

Swindon Equality Group Meeting

Gorse Hill Baptist Church - 1/9/2016

Apologies – Nazma

Present – Elspeth, Paul, Steve, Tom

Growing the group

We have a mail membership of 47 people, 20 of whom were involved directly with SEG work in some form over the past 12 months however we only average 4/5 at meetings. Hits on the web site have increased from a 100 per month average up to approx. 175 per month since May 2016.

a) Our objectives for 2015-16 were:

- To hold a public event. This was to show 'The Divide' in October '15 – possibly our most successful venture to date.
- Begin a letter writing campaign based on the 'Make my council fair' approach. This made little progress however we were more successful with our letters to local candidates. Paul to follow up with Russell Holland
- Produce a local 'Fact File' – we have a finished draft of this document however in attempting to broaden the possible sphere of influence we have encountered significant delays.

b) After some discussion we developed draft objectives for 2016-17:

- i) Hold a public event – possibly Spring 2017 – key speaker
- ii) Survey – contact all members with questions about SEG/current economic situation/possible action
- iii) Pursue the 'Fact File' document and publish
- iv) Ask a series of questions at SBC cabinet meetings

We will seek the views of our membership through the proposed survey

Quaker Booklets

Elspeth briefed us on the 'New Economy Project' and the seven booklets that will become available eventually.

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/our-work/economic-justice/new-economy>

AOUB

Request an article in Grapevine – Elspeth to pursue date/timing
Library closures and the 'parish' approach

Date of next meeting Thursday Oct 20th – 6.00 p.m. Gorse Hill