



Aylesbury Amnesty International Group

Monthly Group Meeting, 24th September 2014 7.30pm

Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT

Present:

Carol Tarrant
Bob Corn
Katherine Danflous
Frances Booth

Gwyn Jenkins
Emma Hart (MK Group)
Henry Mayer-Gross
Laura Trevelyan (AIUK)

Apologies: David Barnard, Bronwyn Lee, Jim Edwards, Jim Cobley, Annelies Varsey

Carol welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Laura Trevelyan, Advocacy Coordinator at AIUK, and Emma Hart, Chair of Milton Keynes Group.

1.0 **Previous Minutes** – Our previous meeting had been the very enjoyable summer picnic in July – many thanks to Jim Edwards and Sue for hosting the event, whereat Kate Allen, Director of AIUK had joined us. Lively discussion ensued – Kate being very supportive of our work, and she took constructive criticism very well!

2.0 Urgent Actions:

2.1 **Letters had been written to** Indonesia – where a Human Rights Lawyer had been attacked on her way to her hotel after defending a Human Rights defender at court in West Papua; **Philippines** – where Alfredo Disburro had been tortured, and the perpetrators had not been brought to book; **Azerbaijan (who are currently Chair of the Council of Europe)** – where two brothers are being held without charge, whilst acting peacefully in opposition to the government.

3.0 Laura Trevelyan:

- 3.1 Laura began the discussion by explaining that she had been with AIUK for four months, and was championing different forms of advocacy – lobby meetings, letters to MP's and Newspapers – any form of engagement with MP's. She is anxious to discover what we are doing, how we would like to develop, etc.
- 3.2 A lively discussion followed – Laura leaving to catch a train at 9.30pm – she offering to help with developing a 'lobbying forum' of ideas and methods. She was impressed with the range of advocacy which our group currently employs – particularly impressed with Fran having had a telephone call from the White House, and with Carol's continued engagement with all things Indonesian!

4.0 Any Other Business:

4.1 There was no other business.

5.0 **NEXT MEETING: 29th October 2014** at 7.30pm, Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT