

## Activism Subcommittee Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### Human Rights Action Centre

#### Minutes

##### In attendance:

Tom Chigbo (Chair)  
Alexis Hatto (Regional Representative)  
Julia Pato (StAN Representative)  
Maddy Stanford (Youth Representative)  
Katherine Walton (Children's Human Rights Network)  
Rhiannon Griffiths (Country Coordinator Representative)  
Bob Barron (Trade Union Network Representative)

##### Staff Attending:

Andy Hackman (Head of Community Organising, HRE and Events)  
Kerry Moscogiuri (Director of Supporter Campaigning and Communications)  
Jeni Dixon (Community Organising Manager)  
Ranna McArdle (PA Supporter Campaigning and Communication, Minutes)

Item no	Agenda Item	Action
1	<p><b>Apologies</b> were received from Holly Shorey, Daren Nair and Dave Beynon.</p> <p>Tom welcomed everyone to the meeting. Those present introduced themselves. Tom spoke about the AGM programme and all the opportunities to take part in and deliver workshops. Tom encouraged all to sign up for football if they'd not already done so. Kerry cannot attend in person. Jeni informed ASC about the safeguarding and self care for activists workshops, led by activists.</p> <p><b>Minutes</b> – The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2019 were approved subject to <b><u>correction on p8 regarding Romanian orphanages.</u></b></p> <p><b>Matters arising</b> –Andy updated ASC that he had started the conversation about changing activist roles. There is a draft descriptor of where we want to be. There will be a meeting on the Friday of the AGM with StAN student groups, as part of the youth strategy, with TUNC, and with Alexis and regional reps and groups. Andy <b><u>would look at progressing work on regions which have no Rep.</u></b> Ella from the Media Team is providing Regional Reps with media training and support.</p> <p>Tom reported that Ruth Breddal, Chair of the Board was sent a query about Regional Media Support Officer roles. The website is unclear. <b><u>Andy will check and look at next steps to explore emphasising that these are externally focused campaigning roles instead of referring to governance.</u></b></p>	<p>Ranna</p> <p>Andy</p> <p>Andy</p>

	<p>Andy is working on a draft paper to explain networks in general and how to set up a new network. The paper will include a procedure and come to next ASC. Felix Jakens, Head of Campaigns has created a framework for supporting activist led campaigns. ASC will look at this procedure also.</p>	
2	<p><b>AIUK Campaigns Roundup 2018 –</b></p> <p>ASC noted this paper from Felix Jakens which outlined the impact of all the priority campaigns. ASC members felt an overview/ summary of this paper and the full report formatted for the website could be shared with all activists every quarter. ASC advised using acronyms carefully. <b><u>Kerry will speak to Felix about a quarterly report/ leading activist briefing with an IOM focus, how many activists were involved, include an activist outcome beside the campaign outcome if possible and think about lessons learned in the quarter.</u></b></p> <p>Jeni said there is an issue about how we assess and report impact. We only know what groups tell us. We need information back from activists to link campaigning and activism. Kerry suggested that the London Regional Rep could have been involved in Gangs matrix work, for instance. Kerry is interested in the activist relationship and reaching out to a wider community. Katherine said it would be good to share the challenges people have faced on the citizenship campaign and hostility from the Home Office.</p>	Kerry
3	<p><b>IOM implementation update</b></p> <p>Andy reported that he is working with Ché Ramsden and Claire Postles, AIUK Planning and Evaluation Manager, on a programme of priority projects for 2019; how we articulate, monitor and learn from projects. Andy wants to define lead activist roles, and the future of the role and look at the staffing structure in Community Organising and the Priority Campaigns team. Andy would like to understand how activist roles and staff roles complement each other across teams like Advocacy, Country Coordinators and other staff teams.</p> <p>Jeni updated ASC on the use of Nation Builder and scoping out a regional pilot. Jeni plans to talk to regional reps, then create steering groups to develop regional pilots using a networked version of Nation Builder.</p> <p>ASC discussed the Activism workshop at AGM and how to facilitate a disability network following a previous resolution. Mike Quinn will facilitate a workshop on how to develop a new network and project. A BAME network would come next. Andy explained that new networks could take a few years to develop. Then there would be a decision to make permanent or treat as a project and exit using an exit strategy. New network routes onto the Board would need to be defined in relation to governance structure.</p>	

