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## **Brent Fairtrade Network Steering Group Draft Minutes of meeting 3 March 2026**

on zoom

Present: Emily Raymond (Chair) Cristina Porto (Treasurer) Ruth Kitching (Secretary)  
Robin Sharp, Sue Noyce, Cllr Janice Long  
Apologies: Nana Asante

1. Agenda and previous minutes of 2 December agreed (with corrected heading)  
Thanks to Cristina for the zoom.

2. New contractor to take over cafe in Queens Park – Daisy Green.

Robin had written to ask whether they served FT products (as had Ruth). Although they claim ethical sourcing, we don't yet know if they will have FT. Agreed to follow up with Daisy Green once they are installed.

3. FT Foundation: Robin, Sue and Ruth had attended the recent online meeting with the new Chief Executive. They plan to broaden the scope of their mission in order to promote social justice and sustainability in trade systems, beyond just certifying products with the FT logo. They hope to push FT up the national agenda by working with government, schools, universities etc. We await the launch of a new ten-year manifesto due on 9 March, and new publicity materials. There was mention of an in-person meeting to come: Agreed that if anyone gets news of this they should share with the group. There was no mention of the London group.

4. Climate Showcase at the Kiln theatre on 7 February - attended by Emily and Ruth

It was a good opportunity to exchange ideas with like-minded groups and talk to a few visitors. It would be nice if Brent invited us every time they run this event. Emily to chase up contact with Alperton school.

5. Climate Stories.

Still not sure what the aim of collecting the stories is. They need to be positive! We can get leaflets from Elaine to hand out – presumably at events where FOE are not themselves present.

6. Repair café at St Martin's.

Robin went to the recent one and spoke to the person in charge. Cristina also went. They serve Nescafe etc – not Fairtrade. We should try and get a stall there. Dates for summer term are not yet published, but if there is a café on 9 May – World FT Day that would be a good opportunity.

7. Article in Brent and Kilburn Times Ruth hasn't yet contacted Elaine or Simon in FOE about this but will do! and draft something – 400 words normally. Maybe hang it on the forthcoming re-launch from FTF (or World Fairtrade Day)

8. Queens Park Day will happen this year, despite long term uncertainty.

9. Date of next meeting: to be decided once we have date of May repair café.

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Actions summary (according to AI)

- Robin: Follow up with Daisy Green to clarify which fair trade goods they offer and explore opportunities for collaboration and promotion of fair trade in their cafes.
- All (especially those who receive it): Share details of the Fair Trade Foundation's 9th March manifesto launch and any related information (e.g., conference details) with the group once received.
- Emily: Follow up with the school (Alperton) that took contact details at the Climate Showcase event.
- Sue and/or Emily: Attend the next Repair Cafe session, discuss with organizers about the possibility of Brent Fair Trade providing fair trade tea/coffee (especially around World Fair Trade Day), and explore setting up an information stall at the event.
- Ruth: Contact Simon Erskine regarding potential coverage of Brent Fair Trade or Repair Cafe activities in the Brent and Kilburn Times.

Rk 5/3/26