

Solihull Amnesty International Group

Minutes of Meeting Monday 20th October 2014

Present. Cathy, Celia, Janet, Pauline, Bernard, David
Apologies. None

1. Minutes and Action From September Meeting.

Fun in the Park. It was agreed that the cage was a great success in raising awareness of the conditions in prison of Prisoners of conscience, particularly among children and young people.

Cathy and Pauline are going to put Photographs of the event on the Website.

It was also agreed that Cathy and Pauline would take over the maintenance of our website in future.

2. Secretary's Items.

Urgent Action. We were asked to write on behalf of Brishna a 10 year old Rape survivor who is at risk of Honour Killing. Please send Appeals before 20th November.

Monthly Action: lobby the Government to increase the financial assistance to Asylum Seekers. Link to template for letter

<http://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/groups-activity-pack-october-2014-call-asylum-support-be-increased> Group letter to be sent to the Prime Minister by 15th December. The next meeting of the Asylum Seekers Consortium will be on Tues 21/10/14. Celia will attend.

3. Future Events.

Wandsworth A.I Group has organised a Torture Crawl in London on Sat 25 Oct, to visit eight Embassies to raise awareness of the use of Torture and to get it abolished.

Bournville A.I. Group. has arranged for a Human Rights Lawyer, who has recently been in Turkey to give a presentation on 20th November. The Venue TBC, all are welcome.

Amnesty International Christmas Concert .This annual event will be held once again in Carrs Lane Church on Saturday 13th December at 11.00 hours.

Birmingham Central A.I. Group. Will be having a Street Action starting from the Central Library on 1st.November at 13.00 hours.

Solihull A.I.Group. will be having a stand in Poplar Way Solihull on 10th. December to raise awareness and to ask members of the public to sign Greetings cards. The theme is to be decided at our next meeting in November.

Street Collection. No date has been received yet from the Local Authority.

4. Campaign Reports.

Johan Teterissa. Janet reported that the list of recipients for letters was unchanged. It was also suggested that during the current transition phase of the government letters could be sent directly to Johan Teterissa.

Sombath Somphone. David reported that letters to previous recipients are to continue.

5. **A.I. U.K.Proposed Regorganisation.**We missed the second phase of this consultationj on 17th.October and the 3rd.Phase for our response will be early in 2015.
6. **A.I.Gift Catalogue.** This is now in circulation and to get a 20% Discount the Groups total order must exceed £75.00.Please respond as soon as possible.
7. **General Election:** It was agreed that Julian Knight (Cons) and Lorely Burt (Lib Dem) should be invited to one of our meetings in Jan or Mar to answer questions.
ACTION: Celia
8. It was agreed to send a donation of £40 to the Halesowen Asylum Seakers Welcome Group.

