

# Bhopal Solidarity Group

## Minutes of Meeting held Sunday 13 October.

Present : Jane Michelle Jibran Adrian Dorigen Mandy.

### 1. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting.

- i Alex will attend the London meeting on Mon. 14 Oct. She will take leaflets etc. Adrian has also sent some. Adrian has written to Barbara Dinham to tell her that he is unhappy about the way in which the London groups seldom take the initiative for sharing information. Adrian to write to Ghita to ask her to read the statement from Bhopal at the rally.
- ii The people from Bhopal will now be in Bradford on Sunday 10 Nov. They will be having a meeting in an area of Bradford with a large Asian population. Adrian will find out about meetings in Glasgow and Manchester. There is also the possibility of one in Livingstone.  
Seb Schmuller has said that Mt. Pleasant is a bad place for the Sheffield meeting. Dorigen to book the AUEW conference room instead.
- iii Adrian to ask Ghita to arrange a meeting for us with the speakers on 1 or 2 Nov. when we can talk about arrangements for their visit to Sheffield Bradford etc.
- iv We have at least £50 from the University. We have decided to use this to pay for the publicity for Nov 14. Alex and Dorigen to prepare this publicity in Bradford this week.
- v Jibran is to find out if the AYM want to meet the speakers on their own and let us know as soon as possible so that we can include this in our arrangements for the day.
- vi Michelle has been in touch with the council- we need to write a covering letter to them for permission for a cordoned off area for food at the start of the march and for a stall on Fargate. We will try to get a stall for 30 Nov. Michelle to do this. The AYM can lend us some collecting tins.
- vii Alex is going to meet Amritt in London to discuss details. Alex' contacts are 'still working on' Arthur Scargill. Alex has written to Bill Morris who seems likely to come. Michelle to write to Ankie Hoogvelt to give her confirmation. Jibran to write to the Asian Times to see whether Shafiq Farhat is still in England and available to speak.
- viii After the meeting Martin told me that it seems the Mysterons are unlikely to do the benefit, but he will carry on trying to persuade them. Zeke cant do it. We dont know about the Poison Girls yet. Alex has lost the Communards address but will try and contact them. Adrian to find out if Amazulu can do it. Adrian knows someone in Bradford who can get us bands so don't worry (how about Pinky and Perky, I've heard they're good...) Mandy may write to the Hindu Samaj to see if they would organise a separate benefit.  
Dorigen has contacted the Dirt Sisters and they will probably come on the day.
- ix We can definitely have the banner outside the Town Hall on Dec.3. Adrian has arranged to see Bannerworks on Oct 23 to arrange making it.

Address: c/o Commonground Resource Centre, 87 The Wicker, SHEFFIELD S3 8HT.

Telephone: 0742 580127

- x Jane will find out the cost of making badges at a place she knows of. They will have the Union Carbide kills logo and either 'support the people of Bhopal' or 'solidarity with the people of Bhopal' Depending on size etc.
- xi Jibran and Mandy to contact radio programmes to see if they will do us a 'spot' before the public meeting.
- xii The 14 Nov press conference will take place in the morning if the speakers arrive here the night before. Dorigen to invite Seb and Phil Knowles. Alex and Adrian, not Sheffield, Now to work on the press pack.
- xiii AYM will do their own leaflets in Urdu and Bengali. Southall will produce one in Punjabi relevant to Southall.
- xiv It is unlikely we will get any money from the Self Help Fund as this sort of thing is outside their guidelines. If we don't Mandy will follow up the other leads John Toomer has given her. Adrian may be able to get some money from Leeds council.
- xv Alex to use her discretion in putting small ads and listings in papers and magazines. (Please put it in Green Anarchist as they had a big article about Bhopal recently)

## 2 Posters.

Will be black on coloured paper, A3 size. The top  $\frac{1}{3}$  will have the U.C. kills logo. Under this will be 'Demonstrate in solidarity with the people of Bhopal', followed by details of venue, speakers etc. Dorigen to find out about disabled access before they are laid out.

## 3 Balloons.

They cost £18 flat rate for producing the logo, £55 per 1000 plus £55 for gas per 1000. We need to find out from the council if we can erect some sort of scaffold for them to be netted under, and from police, fire service and so on in case of fire hazard, byelaws, local aerodromes. Michelle to write initial letter to council.

## 4 Palestine Solidarity Group.

Dorigen to write to them to say we don't feel it is appropriate for us to affiliate to them at the moment but that individual members of the group support them.

## 5 Report backs.

Dorigen has more Union contacts in Sheffield.

U.C. in Sheffield.

They use pitch which produces photosensitivity (?) which is increased sensitivity to the sun and can cause rashes, nausea, vomiting. There is an increase in skin cancer. They had plans for expansion 7 or 8 years ago and there was a lot of public opposition. Union reps were inactive and some spoke on behalf of the management.

It was suggested that we could leaflet the Claywheels Lane plant- it should not be ignored. But this leaflet should be sympathetic to the position and needs of the people who work there.

## 6 Community Inquiry

Meet at 9.30 am outside Town Hall on Oct 17 to leaflet.

- 7 Next meeting Fri 25 Oct. 1.30 pm at Michelle's, 5 Briar Rd Nether Edge.