**DUNBLANE – LIKHUBULA PARTNERSHIP**

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

**Steering Committee Minutes - 6th March 2019**

1. **Attended by**: Stuart Brown, Fiona Anderson, Ivor Butchart, Chinny Iroegbu, Ann Hale (minutes), Ian Brown, Neil Kitching

**Apologies:** George Bond, Janice Hepburn, Jenni Barr, Alba Escala, Catriona Glen, Iain Smith

1. **Minutes:** of 16th Jan 2019 were approved.
2. **Matters Arising**: (Included under relevant Agenda item) Letter of thanks for services to the Partnership have been sent to John Kilby. Thanks received from John.
3. **2019 Visit to Likhubula:**

Fiona and Ian B will be representing the Partnership. Flights for the B.B. trip have been booked for 6th July for 2 weeks which includes 10 days in Likhubula. Three projected projects will be undertaken in Pisani School. Cost of materials in Malawi have sky-rocketed. (£90,000 now needed to fund the B.B. trip.) Fired bricks are now taxed which affects the building of new classrooms.

**Action:** Steering Committee in Likhubula to be informed of the plan of the visit and how it is being organised vis-à-vis the Partnership. Fiona to contact Safari and Akimu.

Partnership priorities: Focus on education. Meet with the Committee, chiefs and bursars. B.B. boys will meet with and talk to the bursars.

Follow up on fertiliser donation which was highlighted by the Likhubula visitors as very important to the community. Undertake a qualitative evaluation of fertiliser donation.

Succession planning for Mr Nayambalo. Statistics on bursar performance.

Solar lamps – how successful have they been for bursars? How long do they last?

**Finance:**

Gift Aid claim £1400.

£848.25 from Likhubula Day received from Dunblane High School. To be used for bursaries.

4 new standing orders received. Neil and George are identifying email addresses for sponsors to send thanks and reports.

B.B. trip – World Mission have contributed the costs of 2 flights. As a donation towards Ian and Fiona’s costs, Partnership have agreed to fund the cost of one adult’s accommodation and food to the amount £1200.

Query – Can the Cathedral Development Fund make a contribution towards Partnership costs for the trip?

**Action:** Fiona to contact trustees of the Development Fund to enquire.

George has supplied a list of fund**-**giving bodies. Can we apply for funds to expand our existing projects?

**Action:** Ask George to check criteria and approach these bodies, prioritising bursaries, tertiary education and fertiliser.

Accounts – noted and due to be audited.

**Action:** Fiona and Ann to be added as new signatories to the Partnership account. Complete online applications.

**Bursars:**

Gift has passed his accountancy exams very well.

**Action**: Send letter/card of congratulations to Gift.

Term 1 bursar reports received, analysed and discussed. Need for continuing evaluation of results by Likhubula personnel. Investigate extra support for failing bursars e.g. evening or holiday tutorials? Use of volunteer tutors? Something to be followed up by Fiona and Ian?

**Action:** Ian and Chinny to summarise reports with comments.

Davie Mvula has changed colleges. Steering Committee inform us that *the new college has many benefits over the old college.
1. The new college has boarding facilities e.g. accommodation, meals, conducive learning environment, enough teaching and learning resources, security.
2. Affordable fees as compared to the old college and the fees MK166,000 includes tuition, boarding and no any other additional fees for food as it was with the old college.
3. It is government institution such that students get places for attachments very easily.
4. Travel allowance of MK20,000 will still be required termly.
Stationary is needed in a form of photocopying puflets as they teach through lecturing method and MK20,000 will be enough for each term.
We also assume that any amount you can consider will be useful for him as for toiletries.*

Ian has sent a response requesting specific information about fees and other expenses and about the timing of payments. A request should be made to Davy’s previous college for a term 2 refund. Term 3 costs for Davy are the same as before. At present Davy is our only tertiary student but we expect further tertiary applications.

**Action:** Ian to circulate total sum to be discussed by committee. Request a refund from previous college.

**Action:** Acknowledgement to Dunblane High School for contribution from Likhubula Day.

Still no feedback on Link Teacher nor Nurse project.

**Publicity& Communications:** Report to sponsors provided and circulated. Some feedback received re-format.

Display boards – more portable, folding boards to be investigated and purchased in due course.

The Wire: Stuart to prepare something to meet deadline.

Email distribution – encourage expanding list.

**AOB:** Suggested screening of “Boy Who Harnessed the Wind” welcomed. Public or private social screening? Do we need a licence for public showing? How much? Invite sponsors?

Can Jenni investigate further?

**Trustee decisions:**

* £1200 to B.B.s for Partnership expenses in Likhubula.
* Funds from D.H.S added to bursary scheme.
* Fiona and Ann added as signatories to partnership account.
* Approach cathedral development Fund for contribution.

Next Meeting: 24th April (please note change of date), 29th May.