**DUNBLANE – LIKHUBULA PARTNERSHIP**

**A Scotland-Malawi Partnership - Scottish Charity Number SCO 38877**

**Steering Committee Minutes - 27th May 2015**

**1) Present:**

Stuart Brown, (Chairperson**),** Jenni Barr, Ivor Butchart, Tom Smith, George Bond, John Kilby, Anne Hale, Ann McKewan, Iain Smith, Neil Kitching, Colin Renwick, Audrey Cooper

**Apologies:** Fiona Anderson, Ian Brown, Catriona Glen,

**2) Minutes** of the meeting held on 15th April 2015 were approved.

**3)** **Matters Arising**:

a) Stuart advised that he had obtained a new camera which was now in Mulanje awaiting collection.

b) One million children have now been fed by Mary’s Meals in the week that Magnus Macfarlane-Barrow’s book “The Shed that Fed a Million Children” was launched – this included 1700 children at Nansato.

c) Iain S had put an article in the June edition of the Wire to thank the Dunblane community for their generous support to the Flood appeal. A copy will also go in the Cathedral Magazine

**4) Finance:**

Current bank balance stood at approx. £12000 with £6000 committed for the two Food Distributions and £1500 yet to be disbursed for Flood relief measures. Expected balance by Sept this year, taking into account expected income and planned future expenditure, was approx. £4000.

The committee commended Iain Smith for his personal efforts in raising nearly £8000 for the Flood Appeal.

The committee discussed options for further support to Likhubula. Despite the difficulty of getting an exact picture of the situation in Malawi it was agreed to proceed with an application to the SMP for £3000 to help replace houses destroyed in the floods, based on Phillip Ngoliwa’s estimate of some £500 to build one corrugated roof house. The committee also expressed its wish to be able to support construction of at least 16 new houses.

**Action: George and Iain to prepare bid to SMP**

Anne McKewan stated that it would also be possible to transfer £1000 now from DHS Likhubula funds to help with Emergency support

**5) 2016 Visit to Malawi**

The committee noted that £5000 was included in the current budget projections for a visit by 2 people to Malawi next year. Some doubts were expressed about spending this amount of money on a visit whilst emergency support was still required in Malawi. However it was agreed to keep this as a planning assumption but to consider ways to reduce the cost, including

* support from committee members who might be visiting Malawi with the Boys Brigade in 2016
* support from any World Mission representatives visiting Malawi in the near

future

The committee also agreed to canvas names of volunteers to visit Malawi and to prepare an Agenda for a visit.

**Action: Colin to check on World Mission representatives**

**All to advise George if they are interested in visiting Malawi**

**Jenni to prepare draft Agenda for visit**

**6) High School Activities:**

Anne McKewan advised that she would be retiring shortly but as yet no one had been identified at DHS to take over her duties in respect of Likhubula activities. However it was still the intention that the Nurse Project should go ahead and the letter to the District Health Office at Mulanje Hospital seeking local support for the Nurse Project would be despatched shortly.

**Action: DHS to despatch letter to Mulanje about the Nurse Project**

**7) Bursars**

Stuart advised that expenditure on Bursars was in line with expectations and it was confirmed that we would continue to support our target of 20 Bursars in total. Anne McK advised that some £440 was also available from DHS funds for Bursar support.

More uncertainty surrounded costs for tertiary education and it was agreed to try and find out more about these costs especially as one further candidate (in addition to Christina and Gift) might be in a position to seek support for further education in the near future.

**Action: Jenni/Audrey to clarify costs of tertiary education**

**8) Updates**

There was nothing further to report on Mvano, Fistula Project or Goats

**9) Publicity & Communications**

a) Fiona had contributed to the SMP Videos on Partnership Principles which should be available on line shortly.

b) A briefing to Sponsors would be included in a forthcoming issue of the Cathedral Magazine as well as a letter to individual sponsors

**Action: Iain S /Stuart to prepare briefing material**

c) Ian B would put the Likhubla Service CD on our website during the summer

d) Ian B asked for new articles to include on the web-site

**Action: All to provide articles to Ian B for the web-site**

**10) Dunblane Fling**

Arrangements were in place to man the Likhubula stand at the Dunblane Fling on 30th May from 12noon to 4pm.

**11) Dates of next Meetings:**

* 8th July 2015 – Jenni to chair
* 19th August 2015
* 30th September 2015