

Cross-Party Group on Fair Trade

22 June 2022 at 6pm

Minute of Annual General Meeting

Present

MSPs

Colin Smyth MSP

Foysof Choudhury MSP

Invited guests

None

Non-MSP Group Members

Martin Rhodes, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

Carol Morton, Hadeel/Palcrafts

Morag Rennie, Motherwell Fair Trade Group

Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd

Eve Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd

Sion Pickering, University of Edinburgh

Martin Meteyard

Pam Maxwell, North Ayrshire Fair Trade Group

Arthur West

Russell Salton, City of Edinburgh Fair Trade Steering Group

Liz Manson, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

Apologies

Kirsty Connell, Scotmid

Andy Ashcroft, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

Ian Fowell, Linlithgow Fair Trade Group

Karena Jarvie, Perth and Kinross Fair Trade Group

Scott Erwin, Green City Wholefoods

Jim Lister, Glasgow Fair Trade Co-operative

Charles Sim, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

Agenda item 1

The Convenor welcomed members to the meeting

Agenda item 2

Minutes of the meeting to reconvene the Cross Party Group on Fair Trade held on 23 June 2021 - The minutes were approved.

Agenda item 3

Convenor's Report – The Convenor, Colin Smyth MSP, reported on the activities of the CPG over the last year. He noted that the CPG had continued to meet online throughout the year and suggested that over the next year the CPG should explore the possibility of having a mixture of online and in-person meeting or hybrid meetings. He noted that at the meeting to reconvene the CPG it was agreed that climate change and public procurement were two themes that the CPG would like to explore over the course of this term of parliament.

He noted at the first meeting a panel discussion was held looking at the importance of Fair Trade for producer organisations, policy advocates, Fair Trade retailers and campaigners with Rain Morgan of Turqle Trading, Lewis Ryder-Jones of Scotland's International Development Alliance, Sue Milne of Gavin's Mill in Milngavie and Jim Lister of the Glasgow Fairtrade Co-operative.

The Convenor reported on the meeting examining Climate Change with Fair Trade delegates to COP26 held in November 2021. Speakers were Muniraju Shivanna, a Board member of the Fairtrade Network of Asia and Pacific Producers (NAPP), Jenipher Sambazi, a coffee farmer from Uganda and Bismark Kpabitey a cocoa farmer from the Kuapa Kokoo Farmers' Union in Ghana.

He further noted that in March 2022 during Fairtrade Fortnight the CPG had held a meeting that heard from Fair Trade producers who had visited Scotland in Fairtrade Fortnight 2019 and 2020. The speakers were Nduzani Zaya and Aubrey Meki of the Kasinthula Cane Growers' Association in Malawi and Taysir Arbasi and Cathi Pawson of Zaytoun.

The Convenor reported that the most recent meeting of the CPG in May 2022 had looked at public procurement with Tracy Mitchell of JTS- Just Trading Scotland, Kiera Wilkins of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum and Maggie Deane of City of Edinburgh Council.

The Convenor thanked the Scottish Fair Trade Forum for their support for the CPG and also thanked Fair Trade supporters and businesses across Scotland.

Agenda item 4

Election of Office Bearers – Colin Smyth MSP was nominated as Convenor by Foyso Choudhury MSP and the meeting agreed unanimously. Sue Webber MSP was nominated as Vice Convenor by Colin Smyth MSP and seconded by Foyso

Choudhury MSP. The meeting agreed unanimously to her election. Martin Rhodes of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum was nominated as Secretary by Colin Smyth MSP and seconded by Foysof Choudhury MSP. The meeting agreed unanimously to his election.

Agenda item 5

It was agreed to hold three meetings in the year ahead.

Agenda item 6

It was agreed to continue to charge no subscription fee.

Agenda item 7

No other business relating to the AGM business was discussed. The meeting closed at 6.30pm