	<p>Tom is keen to avoid a complicated governance process. He wants to enable different groups to come together.</p> <p>Bob queried what we wanted to achieve with new groups: opening Amnesty up to participation; remove barriers; grow the movement and cover issues not being covered. We need to be aware obstacles will not be the same for different groups, ie BAME and disabled people. Tom said that we need to be clear what the pathway is for these groups. Andy's team is working on an implementation plan.</p> <p>Kerry confirmed that Kate's speech talks about Impact of the Movement.</p>	
4	<p><b>Amnesty Culture and Kumi's speech –</b></p> <p>Tom introduced Kumi Naidoo's (Amnesty's new Secretary General) speech. He commented on Kumi's sense of vision and direction, his desire to energise and galvanise the movement. Kumi is upfront about challenges regarding impact and internal culture. Tom asked ASC members for reflections and thoughts: any ideas or proposals about how this can be made real in activist bases where ASC members operate? What would we take from this speech for activists? Kerry confirmed that the speech was not to be shared outside this meeting and that staff could help provide answers to activist questions.</p> <p>ASC discussed the speech in pairs and reported back reactions and thoughts:</p> <p>Alexis/Kathy felt partnerships could enable the movement to become infectious, be a catalyst for others to join; –</p> <p>Julia/Bob would like more youth involvement. StAN would like to get the underrepresented of the UK population in their networks. Go out to colleges and youth centres, involve StAN rather than build a new network; HRE can engage kids, especially troubled kids who are missing out on school. Develop a starter pack for local education authorities and education officers. Start from something simple and let it grow. Reach out to kids who fall between school and uni.</p> <p>Rhiannon/Tom mentioned that there can be antagonism between activists and staff. The Board can be seen as taking power away. Rhiannon suggested a "bring an activist to work day". She feels there is an activist perception that staff simply limit and impede what they do. Activists don't understand how hard the job is. An office open day could address this and create a space where people get to know each other.</p> <p>There is a negative culture to be addressed in the Country Coordinators Forum, a negativity that turns new and younger activists off. Rhiannon suggested training about relationships and</p>	

