**Horsham Amnesty Group**

**Minutes**

**April 7th 2015**

**Present:** Jacinta White, Mary Gilmore, Kevin O’Sullivan, Jackie Fry, John Fry, Hannah Lorne, Alison Marshall, Gaynor Cooper, Daphne Barraclough, Sheelagh Sendall

**Apologies**: Chris Smith, Hannah Gash, William Lorne

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|  | **Led by** | **Action by** |
| **Action cards** for Eskinder to be used on World Press Day were completed. These will be given in at the Amnesty Conference | **Jacinta** | **Jacinta**  **Kevin** |
| **Welcome** and lighting of the Amnesty candle | **Jacinta** |  |
| **Actions related to February minutes:**   1. **World Press Day**   Alison has drafted a letter to go to the County Times asking for them to join us in a photograph outside the County Times office at 6pm on May 5th. This was agreed and Alison will now send it off and inform those who said they can come of the outcome. People can bring a picnic if they wish at 6pm on that day, to be eaten after the photograph. The normal meeting will be held at 8pm. The photograph will be taken to the Ethiopian Embassy when we visit it. Anyone who was not at this meeting but would like to join this action at the County Times should let Alison know   1. **Visit to Ethiopian Embassy**   We do not need permission to visit the Embassy, but it is closed at weekends so we need to go during the week. The suggested date is July 13th. Jacinta will check what the last group to visit the embassy did, then contact the police, and ask AIUK to invite the other groups working on Eskinder to join us.   1. **Amnestea at Ifield Quakers**   This will take place on June 20th. More details to follow   1. **Collyers Presentation**   This went well, and it looks like a new Collyers Amnesty Group will form.  **5.’A Better World’ slot in the County Times**  Jackie attended the meeting called by Frank Smith to gather together similar groups and request a monthly slot in the County Times, a different group providing the copy each time. So far there are 4 groups involved, Amnesty, Global Justice Now, Fairtrade Horsham and the Interfaith Forum. Frank is working with a friend who is a retired journalist to put together a proposal to the County Times.  **6.King and Chasemore Event**  This will no longer happen as King and Chasemore are not interested. William has also approached Sainsburys about collecting outside the shop, but they were not interested because we don’t specifically promote healthy eating | **Alison**  **Jacinta**  **Alison**  **Jackie**  **Jackie**  **Hannah L** | **Alison**  **Jacinta**  **Audrey**  **Frank** |
| **Post**  Group ballot papers have arrived for the election of people to AIUK Board. It was agreed that Kevin and Jacinta will vote for us after hearing the presentation of each candidate at the National Conference. | **Jacinta** | **Jacinta, Kevin** |
| **Treasurer’s report** (see attached email)  Since the last accounts on 3/02/15 We have had income from:  A talk given by Jackie (£114)  A Donation at the open Meeting (£5)  There has been no expenditure  Current funds are £424.40 | **John** |  |
| **Review of March Open Meeting**  It was agreed that this went very well. Attendance was good and everyone helped as requested.  Thanks was given to Jackie for her excellent presentation.  It was suggested that we hold one of these events every 2 years |  |  |
| **Rota for writing to Eskinder**  Hannah Lore will put together a rota so that Eskinder receives something from our group every week. If you are unable to do any of the weeks you have been allocated, please swap among yourselves. | **Hannah L** | **Hannah L**  **All** |
| **Fundraising Progress**   1. **Folk event.**   The Billingshurst Unitarian Chapel are willing to let us use it free for a Folk event. It is a small space, and will hold 45-50. Mary will work on finding performers. Perhaps this could run October/November? Amnesty members in the Billingshurst area could be invited. Perhaps we could have a raffle? Tickets will need to be cheap, plus a donation box.   1. **Pop Up Shop in Swan Walk.**   It is possible we could have this in June, but we would need street collectors licence for the date in order to collect money. Hannah will go back to Swan Walk and ask if we could have it for the Writeathon and a display of Amnesty work. Possibly June 27th? Or June 13th as a second possibility   1. **Carols for Amnesty.**   Brighton does this every year in a pub and makes a reasonable amount of money. Perhaps the Tanners Arms would let us do this? Mary will try to find out if there are any people in the Folk Club who would be free and willing to do this for us. Perhaps a Monday in early December?   1. **Ethiopian Evening**.   It was suggested that we have the October Meeting when we have the main room at the Meeting House an Ethiopian Evening with an Ethiopian meal, music and games. We would find a speaker to do a short presentation. This was felt to be a good idea.   1. **Extra Amnesteas**   Gaynor will arrange an Amnestea on July 25th, 2pm. 12 Heron Way, Horsham  Mary hopes to arrange one at her house during May, will come back with a date | **Mary**  **Hannah**  **Alison**  **Mary**  **Alison**  **Gaynor**  **Mary** | **Mary**  **Hannah**  **Alison**  **Mary**  **Alison**  **Gaynor**  **Mary** |
| **Facebook Page**  This is now up and running. Jackie encouraged more people to go to the page and ‘like’ events and ‘share them.  She alos asked if people would check the website regularly as she updates in every month | **Jackie** |  |
| **Election**  AIUK Has two questions they want asked of each candidate. Alison gave these out and allocated one person to email each candidate with the question. Replies will be collated and sent to AIUK.  The Church Hustings is at 7pm on April 22nd at Kingdom Faith Church. Questions need to be submitted to Ian Fletcher. Gaynor will see if she can submit the questions to him.  Pledge Cards. These need to be signed and sent to AIUK. Alison will post them to anyone who requests a supply, and will have ones for the group to sign at the next meeting | **Alison**  **Gaynor**  **Alison** | **All who volunteered**  **Gaynor**  **Alison** |
| **AIUK Conference**  It was agreed that we would abstain as a group on the resolution on abortion.  For other resolutions Jacinta and Kevin may use their common sense after hearing the discussions | **Jacinta** | **Jacinta Kevin** |
| **Future Meetings**  It was agreed that we would hire the main hall at the Meeting House after the work is completed on the building in November. We would suggest that all attendees donate £1-2 each meeting, to cover the extra cost, plus refreshments. This will be left to the discretion of visitors, and will not be compulsory. | **Jackie** |  |
| **AOB**  There will be walk for the Gatwick Detainees on Sunday 21st June. Details attached. You can join just for the last part of the walk. | **Jackie** |  |
| **Date and time of next meeting:**  May 5th, 8pm Friends Meeting House. Hannah Gash will give a presentation about FGM |  | **Hannah G** |