**DUNBLANE – LIKHUBULA PARTNERSHIP**

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

**Steering Committee Minutes - 12th July 2017**

**Present:** Ivor Butchart (Chair), Ann Hale (Minutes), Ian Brown, John Kilby

**Apologies:** Audrey Cooper, Fiona Anderson, Janice Hepburn, George Bond, Christy Cunningham, Iain Smith, Stuart Brown, Neil Kitching

Minutes from 31st May 2017 approved with one amendment from Janice re- Mvano item – “items” instead of “gifts” sent at Christmas.

**Matters Arising:**

* 432,000 Kwwas sent out for Christina and Tayamika and acknowledgement has been received from Steering Committee.
* Letters from bursars were sent via Mr Nayambalo to Fiona who has passed them on to Audrey.
* Message from the Likhubula Committee on 4th July acknowledges and thanks for agreement to transfer funds (£1000) for fertilizer. Notification that there will be a reduction in the number of beneficiaries (20 this year, 40 last year) Steering Committee would like to purchase another 6 bags which will provide for 23 beneficiaries in total at an approximate extra cost of £150. Agreed by those present.
* Mvano – a letter has been received from the new Mvano Committee. They don’t have an email address but will communicate with the Guild via the Likhubula Steering Committee.
* Goats – We have received photos of newly-purchased goats of a local breed.

**High School Activities:**

A message has been received from Ruth Shakespeare reporting the provision of First Aid kits to Nansato and Pasani Primary Schools, Chambe High School and the Nursery Schools. First Aid training was attended by 57 members of staff from the schools.

(Following our meeting, Ann checked with Fiona who has already sent a reply to Ruth Shakespeare acknowledging and thanking her for the message. Ann will suggest to the girls that they send their own message.)

Our committee will keep a watching brief on how the project progresses and consider how & if funding might be raised in the future (the girls, the High School and the Committee?)

**Fundraising:** No further progress.

**Tertiary Education:** Message from Likhubula Committee with costings for Davie Mvula’s apprenticeship training in Motor Vehicle Mechanics.

While we support the suggestion in principle, the total amount is substantial (approx.. £15,000) and beyond our means to provide for one individual. Living expenses seem rather high.

**Action:** Acknowledgement and response to Steering Committee - Can the living expenses be modified? Under consideration. Will contact again in September following discussion with our committee members.

**Bursars:** Further reports on bursars required from Mr Nayambalo.

**Action:** Send request for termly report. Request selection of another 5 bursars to replace leavers. Request information about future plans of leavers – what will they be doing?

**2018 Malawi Visit:**

A positive acknowledgement has been received from the Steering Committee with agreement on the selection criteria.

The visit programme:- Suggestions to add a trip to Balntyre and a visit to Dunblane Primary School.

**Publicity and Communications:**

Likhubula Service? No progress yet. Further discussion required regarding date, theme and programme. Suggestion to focus on forthcoming Malawi Partnership visit.

**Action:** Article for The Wire to be prepared for after the Summer. (IB & AH)

**AOCB :** Frances Dunbar Bequest. Ann investigated Sue Ryder initiative but it is no longer running. Ann suggested Malawi Girlguiding as a possible beneficiary. Ian will ask Committee if there is a Girlguiding unit in the Likhubula area.

Ian Smith and Ann to liaise.

Next meeting: 23rd August

Proposed further meetings: 4th Oct, 15th Nov, 10th Jan