	<p>running meetings should be given to chairs. ASC discussed activist meetings in general and how they can be difficult, emotionally charged and sometimes dominated by a few people. Kerry said there is a need to share expertise on making meetings a constructive space and a positive experience for participants. Even where people are passionate there needs to be professional boundaries. Maddy said we need a culture of compassion where we set boundaries and limitations; acknowledge and value each other's worth to make an impact externally. Rhiannon said that people who are negative don't realise they create a negative space. This should be raised at the AGM.</p> <p>Alexis wondered about decision making mechanisms to do less but do it better. Katherine drew attention to the language used by staff and activists and the need for chairs of networks to create a positive welcoming place. Amnesty needs to use accessible language.</p> <p>Tom recapped on the specific things to do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Organise an activist day with staff;</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>Train chairs.</u></b></li> </ul> <p>Jeni said the welfare and well being workshop at the AGM dovetails these things. <b><u>Jeni and Andy will develop a holistic strategy covering how we do the training and who takes it forward.</u></b></p> <p>Andy said we need consistent induction and training. Expectations are framed in Kumi's speech. When we're strong internally our projects are strong externally.</p> <p>Kerry advised an activist training plan should include practical meeting/ charring training which would also benefit staff.</p>	<p>Kerry, Andy, Jeni</p> <p>Andy, Jeni</p>
5	<p><b>Global Strategy development toolkit –</b></p> <p>Tom introduced the series of papers ASC had been asked to consider. There is a lengthy lead in to the Global Assembly (the international version of the AGM) where the Global Strategy will be voted on and adopted in summer 2020. AIUK has 3 seats at the GA. There are decisions on AI's stance on big issues and many stages to the consultation.</p> <p>Claire Postles, AIUK Planning and Evaluation Manager advised ASC on the process for engaging with this process. Kerry read out Claire's questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What lessons can we take for how we involved the movement in the development of the last strategy? Who did we reach? Who didn't we reach? What was the impact of this? What should we do differently this time around?</li> </ol>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. What information (from the big five questions) do we already have from the development of the HR in the UK strategy and impact of the movement strategy?</li> <li>3. Where are the gaps?</li> <li>4. Who do we need to reach to provide that missing information? How do we reach them?</li> <li>5. How should the process and development of the global strategy align with AIUK's strategy?</li> </ol> <p>ASC members considered the questions in groups of 3 and fed back to the full group:</p> <p>Jeni's group advised segmenting the feedback into 3 categories local groups; wider conferences; wider feedback about how we work together. She would like to gather activist led feedback from the movement, by piggybacking on other sessions and spending 20 minutes getting feedback. Kerry would like to see different groups owning this and engaging with it. We could do online or via social media answers to 3 simple questions (not be called a survey).</p> <p>Maddy said that while involved last time she did not know much about the issues and that is a lesson to learn.</p> <p>Kerry considered there is a gap in student and YAG voices. We should be well prepared with the Impact of the Movement strategy for activists to use this as an opportunity to get feedback. We can tap into activism that is already there, such as the new climate change engagements. Maddy advised using simple language and avoiding strategy language as this is off putting. Bob said we should go out to people rather than wait for them to come to us. Tom felt a lesson learned from last time was that we did not look outside Amnesty about how we could improve.</p> <p>Global assembly questions are complex. Not the whole movement would want to engage. Lead activists could give depth. Working groups that include activists could work on political and communications strategy.</p> <p>The Magazine could be used to encourage wider input. There could be an open platform for people to submit ideas. Alexis suggested reaching out to sections and external organisations in a coordinated way so that we don't bombard the same organisation. Jeni suggested we could plan a competition to see who/which network could get the most submissions and win prizes. Tom reminded ASC that this is a long process. We will <b><u>write these ideas up and share with Claire in a plan with practical deadlines.</u></b></p> <p>Kerry wondered if we should narrow the focus as these 5 questions could be overwhelming. ASC felt that youth voice and the right language are key. Katherine suggested getting activist led</p>	<p>Andy, Jeni</p>
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	feedback via a session with respective groups.	
6	<p><b>Report back from networks, including TU Networks</b></p> <p>Katherine reported challenges around GDPR and group members ticking the wrong boxes and opting themselves out of all mailings. Kerry thought <b><u>we had omitted networks from these options and will check why this is happening.</u></b> Jeni advised <b><u>telling anyone who is not receiving emails to contact Supporter Care Team and their preferences can be reset.</u></b></p> <p>Katherine shared news and success: Amnesty Feminists and women's experiences of conflict; Belfast based abortion activist; website ideas; podcast; LGTI preparing for Pride; AGM groups workshops; sharing experiences; trans pride in the UK; Twitter; International Women's Day.</p> <p>Katherine spoke about the Children's Network and the Make Rights Real campaign. Children are engaged in human rights. The Climate Change protests were well attended in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Sterling. Under 18 committee members used the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) with reference to climate change.</p> <p>Kerry asked have Amnesty feminists plugged into SPB podcasts? Kerry reported Nicky Parker is working on a children's rights book. There is an IS planning meeting at the end of month to coordinate a response for the 30th anniversary of the CRC. Optional Protocol 3 global campaign will end in September.</p> <p>Katherine reported that 2 new committee members are needed and co-option until the next election is a possibility. Kerry <b><u>advised asking for help from the Nominations Sub Committee which handles general recruitment to governance roles, to focus on getting under 18s on committees. Jeni also advised contacting Anne Montague.</u></b></p> <p>Bob (TU Network) has just returned to work after an illness and so had no report.</p> <p>Maddy reported from the Youth Network:</p> <p><b>Challenges faced and solutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smaller groups struggling to feel involved/wanting to feel involved on a larger scale.</li> <li>• Gender imbalance</li> <li>• Struggle with age differences</li> <li>• Exam season</li> </ul>	<p>Kerry ALL</p> <p>Katherine/ Holly Katherine/ Holly</p>

