**Amnesty Cirencester Group**

**Notes of meeting held on 8th April 2013**

**Present:** Bee Maidlow, Ros Topley, Virginia Nicholas, Jean Whorwell, Mira Marvan, Marina Bielenky, Valerie Hindson

**Apologies:** Chris Stevens,Nikki Rawson, Claire Morris

In Chris’s absence Val volunteered to minute the meeting.

**Minutes from 4th March**

Minutes from 4th March 2013 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

**Matters Arising**

1. Ros has distributed a list of workshops. It was agreed that we will schedule “Zimbabwe – elections free from fear” workshop for July. Bee to contact Gill Cleverly to see if she is available.
2. Val contacted Hilary at the Organic Farm Shop and she confirmed that she was happy to host another fund-raising event (film, quiz or other). Val to contact Sarah Beadsmore to see if she is willing to cook before we decide the nature of the event.
3. Val has not yet drafted an email for AI to email to all members in our area. Val suggested waiting until we have an event planned – but it was agreed we can promote the June letter writing and July workshop. Val to bring a draft to the next meeting.

**Programme**

1. Marina has contacted a speaker on Tibet, but they have not committed to when they can come. Marina to contact them again and ask if they can make the September meeting.
2. Swindon group have recommended a speaker – Trevor Trueman, who spoke to their group on Ethiopia. Bee to try and get an address or phone number for Jean to then contact Trevor and see if he would be willing to speak in November.
3. May meeting will be feedback from the AI AGM and National Conference which is this weekend. Bee, Ros and Val are attending.

**Monthly Mailing**

1. Copies of the Group News and AI Magazine were available for members.
2. This month’s action is on the Roma. Jean took this to action on behalf of the group if appropriate.

**Treasurer’s Report**

There was no report as Chris was unable to be at the meeting.

**Campaigns**

1. West and Central Africa – DRC. Ros circulated the translation of an email we have been asked to send to the DRC Government asking them to implement the reforms in the framework that has been agreed. Ros will send the email from those who have signed the translation.
2. Control Arms. Arms Trade Treaty has now been signed by the United Nations. Val has distributed further information by email.

**Events**

1. Nikki is trying to organise a stall at the Churn Family Fun Day on Sunday 13th May – 1-5pm. If successful she will need cakes baked and two helpers. Ros to ask Nikki to email us all to ask for volunteers when she has confirmation of the stall.
2. Nikki is trying to set up another choir concert, but no date or venue has been agreed.
3. Ros informed the group of a meeting of the Farringdon Peace Group that may be of interest to members. It is on the 1st May at the Friends Meeting House in Farringdon at 8pm and will be an eye witness account from a peace volunteer in Afghanistan.

The business meeting closed at 8pm and was followed by a review of the resolutions that will be put to the Amnesty International AGM.

**Group Vote for AIUK AGM Resolutions**

The group considered all of the resolutions and agreed for each how the group vote should be used. This vote counts for 10 votes and will be exercised by Bee or Ros at the AGM.

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| **Vote** | **Resolutions** |
| FOR | A2, C6, D1, D2/D3\*, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E8, E9 |
| AGAINST | B1, B2, B3, B4, C2, C3, C4, C5, D4, E1 |
| ABSTAIN | A1, A3, A4, A5, A6, C1, E7 |

\* only one of D2 and D3 can be approved. It was agreed that the group should support one of these. Those attending should review the arguments and in particular challenge the figures on the loss of income from supported in D3. If this loss of income holds up to scrutiny then support D2, or not support D3.