**Minutes of Meeting on 18th March 2013**

Present: Alan, Wendy, Laura, John, Lauren, Alex, Hai Ying, Peter

1. Apologies: Val, Mike, Angharad, Precious and Daoud.
2. Jennifer Jaynes
   * Jennifer Jaynes, our North West regional representative, emailed her apologies for being unable to attend the meeting due to bereavement.
   * Hoped to be able to attend one of our summer meetings instead.
3. AGM
   * Places for concessionary delegates are full however the group would like to be represented. Hai Ying to enquire about this ASAP.
   * AGM offering workshops covering Syria, Arms Trade Treaty, Afghanistan and women, finance, democracy within Amnesty International, Amnesty International UK and international position, Amnesty International Today and Tomorrow.
   * Decided that Zimbabwe and Arms Trade Treaty workshops would be relevant to the groups interests.
   * Anne Marcus, the Egypt coordinator, keen to discuss our North African focus with our delegate.
   * Hai Ying also agreed to look at display material whilst at the AGM.
   * Hai Ying to enquire about the framework for the EGM – why do resolutions require 75% vote in favour in order to pass at EGMs?
4. Minutes & Matters Arising
   * International Women’s Day event at Hoole Community Centre was not very successful. The Wrexham event was much better with much more interest and three new Facebook group members.
   * Peter’s presentation to the World Development Forum is to be given time in the May Amnesty meeting.
5. Money Matters
   * Alex is looking at setting up a bank account with Co-operative. Requires more people to be on the paperwork/bank account. Alan agreed to do this.
   * The group have approximately £215 in the account – it was agreed that some of this would support Hai Ying’s presence at the AGM.
   * Subscriptions are due. Group agreed to increase these by 20% and abolish the couple rate. Subscription fees are therefore:
     + Individual = £12
     + Concession = £6
   * King’s School held collections for Amnesty International throughout their performances of The Crucible. We are waiting to receive the cheque. Proceeds to be divided between Amnesty International and our group.
   * Laura agreed to chase Morrisons in Upton about bag packing.
   * Chester Guitar Orchestra are holding a concert at Oddfellows Hall on the afternoon of Sunday 30th June 2013 – collection to be held at concert/refreshments served.
   * Peter to make enquiries about collecting on race days outside of racecourse.
   * Hai Ying to make enquiries about Wrexham FC/Rugby and to chase ASDA and Tesco about bag packing.
   * Hai Ying has approached Wrexham Community Choir about doing a fundraising event. Alan suggested enquiring about holding a collection/organising a display at one of their events, rather than us organising a concert. Hai Ying to enquire.
6. Matching Our Activity To Our Resources
   * Discussions about group involvement – are we being too ambitious or not ambitious enough?
   * Agreed that if one person should take on responsibility for organising each event and be in charge of getting members involved – if no-one is able to do this, then the event will not go ahead.
   * John has agreed to create a twitter account for the group to increase awareness.
7. North Africa
   * Agreed that this is our new focus instead of Burma.
   * Agreed to take an individual prisoner of conscience and whole area – it was decided that if we received too many updates about North Africa, then the group could discuss scaling it down to one country within the area of North Africa.
   * Laura to tell Ann Marcus, Egypt Coordinator, that we will adopt Azza Suleiman as our prisoner of conscience.
   * Wendy to introduce this topic at each meeting and receive North Africa newsletter.
8. Zimbabwe
   * Violence worsening – letter to MP regarding Zimbabwe – agreed to defer this until next meeting so that we could clarify the information with Precious.
9. Death Penalty
   * There will be an action sent around via email.
10. Any Other Business
    * Updating of group member contact details – pro forma to be emailed with these minutes.
    * Laura agreed to contact Amnesty International UK about the local Amnesty Members list.
    * Alan and Wendy to answer enquiry about the banner from former Wrexham member.
11. Next Meetings
    * 15th April – to be held at Hai Ying’s house in Wrexham – details will be sent around via email – 7:45pm
    * Hai Ying to enquire about a regular meeting venue in Wrexham.
    * 20th May, 20th June, 15th July – these dates also available on the website.
12. Social
    * Hai Ying to organise – watch this space!