



Lindfield achieves Fairtrade status

Lindfield is now officially a Fairtrade Village. Following a two-year-long process, Lindfield has been awarded this status for its commitment to Fairtrade principles.

As part of the application, several village shops and cafés pledged to sell Fairtrade and fairly traded products. Support was also given by Lindfield Parish Council, churches and voluntary groups.

Val Upton, Vice-Chairman of Lindfield Parish Council, said: "Lindfield Parish Council is pleased that the village has obtained Fairtrade status. Fairtrade is important as it changes the way trade works through better prices, decent working conditions and a fair deal for farmers and workers in developing countries."

The attraction of Fairtrade to local people is that it is an active and practical way that they can support small-scale farmers ensuring they earn decent incomes and have long-term contracts with companies. In addition, they earn the Fairtrade Premium, which they invest in vital business, social and environmental projects.

The Fairtrade mark can be found on over 5,000 products globally, including flowers, rice and cocoa. Chris Lee, member of the Fairtrade Lindfield Steering Group says: "When you are doing your weekly shop,

maybe look out for the Fairtrade logo and make a difference to someone's life. For example, by buying Fairtrade chocolate, you can enjoy the taste and know you are helping people in Ghana to send their children to school."

Adam Gardner, Communities Campaigns Manager at the Fairtrade Foundation, said: "We are delighted to welcome Lindfield to the Fairtrade movement which now boasts more than 1,900 communities worldwide, taking practical steps to making a fairer world trade system a reality. Thanks to the support of consumers, an increasing number of farmers in developing countries are now selling their products on Fairtrade terms, bringing them a stable income and the chance to trade their way out of poverty. Today, more than 1.6 million farmers and workers across 74 developing countries benefit from the international Fairtrade system, but there is still a long way to go."

On Village Day (on 2nd June this year) Fairtrade Lindfield will have a stall selling a variety of Fairtrade and fairly traded products.

For more information visit www.fairtrade.org.uk

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