	<p><b>Successes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several youth groups trying to focus on education surrounding rights – rather than specific campaigns.</li> <li>• IWD</li> <li>• Climate strike</li> </ul> <p>Alexis reported:</p> <p>Regional Reps will shortly bid farewell with great sadness to Farshid Talaghani, Community Organiser for Local Groups, and Lisbeth ten Ham, Chair of Regional Reps. Farshid is retiring after the AGM in April following nearly 30 years at Amnesty, while Lisbeth has been Regional Rep for East Anglia since 2010, and she will therefore step down after our AGM meeting. We wish both Lisbeth and Farshid all the very best and thank them both for all their hard work and support.</p> <p>Many thanks also to Malcolm Dingwall-Smith, Regional Rep for Scotland, who has led on the delivery of the Great Amnesty Quiz 2019. There were 14 quizzes, hosted by 17 groups (some combined events), of these 15 were local groups, one student group, and one school group amounting to 625 participants. They raised £3,641.71 (after costs), which will either be used by local groups or passed on to AIUK. Five groups were holding a quiz for the first time; eight groups indicated that they didn't think they would have organised a quiz this year otherwise; 13 groups said they were likely to take part if we repeated it next year. Malcolm is also leading on the development of an emergency resolution with the Dundee group to express solidarity with Amnesty staff following revelations documented in the KonTerra report. Some other groups have also expressed concern about the report's findings and a lack of communication from the Amnesty UK section office to its membership about the report's findings prior to its publication in January. London Regional Rep Alexis Hatto attended a meeting of the Blackheath and Greenwich group, which welcomed IS Director of Communications Osama Bhutta to discuss the issues raised by the report and its implications for Amnesty's future work.</p> <p>These points are highly relevant to the upcoming AGM events in which we are involved, specifically the meeting for groups without Regional Reps and the "Transforming our Activism" workshop, which Wales Regional Rep Stuart Penny is leading in collaboration with Ché Ramsden and James Farndon from Community Organising.</p>	
7	<p><b>Global Assembly Meeting 2019 – PrepCom assessment of proposals for motions</b></p> <p>Tom compared the process for preparing proposals for the Global Assembly Meeting to our Standing Orders Committee and AGM.</p>	

	<p>PrepCom assess the proposed motions for consideration at the Global Assembly. Motions are proposed by Sections worldwide. PrepCom's role is to apply the International Council's criteria to each motion.</p> <p>ASC considered the list of motions and wished to challenge the rejection of AI Finland and AI Poland's motion that AI should be carbon neutral by 2025. ASC felt that if we are asking governments to do this we should do this also.</p> <p>Tom spoke about the drive to include young people in strategy development. There are new rules for delegates to the GA which allow AIUK 3 + 1 youth activist (Global definition is a person under 24 years old, but AIUK could chose to have a lower age) every three years.</p> <p>Kerry spoke about the establishment of a Global Youth Task Force as part of the Global strategic planning process. Julia asked how people are elected to the Task Force. Jeni has asked the IS to clarify whether under 24 includes under 18 and the safeguarding plan to support under 18s. She has offered to support them with this if all possible.</p> <p>Tom would <b><u>feedback the ASC discussion to the Board. 2</u></b> Representatives from AIUK are going to the GA meeting. He asked ASC members to <b><u>email him the names of people in groups or networks who are interested in attending the GA and he will connect them with the Board member involved.</u></b></p>	<p>Tom ALL</p>
8	<p><b>Brand Refresh Presentation</b></p> <p>Kerry did a short presentation on AIUK's brand refresh and new communications strategy. The global movement is also working on brand and AIUK is sharing our progress with the IS. Kerry said this has not been launched officially but is being rolled out by the Comms Team who are already using hopeful and positive language and Humanity Wins. We are not scrapping any existing materials and activists will be issued with guidance. The Comms Team are planning an internal launch and introducing the brand refresh to all teams.</p> <p>ASC advised <b><u>replacing the word 'humanitarian' on one of the slides as this seemed misleading.</u></b> Kerry confirmed that acts of humanity means anything you do for Amnesty, raise money, hold conversations, stand up for humanity against the opposite. We aim for maximum inclusivity. ASC acknowledged that most large human rights organisations and charities use branding. Kerry confirmed this presentation is an internal one. AIUK will determine what to give to activists.</p> <p>Bob compared Humanity Wins to the TU movement's concepts on organising, moving from anger to hope to action. Hope is</p>	<p>Kerry</p>



