

Southwell Minster - Fairtrade Policy Document

HOW FAIR TRADE REFLECTS OUR FAITH

When asked of the greatest commandment, Jesus responded:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22: 36-40

The work of the Fairtrade Foundation is at the heart of what it means to be a Christian within today's globalised community. Essentially, *‘Love your neighbour as yourself’* is what the Fairtrade foundation stands for. It's about helping those in the world's poorest communities, who would otherwise be at a disadvantage, and treating them with dignity and respect.

It is therefore our duty, as a Christian church, to encompass the ideals of the Fairtrade foundation and support them with their mission.

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1) The Fairtrade Foundation looks to empower farmers and workers to face a range of **economic, environmental** and **social** challenges. This includes the care of creation and safeguarding the natural resources of the planet.
- 2) The Foundation also looks to challenge businesses and governments to make trade fairer and compatible with environmental protection.
- 3) A premium is paid to Fairtrade producers to be used for community development and is managed by producers.

Southwell Minster is registered with the Fairtrade Foundation as a Fairtrade Church. It has committed itself to uphold the Fairtrade Foundation mission and intends to continue to do so in the future.

Our role as a church is simple. As a **minimum**, there are three commitments needed to be a registered Fairtrade church

- 1) Use and promote Fairtrade products wherever possible (at least tea, coffee and sugar for hospitality) and to share this information with congregants.
- 2) Celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight and integrate Fairtrade into the life of the Minster through activities, sermons and services.
- 3) Engage with other Fairtrade campaigns and connect with community groups, such as schools and towns, where possible.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Our registration has to be renewed every two years. This policy will be re-examined and revised if necessary, every two years prior to reapplication for re-registration. All Clergy, staff, volunteers, groups and organisations which are part of the cathedral organisation are expected to comply with this policy.

The Fairtrade Working Group will review and propose new targets annually for agreement by Chapter

Chapter will ensure that relevant contracts with outside organisations holding events include the need to uphold this policy.

The Fairtrade Working Group will work with Groups and organisations which are part of the Cathedral to explain, monitor and assist in adoption and implementation of this policy.

STRATEGY

The areas in which this policy is specifically to be implemented, are set out in the accompanying Strategy Document, which forms an addendum to this document and is an equally important part of the policy.

CONCLUSION

This Fairtrade policy document has been kept short and simple, with the expectation that all groups and events taking place within the Minster community can easily comprehend and adhere to our guidelines.

Through registration as a Fairtrade Cathedral, Southwell Minster has committed to upholding these principles. This policy requires all Minster organisations to use Fairtrade products when providing hospitality. We also encourage non Minster groups/organisations when using Minster premises to use Fairtrade products wherever possible and will make this clear in our documentation and bookings.

In all such ways developing and sustaining a culture in the Minster, whereby all individuals, groups and the community as a whole, are actively and firmly committed to the principles and practice of Fairtrade.

Signed: Southwell Cathedral Chapter

Date: 15 April 2021

Southwell Minster - Fairtrade Strategy Document

This strategy document is designed to support and uphold the Fairtrade Policy document.

Although this document is designed to be fluid and constantly evolving, it should directly support those principles as set out in the policy.

HOW WE IMPLEMENT THE FAIRTRADE POLICY WITHIN OUR SOUTHWELL MINSTER COMMUNITY 2021

- Ensuring that the Fairtrade logo appears on all possible Minster documents
- Following up the successful meeting last March 2020 and involving the participants in future plans
- Seeking their further participation in a procurement group to coordinate Minster purchase of relevant products
- Ensuring that Fairtrade products are sold at all Minster events and at all events on Minster premises, in part by discussing and working towards agreement with eg SMCA, the Music Festival and the organisers of all events
- Discussing the sale of Fairtrade products with the Refectory and ensuring that this is a requirement in future contracts
- Discussing the sale of more Fairtrade products with staff of the Cathedral Shop
- Integrating Fairtrade principles and practice in worship, sermons, intercessions etc where possible
- Gradually expanding the number of Fairtrade products used by the Minster
- Exploring Resources for Fairtrade goods, so that the best value is obtained for Minster purchases, including Southwell Co-Op
- Publicising Fairtrade principles and practice during annual Fairtrade Fortnights
- Ensuring that Fairtrade is affirmed as an essential part of the Minster's ecological mission.
- Seeking to work closely with external partners like the Minster School, the Diocese, Churches Together in Southwell and Fairtrade Foundation.