



Amnesty International Salisbury Group

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting on Thursday 12th May 2016
7.30 pm 4 Victoria Road

1	Chairman's Welcome Andrew welcomed Laura to her first meeting Present: Eddie, Tony, Andrew, Fiona, Laura Apologies: Michael P, Jonathan, Peter, Lesley	AH
2	Minutes of previous Meeting - These were agreed	LC
3	Treasurer's Report <div style="text-align: right;"> Bank balance: £998.12 Cash: £30.06 </div> These are the same figures as last month.	MP
4	Campaign Reports (Note: only up to 28th April) Death Penalty <i>Please see the Salisbury Group Website www.salisburyai.com for the full international update, covering the UK, USA, United Nations, Indonesia and Nigeria.</i> Of particular note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Head of Reprieve has criticised the UK Government for not using its voice to call publicly on Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, and on Iran, to end the death penalty • Catherine Dunmore, a young lawyer from Swindon who supported Amnesty as a student, is to work for 3 months in the States as a volunteer for Amicus, an organisation providing legal representation for those on death row. Please go to http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/help-catherine-fight-for-justice-on-death-row if you would like to support her. • Non Profit Quarterly have reported on the steady decline in executions in the USA since 2009, and attribute this at least in part to the activism of those opposed to the death penalty. • The United Nations held the first special session in nearly 20 years to address international drug policy. Following considerable tension and disagreement, the outcome adopted included no criticism of the death penalty, calling for 'proportionate' punishments. (Note: Indonesia were booed at the Conference. It is believed that preparations are underway for the country to resume executions of those convicted of drug trafficking offences.) 	LC

	<p>Urgent Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran – UA 65/16 – Alireza Pour Olfat was scheduled to be executed on 16.4.16 for a fatal stabbing committed at 16 in the course of a group fight. His execution was postponed to allow more time for seeking a pardon from the victim's family. <i>(Circulated to DPLWG 15.4.16).</i> • Iran – New Zealand Amnesty petition – an online petition from Amnesty New Zealand calling on the Iranian Authorities to cease the executions of those who were children at the time of their sentences. <i>(Circulated to DPLWG 27.4.16 and on the website)</i> <p>Campaigning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reggie Clemons – we continue to await news • The Group continues to focus on the sentencing to death of juveniles in Iran and to press AI UK for a coordinated action. • This month's Group Urgent Action – New Zealand petition (see above) <p>North Korea</p> <p>Peter's work on the video continues apace. Fiona Bruce MP provided a fine self-written piece to camera, but external noises rendered it unusable. She is happy to redo it, hopefully within the Parliamentary precincts, if allowable. Her assistant, one Benedict Rogers, is available for assistance in any future NK action we may plan.</p> <p>Clare Moody has done a piece, scripted by Peter, and Tony has done an introductory item.</p> <p>Tony noted a meeting of the APPGNK on May 19th on Breaking North Korea's Information blockade. He hoped to attend.</p>	
5	<p>Social Media Report</p> <p>In Peter's absence no statistics are available for this month. Next month will include a double portion.</p>	PC
6	<p>Market stall</p> <p>Will be on 11th June from 8 to 12am. MP will organize a rota on his return from holiday (19/5). Collected items, preferably not books and not too many clothes can be stored with TM or FD.</p>	MP
8	<p>Monthly Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To campaign for the release of Khadija Ismayilova (Azerbaijan) • Refugee and Migration Rights update – the global campaign 	FD/AH

	<p>will be launched in September.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgent Actions can now be viewed on line • AI continues working to put together an action to support girls in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone under threat of FGM and forced marriage. This involves matched funding from DfID and will run from 18th April to 18th July. Donations welcome. 	
10	<p>World Day for Refugees – 20th June.</p> <p>Meeting agreed to see what the national Refugee Week plan was and if anything was already planned for Salisbury. St. Thomas's do not appear to have anything planned although Jonathan has said he could do something on Sat 25th. AH spoke to Robina about FFT (a participant body) but they have nothing planned either. It was felt that resource would be better used for the Autumn AI campaign, for which FD will obtain available material.</p>	AH FD
11	<p>School Talks</p> <p>AH will has written to the 6th Form College and University Technical College but received no replies. FD will try a contact at the school. The Citizenship Day (probably at BWS) will be Friday 21st October. If JP unavailable, AH, FD and EB will present. The 3 of us will have a meeting about the slides on 3rd June. AH to contact Sian Williams to see if St Mary's would like another visit.</p>	AH FD EB
12	<p>Amnesty Film</p> <p>FD will continue to liaise with Patrick Bliss at the Arts Centre regarding the choice of film and date.</p> <p>Films currently under consideration are 'A War', 'Mustang', 'The High Sun' and 'Mediterranea', with 3 documentaries – 'I am Sun Mu', 'Hooligan Sparrow' and 'Sonita'. Members are urged to see Dheepan as well on 18th August.</p>	FD
13	AOB: None was raised	
14	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee Morning – TBC – URC not felt to be the answer. TM will check St Paul's. • Amnesty BBQ – August – details TBC • World Day Against the Death Penalty – 10th October - TBC • Arts Centre Film – likely to be December • 	
	<p>Next Meeting: Thursday 9th June 2016 Time: 7.30 pm Venue: 4 Victoria Road</p> <p>Group website; www.salisburyai.com AIUK website: www.amnesty.org.uk Twitter: www.twitter.com/salisburyai Facebook: www.facebook.com/salisburyai Campaign box and banner: Peter and Lesley</p>	

