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SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN

FAIRTRADE IN EASTLEIGH BOROUGH

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Chair Report to Annual General Meeting - Wednesday 4 July 2012

The past year has been a very positive time and the Committee has made considerable progress in our main aims as outlined in our constitution:

- Raise awareness of the Fairtrade mark and Fairtrade issues
- Promote the concept of Fairtrade and increase availability of Fairtrade products.
- Encourage workplaces, schools, colleges, churches, organisations, businesses and residents within the Borough to promote and use Fairtrade products.
- Gain Fairtrade status for Eastleigh Borough.

I would like to say a big **THANK YOU!** to all the committee members for their enthusiasm and willingness to work together as a team. The addition of two new committee members at last year's AGM encouraged us all, enabled us to share out the roles and responsibilities and complete tasks. The committee has met regularly (September, November, January, April and June) and communicates frequently via email and phone. We would be extremely pleased if a few more people would join us so that we can achieve even more, there isn't any pressure to do a lot and it isn't hard work - it is fun!

What do the committee do and why? In the past we have attended many community events, however during the past year, this has become more difficult due to the high cost of insurance and a shortage of committee members being available. As awareness of the **Fairtrade in Eastleigh Borough Campaign** has increased, along with our membership, we have instead focussed our efforts on networking Fairtrade members and supporters, communicating with as wide an audience as possible through our website, and providing resources for other members to use at their local community events.

Events: When we receive an invitation to a different or new event in the Borough we try to attend, inviting other members to help us in order to share the load, however this has often not been possible. Future planned events include Eastleigh Mela, Family Day at Wyvern Technology College, Dog Fun Day at Lakeside, Bishopstoke Carnival Fete, Jubilee Trust Pumpkin Fayre at Netley and two market stall days at Eastleigh.

Fairtrade Fortnight: We ordered extra promotional packs from The Fairtrade Foundation for member groups, this was really helpful although we ran out of materials – next year we shall increase our order! We created a display at Eastleigh Borough Council Civic offices which was seen by many residents and Councillors. We also set up a display stall at a Fairtrade evening at St Martins Church, Chandlers Ford.

Schools: committee member Alison Neasom of Wildern School, Hedge End arranged another successful **schools conference** during **Fairtrade Fortnight** – this event really inspires the children and their teachers!

New Members: We are delighted to welcome **Shop Equality** as our newest and first Business group member. We look forward to hearing the story from Shop Manager, Sue Hunt of how the Shop has been established in our Borough in Eastleigh and also to find out how we can best support the business.

Hampshire Fairtrade Network [HFN]: the network is really effective between Fairtrade Groups in Hampshire and communication is constant by email and the website <http://fairtradeinhampshire.org.uk>

The second AGM takes place in Basingstoke on Saturday 7 July 2012 - the Fairtrade Group, Basingstoke & Deane recently gained Fairtrade status, and the ultimate aim is for us to achieve Fairtrade County status.

Website: NEW! www.fairtradeineastleighborough.org Please visit the website and email us with your comments and suggestions. Benefits of the new website are reduced running costs and the ability to manage and edit the content ourselves.

Fairtrade Status – The Bid: There are 5 Goals to achieve before we can submit our bid but with the new website we are confident that we will be able to submit our bid by 1 September 2012.

Goal 1 – Local Council passes resolution supporting Fairtrade : Achieved

Goal 2 – Online Directory of shops and catering establishments selling/serving Fairtrade products in the Borough: Achieved, awaiting input to website

Goal 3 – Online directory of workplaces, schools, churches, organisations and Flagship employers using Fairtrade products and promoting Fairtrade: Mostly achieved, awaiting input to website. **Research help (phone calls or visits) by Members would greatly help us to complete this Goal.**

Goal 4 – Attract media coverage and popular support for the Campaign: Achieved, our website and the parish and Town and Borough Council websites count as media coverage and we have Members and Supporters lists. **Photos and press articles sent to us by Members would greatly help us to complete this Goal.**

Goal 5 – A local steering group is convened to ensure progress and continued commitment to the campaign: Achieved - this is your Committee made up of Members of the Fairtrade in Eastleigh Borough Campaign!

Looking ahead: it is clear that we could achieve much more, if there were more committee members, who could each do just a little. Please do consider joining us, and contact us for more information.

Thank you for your support

Daphne Bright

Chair

Committee Members 2011-2012

Daphne Bright - Chair

David Alford - Treasurer

Elizabeth Cross - Secretary

Julian Puxley - Church Group Member and Fairtrader

Pat Statham - Eastleigh Borough Council contacts/ Insurance/ Liaising with Hampshire Fairtrade Network

Alison Neasom – Schools Member

Heather Dibb - Fairtrader

Gill Hulbert – Fairtrade Helper

Eastleigh Borough Council: we are grateful for the continued support we have received from:

Cllr. Louise Bloom – Eastleigh Borough Council Cabinet Member responsible for Fairtrade.

Appointed Council representatives: Cllr. Haulwen Broadhurst and Cllr. Mike Thornton

Appointed Contact Officer: Judith Beard

Vacancies, roles and responsibilities;

Vacancy – Vice Chair, assisting Chair, secretaries, responding to new opportunities to promote Fairtrade

Vacancy - Membership secretary, quarterly members newsletters

Vacancy – Business member – promoting Fairtrade in the workplace

Vacancy - Church member – promoting Fairtrade to all Churches in the Borough

Vacancy – Organisation member – promoting Fairtrade to organisations in the Borough

Vacancy – Member – press articles, website home page news, photos

Vacancy – Member - young people’s representative promoting Fairtrade to colleges and youth groups

Vacancy – Member - promoting Fairtrade to schools through school events