churches with Traidcraft supplies. SK has not had time to contribute due to employment and studies. New members JN and MN said that they were new but may have something to contribute for next time.

3) ETHICAL PRODUCTS AND CAMPAIGNS

LB suggested HA21, Traidcraft and Oxfam could group together their stalls for Under One Sky. LB asked how would pitches be paid and applied for if this was the case. The group discussed being able to get people to sign the campaign letter for Fair Trade steering group at the event. JC asked how many copies could be made. SK asked how many people he normally gets to sign his petitions as a guide to how many letters they might need. Group discussed numbers and agreed possible 500 copies might be needed across the 3 stalls. JC said he has some Duke of Edinburgh award students who might be helping him at Under One Sky. LB said she has enough help for Under One Sky. MN said he would be available to volunteer at the event.

Action Point: SK said she could ask her contact at the Council regarding grouping and would liaise with HA21 colleagues organising the HA21 stall. JC to talk to Tearfund regarding grouping together.

LB gave SK a list of Faith Groups from her information who are involved in the Fair Trade campaign. LB said the Interfaith Council could be another good route to find groups. SK said she had talked to a campaigner from the Fair Trade Foundation at the Fair Trade London Festival who said that they could help the fair trade town status campaign. JC said Brent would have good practice examples LB said Watford would too. for sign posting.

Action: SK to cross check with HA21 database to help identify groups to target for fair trade and eco congregations help. SK to invite someone from the Interfaith Council to the next meeting. LB to talk to Chris Messenger about attending. JC to ask his contact in Southall. SK to invite new contact from Fair Trade Foundation to next meeting.

3.3) Manish explained his idea for charity t-shirts to raise money. group discussed and said t-shirts should be fair trade. Action: SK to said project brief template for Manish to bring his idea back to next meeting. SK to put on agenda for next meeting.

3.4) SK asked if there were any products they wanted to support or boycott. LB said palm oil and nestle. group agreed.

3.5) JN said she had alot of ideas and asked how would she be able to develop them through the group. SK said all new ideas should be written up in a project brief and brought for discussing and agreement at the action group meetings. Action: SK to email JN the project brief template. JC said he would be happy to

meet with JN to brainstorm ideas. JN said she would like to hold a song or poem competition.

4) Local Activities / Local Groups Exchange

4) JC St Lukes Hospice Tea @ 3, 1st week of volunteers' week. all fair trade products he will be supplying. JC Co-op fortnight. Action: JC to provide SK with date and info for 'In Contact'. Friends of West House 21st June Oxfam stall. LB nothing to update. JN item for new campaign. SK reiterated project briefs should be completed and brought to meetings for new project ideas. LB commented banking and fair banking could be a new campaign area. LB said Black Gold as a film to show. JC to follow up how to get a copy of Black Gold. meeting closed 7.57pm

Next meeting 13/07/2010 6.30pm