

Ludlow 21 AGM

Fairtrade Town Group report 2025 -26

The small Steering Group has met regularly and recently welcomed Councillor Ian Maxwell Muller as the Town Council rep for our group. Our work is to promote Fairtrade in Ludlow importantly through local businesses. This entails encouraging businesses to stock and serve Fairtrade Certified and fair trade products. In addition, we go beyond just the products but help spread the message about why Trade Justice and Climate Justice are so vital.

In July we received renewal status for three years awarded by the Fairtrade Foundation. There have been three Fairtrade stalls at the Local to Ludlow Producer's Market, pre-Christmas 2025 Transform Trade Big Brew in spring 2026, and during Fairtrade Fortnight September to October this year. We also ran a stall at the Green Festival in July. The stalls help to promote Fairtrade generally (we sell a range of Fairtrade goods) and support specific campaigns run by the Fairtrade Foundation and Transform Trade.

For the past several months, we have been campaigning for fairer business through the Business, Human Rights and Environment Act. Many local people have added their names to a petition of over 100,000 signatures which the Fairtrade Foundation will send to the Government **to demand business that's fair to people and planet now.**

Please support Fairtrade.

1) If you haven't had an opportunity to stock up on Fairtrade Certified products, show your support for Fairtrade and buy Fairtrade goods today and ongoing.

2)Please add your name to the petition on the Fairtrade Foundation website .

Along with 70 other organisations, Fairtrade organisations will be lobbying Parliament at Westminster on 21st October.

Currently, **businesses are profiting from practices that are destroying our environment, threatening wildlife and violating people's human rights**, both here in the UK and around the world, through their global supply chains.

UK regulations aren't strong enough to prevent harm or hold companies accountable. Instead, communities and workers are often left to prove businesses' wrongdoing, after the damage is done.

The Good Business Matters mass lobby is being organised to make sure MPs know urgent action is needed through introducing a new law/ strengthening the current Act.

Unfortunately, our MP, Stuart Anderson is unable to meet us prior to the Lobby. We are unable to go to Westminster to meet him, (should he wish to make time available).

However, he has requested some information on the campaign. The group will ask for his support for a stronger Act by :

Signing the [Good Business Matters pledge](#) and joining more than 80 parliamentarians backing a new law. **Writing to relevant ministers** – to make a case for action with key decision-makers. **Sharing support for the law on social media** – to help grow the movement behind our campaign and put pressure on the government to take action.