	<p>important to activate people at grass roots level. Katherine and Alexis asked for access to updated toolkits and updated templates to use in their communications to groups and networks. Andy confirmed he had been talking to Sam about this. Kerry agreed it is important for groups to be able to manage their own communications. Julia felt specific comms are needed for different age groups and different media such as social media. Kerry agreed AIUK would need to look at what comms are appropriate for specific and targeted audiences. Maddy felt the colours were more inclusive and appealing from a youth perspective.</p> <p>ASC members mentioned accessibility, use of colour schemes for colour blind people and people with dyslexia. These can be tested on certain websites.</p> <p>Tom thanked ASC for their enthusiasm for this new brand. It is worth highlighting that the aim is to make our message and our principles relevant to activists and people outside our networks. We want to live up to the aspirations of our activist bases.</p>	
9	<p><b>AGM Preparation</b></p> <p>Tom introduced the AGM Programme which reflects most of what ASC asked for except Kate's speech and the Director's report straight after ASC speech. There has been an appeal to everyone to stay as long as they can on Sunday. Andy reported that delegates will be able to do a live evaluation of proceedings which will show on the screen. The day will open with 5 key big questions about our global strategy asking all to go to the Global Strategy Stall and tell us where their energy and priorities lie.</p> <p>Tom informed ASC there is a "new to the AGM session" and Holly had volunteered to run this. He <b><u>asked members to support new people at reserved tables during lunch or dinner.</u></b> Tom confirmed all workshops have been named and reminded ASC members to <b><u>register for their choices and to register (via Blueprint) even if they are running the workshop.</u></b></p> <p>Tom is looking forward to meeting Kumi Naidoo and hearing him speak at the AGM. Football Welcomes will have a special place in Nottingham as Notts County is the oldest football team in the world. Tom <b><u>asked ASC members to let him know likely activist responses to the Resolutions as he needs to relay these to the Board at the AGM.</u></b> ASC members discussed the Resolutions and the <b>Ask the Board</b> session where the AIUK's work on prisoners of conscience will probably be highly debated. Opinions, support and interpretation of the term and the work vary a lot among groups and age groups.</p> <p>ASC felt that the Board needs to be prepared to address the issue of networks and groups being listened to about which campaign issues AIUK should work. Climate change and other disparate issues were mentioned. Perhaps the Board need to highlight the</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>interconnectedness of issues and the importance of addressing the root causes in the light of what some members believe are conflicting and controversial campaigns ie anti-death penalty / pro-abortion, immigration / refugee crisis. Alexis reported members difficulty in finding individual cases and relevant content to work on. Kerry found this really helpful advice. We must remind the AGM that we campaign on the full spectrum of human rights and decisions are democratically taken. Tom said we need to remind AGM that every year we take a decision about priorities and activists are involved at different stages. We broaden and change focus as the world changes. Members need to be able to adapt and reframe even though they may have joined for a specific belief or campaign.</p> <p>Jeni stressed the importance of having this debate in a positive collaborative space that is not patronising or ageist. Andy said there needs to be an awareness of visible and non-visible disability in the room while the resolution on disability is debated. Katherine said there is a risk of discouraging networks and non-traditional activist structures.</p> <p>ASC discussed the <b>New to the AGM Session</b> Powerpoint and how to assist with this session. After workshops /sessions <b><u>tell attendees where to go next and add a slide with this information.</u></b></p> <p><b>ASC Speech</b> – Rhiannon reported that this had been trialled at NW Conference and was successful. Kerry will <b><u>send Tom Kate’s speech.</u></b></p> <p>Tom asked ASC members to let him know examples of activism from groups that should have a mention for embodying IOM. Suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Japan embassy Stunt and the Instagram video;</li> <li>• Derry Girls and the abortion stunt at Westminster;</li> <li>• It’s time national day of action by student groups –</li> <li>• Under 15 members actions in Glasgow and London</li> <li>• Trade Unions congress children’s network</li> <li>• There are shared stories of partnerships such as Colwyn Bay and National Trust;</li> <li>• Week of film screenings in Sheffield on the death penalty;</li> <li>• Football welcomes and Nottingham;</li> <li>• Lambeth local Morris Dancers and the I Welcome campaign.</li> </ul> <p>Jeni reported that 50 student members are attending the AGM. Kerry informed ASC that there will be a rehearsal on 2 April. Maddy will do the introductions. Tom reminded ASC members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Workshops – know what and where they are;</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>Action Centre - staff and activists know what they are doing and what stalls they are manning;</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>Let Tom know likely questions from delegates.</u></b></li> </ul>	<p>ALL</p> <p>Kerry</p> <p>ALL ALL ALL</p>
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	<p>ASC members thought the following items would be the subjects of questions to the Board: contact with staff, the report about reasons people are leaving Amnesty, monitoring Facebook, accessibility to events, care, Health and Safety, wellbeing and support for distressing situations, and the KonTerra report and how that was disseminated.</p> <p>Andy reported that the AGM is oversubscribed now. Tom asked members to <b><u>build excitement in their constituencies; and to keep a critical eye on how people experience the AGM to make this event even better and get twice as many people joining up next year.</u></b></p> <p>Jeni reminded ASC members to <b><u>brief people about doing 1 minute on stage on Good News items and to get as many different things as possible.</u></b></p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
10	<p><b>Report back from local groups and CCs</b></p> <p>Rhiannon shared news and successes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hugh Sandeman reported a range of successful activism on the case of Giulio Regeni who was disappeared and eventually found death in Egypt in 2016. Several events were organized with the Cambridge university and local group, with over 100 participants and high profile media engagement.</li> <li>• North Africa team worked with Cambridge City Amnesty Group and Cambridge University Amnesty Group to organise three events to commemorate the third anniversary of the disappearance, torture and death of Cambridge PhD student Giulio Regeni in Egypt on 25-Jan to 3-Feb 2016. The three events were: vigil and speeches outside Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge; vigil outside Egypt Embassy, London; and seminar in Cambridge to consider the background to and implications of Giulio Regeni's death</li> </ul> <p>Partners: we worked with the University and College Union, who sent their National President to the embassy vigil; and with Cambridge University Student Union, who supported the Cambridge and London vigils. Also, essential partners were personal friends of Giulio, who attended both vigils, and read poems and tributes, and a message from Giulio's parents, at the embassy vigil. Advocacy: Cambridge MP Daniel Zeichner attended the Cambridge vigil and gave a speech in support of the campaign for Truth for Giulio. Media: we did interviews on air and recorded with: BBC; RAI (Italian national television, twice), Al-Jazeera Arabic, and Al-Jazeera English. Attendance: 70 people at Cambridge vigil, 35 people at embassy vigil, 15 for Cambridge seminar. Outcome: delivery of messages to Egyptian government that the issue will not be forgotten; letter and question by Daniel Zeichner MP to Foreign Secretary to demand more profile and pressure on this issue from UK government; collective</p>	

