

Solihull Amnesty International Group

Minutes of Meeting Monday 16 November 2015

Present. Cathy, Celia, Janet, Pauline, Bernard, Amy, Heather, David
Apologies. Ruth, Janet

1. Recent Events -

- **Fortress Europe – Quaker Asylum Group** : 22 Oct Celia attended. The group made the several points regarding the Syrian Crisis including:
 - Europe's response has been solely military
 - At any one time there are 500 lobbyinists at the EU headquarters , lobbying on behalf of the Arms Trade
 - Suggested that a way forward might be Humanitarian Visas as in Switzerland, valid for 90 days
- **Regional Conference** 17 October: this was well attended, well organised and interesting

2. Future Events –

- **Christmas Social** at Cathy's home on Monday 7 December
- **Human Rights Day** Rights for Rights card signing at the rear of Sainsburys , Solihull on 10 December
 - Cases chosen were a) Israa Al-Taweel from Egypt p10 non religious card
 - b) Waleed Abu al-Hair from Saudi Arabia p15 non religious card, no mention of AI
 - Press release details sent by AI HQ to be forwarded to local press
 - Photos from previous year required ACTION PM
 - Amy is organising a Right for Rights session at her school. AI will purchase cards and pay the postage ACTION Amy
 - Photos required to send to press after the event. Camera required ACTION PM
 - Celia has boards, Bernard has table
 - Rota 10:00 till 12:00 Celia, David , Janet
12:00 till 14:00 Cathy, Pauline, Bernard
- **National Conference** – Nottingham on 9-10 April 2016
-

3. Secretary`s Items.

- **Monthly Action:** Iran – women artist/cartoonist imprisoned for drawing cartoons of political leadership. Suggested actions drawing cartoon, Solidarity message to her, email leader if Islamic Republic of Iran
- Rights for Rights booklets available from secretary`s
- Order from AI Christmas catalogue

4. Campaign Reports.

Johan Teterissa. Continue with rota .

Sombath Somphone. David asked that we continue to follow rota

5. AOB – Next meeting 18 January 2016