



Norwich Amnesty Group

Open Meeting - 20 June 2012

Minutes

Chair (Acting): David Ford
Minutes: Debbie Campbell

Welcome

- Chair welcomed all to the meeting.
- Explained he was Acting Chair in David Huband's absence.
- Explained this meeting was part of Refugee Week, and drew attention to the Refugee Week brochure.

Meeting Format

Chair explained business would be in latter part of meeting as speaker had to leave by 8.45pm.

Speaker

- Chair introduced speaker, Michael Kaye, Manager of *Still Human, Still Here* coalition, who spoke on the continuing plight of asylum-seekers and refugees.
- Chair thanked the speaker following the talk.

Monthly Action - Roz Cadwallader

This related to the relationship between the Olympic Committee (LOCOG) and Olympics sponsor Dow Chemicals in light of the Bhopal disaster in India. Members could sign a standard letter, or access it through the group's website.

Campaigns

- **Children:**
Joanna Kinnaird had nothing to report.
- **Women:**
Roz Cadwallader had nothing to report.
- **Control Arms**
David Yates said July would be an important month for this campaign as key UN meeting in New York. Reminded members of the petition.
- **MENA (Middle East & North Africa):**
Tom Reed referred to the website for information on Syria.

- **Forced Evictions:**

Stephanie Laimer had nothing to report.

- **Individuals at Risk**

David Ford (DF) introduced new Amnesty casework for Turkmenistan in advance of next month's meeting which would focus on the 3 cases. DF had produced a newsletter sheet and a standard letter to the President. He also has postcards which can be used at the Peace Camp on 23 June.

DF asked that members tell him if they do send a letter as he has to record any actions.

DF informed the group of suggestion of a demo in front of the Turkmenistan embassy when the President visits London for the Olympics. DF asked members to let him know if they were interested to follow up.

Treasurer

David Ford informed that he was still in the process of moving the group's bank account over to the Co-op Bank.

Newsletter

Chair congratulated Tom Reed (Editor) on the latest Newsletter.

Notices

- **Norwich Peace Camp**

David Yates reminded that the group would be having a stall at this event in the Forum on Saturday 23 June. Asked that members sign up on the rota if able to offer a period of cover on the stall.

- **Concert**

Chair reminded meeting that the N.Norfolk Amnesty group is putting on a performance of '*Songs for Freedom*', featuring Big Sky choir, on Saturday 23 June at 7.30 at St Nicholas's Church, Salthouse.

- **Norwich Pride**

Chair reminded that the group of the stall at this event on 28 July.

Recent Committee Meeting

Chair summarised key points from last committee meeting, and reminded group that individuals are welcome to submit requests for items to be added to agenda of committee meetings.

Close of Meeting at 9pm

Chair thanked all present for their attendance.

Next Meeting

- **Wednesday 18 July, 7.30pm: Charing Cross Centre**
- **Business meeting with key focus on Turkmenistan casework.**