	<p>determination by activists to keep the campaign going another year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basia Giezek reported on some excellent activities working on Australia, Manus Island, and Nauru.</li> </ul> <p>On 4th March, Basia joined members of International Alliance Against Mandatory Detention, Cambridge City Amnesty International, Refugee Lifeboat, Stand Up to Racism, as well as academics and student activists. They read excerpts from Behrouz Boochani's 'No Friend but the Mountain' in Cambridge, outside a dinner at which former PM Malcolm Turnbull and High Commissioner George Brandis were guests of honour. It was good because: we were a bigger group, had a really good equipment and IAAMD prepared over 200 leaflets which included a link to an online action from AI Australia. We were visible and quite loud...It was a great way to network as well.</p> <p>Rhiannon reported that she will step down as a CC. She wants to address how to give feedback constructively and counter negativity. She will attend the next ASC meeting whoever gets elected and continue work on the anti-death penalty project. Rhiannon reported a surprise email from an FCO desk officer. Andy confirmed that relationships with desk officers would be held by CCs.</p> <p>RG reported that the NW conference in Blackburn was one of the best attended and diverse and well organised. Tom said their conference team had been very professional. <b><u>Andy would feed this back to Semina who has been in the Regional Rep role for 18 months.</u></b></p> <p>Jeni reported that the reserved seat on the Board for a CC is being contested. Kerry reported that AIUK is reviewing activist roles and restructuring regions: moving from individual regional reps to a series of regional teams with more formalised support. Tom reported that there is a specific AGM resolution relating to regional reps highlighting that we need something different to enable more people to do more.</p>	Andy
11	<p><b>Supporter Feedback Roundup 2018</b></p> <p>Tom recorded ASC's thanks to the Supporter Communications Team for fielding these responses day to day. Tom commented that most of the complaints and praise regarding AIUK campaigns and policy reflect deeply held opinions which we probably cannot change.</p> <p>Tom also said it is worth thinking about our events and how they are run. Could they have been more energised?</p> <p>Jeni advised ASC members, if they feel these should be logged, to <b><u>forward nasty emails received in their Amnesty email accounts to SCT.</u></b> SCT will send a response on their behalf.</p> <p>Kerry will <b><u>look into the difficulties experienced changing</u></b></p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>Kerry</p>

	<p><b><u>personal details on the website.</u></b></p> <p>Jeni confirmed that members had to receive DP training before they could use an Amnesty email account.</p>	
12	<p><b>Report from student and youth groups</b></p> <p>Julia reported that there had been a StAN committee and 2 student conferences, in Scotland, the Midlands. StAN had been involved in the HR in the UK consultation. Tom explained that this is a workshop/ activity that happens in meetings. Kerry advised Bob to check with Shane about TUNC meetings and this activity. Julia reported many students having problems with the home office and visas. StAN had their own campaign on this issue.</p> <p>Kerry asked whether StAN had discussed the Essex Uni issue and added that there need to be a policy on training for activists. Andy is looking at our current training materials. All lead activists will need training on how to talk about Israel / Palestine relationships. Kerry said it is important that activists can see what AIUK policy is and know how to engage sensitively, separating the state from citizens.</p> <p>Maddy reported that 6<sup>th</sup> form exam lead up, UCAS applications etc mean that numbers dwindle at this time of year. Smaller youth groups struggle to feel involved. IOM strategy when it's implemented will go some way to solve this. Maddy commented on the gender imbalance which is a common theme in charities. Maddy said that because of age differences there needs to be separate groups, ie a lower school and an upper school 6<sup>th</sup> form group. Content needs to be age appropriate without being patronising.</p> <p>Maddy said there would be a quiet study space at the AGM. Maddy feels there is a back to basics move focusing on Human rights, children's rights and it's a really interesting time for youth activism. Groups had taken part in International Women's Day, and Bloody Good Period. Maddy feels there is massive youth energy demonstrated by the climate strikes and that perhaps Amnesty feminists could work on every day sexism some more. Maddy reported she had received a phone call about a new youth group.</p> <p>Katherine asked was there any backlash against striking? Are schools supportive. Maddy said it varies massively. Some schools have said you cannot go or you get suspended. It seems state school sectors are quite supportive, particularly in Scotland. Kerry acknowledged the movement needs to think about this to avoid sanctions. Teachers are in an awkward position. Some have said to Maddy that starting an Amnesty group is difficult because of remote locations. Tom asked how can we connect with other movements that are allies and appeal to young optimists?</p>	

	Kerry said we have joined Climate Justice and UK Climate Strikes What's App group. <b><u>Kerry and Jeni will link climate activists with Anne Montague and Tim Gee. Andy will debrief on the Climate Justice movement.</u></b>	Kerry, Jeni, Andy
13	<b>Wrap up and close –</b>  Tom looked forward to seeing everyone at the AGM and asked everyone to try to network and introduce people to each other.	
14	<b>Date of next meeting – 11 May 2019</b>	

DRAFT