

<p style="text-align: center;">Renfrewshire Fair Trade Steering Group 27 November 2019 Corporate Meeting Room 2, Renfrewshire House</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Action</p>
<p>Present: Cllr. Iain Nicolson (chair), Cllr. Brown, Cllr. Sharkey, Rowan Johnson (Gryffe High), Aaron Mills (Gryffe High), Colum Scriven (Rainbow Turtle), Chris Johnstone (Rainbow Turtle), Gemma Elliott (Rainbow Turtle), Colin Grainger (Renfrewshire Council), Ross Crawford (Renfrewshire Council, minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr. James MacLaren, Cllr. Begg, Cllr. Harte, Eve Broadis (Fair Trade Scotland), Phil Broadis (Fair Trade Scotland), Craig Doogan (Renfrewshire Council)</p>	
<p>1. Opening Remarks/Welcome</p> <p>Cllr. Nicolson welcomed the group to the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>Cllr. Nicolson read the apologies for the evening.</p>	
<p>3. Previous Note and matters arising</p> <p>The previous note from 12 September 2019, was agreed.</p>	
<p>4. Renfrewshire Fair Trade Schools Awards</p> <p>Ross Crawford provided an update for this year's Renfrewshire Fair Trade Schools Awards 2019.</p> <p>It was announced that Bargarran Primary had won the John McDowell Primary Schools Award and that Mary Russell School had won the Secondary Schools Award. There was a total of 6 primary schools and 2 high schools that had submitted applications this year.</p> <p>Ross noted that the Communications team will be involved in arranging the announcements once the election period is over. Ross then asked the steering group for their views on how the awards could be re-vamped for next year.</p> <p>Cllr. Nicolson said that the volume of applications could be improved by identifying who is the appropriate person to approach about fair trade in each school. Aaron Mills made reference to Gryffe High's Citizenship Committee and their journey to becoming a Rights Respecting School and how this was being incorporated into the school curriculum.</p>	

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<p>Colin Grainger noted that the date for announcing next year's school awards could be changed the end of the school year in May. Colin also noted that the competition could also involve a prize, possibly from one of the local Fair Trade organisations.</p> <p>Cllr. Brown suggested a "scoring table" for schools. This would involve schools scoring a certain number of points per each fair trade activity. Points would then accumulate and the school at the top of the table at the end of the scoring period would be the winner of the award.</p> <p>Chris Johnstone (Rainbow Turtle) suggested to have the awards at the beginning of the school year, rather than the end. This would mean that pupils and teachers who were involved in the application would not miss the announcement if they had moved schools/years. Rowan Johnson (Gryffe High) noted that little is done in schools between June and August and stressed the importance of the timing of the awards.</p>	
<p>5. Fairtrade Status Update</p> <p>Ross Crawford provided an update on the status of the ongoing work to renew Fairtrade status for Renfrewshire as a Fairtrade Zone. Zone status has been inactive for Renfrewshire since 2012. The application is now online based and it is nearing completion in readiness for submission.</p> <p>In order to make the application as strong as possible, Ross invited members of the group to share anything that would be relevant to the application. Ross asked the group to provide a note any activities that they had been involved in over the last two years. Alternatively, these could be sent via the trade mailbox.</p> <p>Action: Group to provide details of last two years activity by emailing fairtrade@renfrewshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Rowan Johnson and Aaron Mills provided some detail about events that had taken place at Gryffe High in recent months. Rowan and Aaron made reference to a rich person/poor person event that aims to recognise the differences in everyday life for those living in poorer countries, an event that had taken place at the school during Fairtrade Fortnight and an upcoming December Christmas Fayre.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">All</p>

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<p>Stuff within the Council exploring how they can link in with the fair trade agenda. Street Stuff is a service that provides a range of activities, primarily in the evenings and weekends that are free to young people throughout Renfrewshire.</p> <p>Colin noted that on the back of a meeting with Street Stuff, they had some discussion with St Mirren FC to embed fair trade activity at the club where possible. Street Stuff were looking to link fair trade in with a number of their activities, which would then lead to a fair trade festival of football in May 2020. Colin brought along a Bala Sport fair trade football that had been signed by the St Mirren first team squad, which Street Stuff kindly arranged, and could be used as a competition winning prize. Colin also announced that the club have agreed to have some text within the matchday programme for the upcoming home match against Livingston on 14 December regarding fair trade in Renfrewshire, what you can do to support fair trade and some narrative on the upcoming events being held by Street Stuff over the next few months.</p> <p>Action: Update group with detail of St Mirren/Livingston match at next meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CG</p>
<p>8. Fairtrade Fortnight 2020</p> <p>Colin Grainger invited the group to outline their plans for Fairtrade Fortnight by emailing the fair trade mailbox at fairtrade@renfrewshire.gov.uk.</p> <p>Action: Group to send plans to the fair trade mailbox</p> <p>Colin stressed that there is a budget available for any fair trade related activity and to contact the fair trade mailbox should funding be sought.</p> <p>Cllr. Nicolson noted that he would be in touch with Glasgow Airport regarding their community engagement programs to find out if any work can be done with regards to fair trade and Fairtrade Fortnight.</p> <p>Action: Contact Glasgow Airport regarding community engagement programs</p> <p>Colum Scriven suggested the possibility of a stall within the Council, with students hosting. Members of the group agreed, and said that it would be beneficial to promote both the school and fair trade. Colum suggested that the pupils could run the stall and retain any profits, or Rainbow Turtle could run the shop and retain the profits.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">All</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllr. Nicolson</p>

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<p>Chris Johnstone (Rainbow Turtle) spoke about the possibility of working with local supermarkets and schools to raise awareness of fair trade. Group members noted that Tesco and Co-Operative might be the best options for this due to their ongoing commitment to fair trade products.</p> <p>Discussion returned to the potential of linking in with Glasgow Airport for fair trade. Aaron Mills said that it would provide a good connection to people coming into and leaving the Renfrewshire area. Cllr. Nicolson referred to the FlightPath fund, which supports charities and community groups committed to improving the facilities and services available to local people. Cllr. Nicolson said that a connection to fair trade could be made when the group is making grants.</p>	
<p>9. Any Updates</p> <p>Colin Grainger noted that he had been in discussion with the Scottish Fair Trade Forum regarding a proposal submitted to the group. The proposal is designed to create a new national model to share and scale their services beginning with an initial project across 25 Renfrewshire schools. To do this, the Forum intended to train students from UWS in Paisley to visit each school. Each school would also receive educational resources, which would be disseminated when students are delivering fair trade related sessions within the schools. Colin will meet with Gordon McKinlay, Head of Schools and feed back on the outcome of the meeting at the next Steering Group.</p> <p>Colum Scriven spoke about Rainbow Turtle's shop window, which has been decorated for the festive season by Mary Russell school pupils on the theme of sustainability. This provided some marketing experience to the students at Mary Russell and provided some publicity for fair trade.</p> <p>Gemma Elliott showed the group a draft of the banner that had been funded via the steering group. The banner will go to events and will be placed outside the shop.</p>	
<p>10. Date of next meeting(s)</p> <p>The next meeting was confirmed as 29 January 2020 at 6pm in Corporate Meeting Room 2, Renfrewshire House.</p>	

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<p>11. Closing remarks</p> <p>Cllr. Nicolson closed the group and thanked everyone for their attendance.</p>	