**Minutes of WhatsApp Meeting with Mr Safari and Mr Nyambalo: 23 April 2023\***

**Bursars**

Miklay Chifaka – Passed his first exams and is resitting this year to improve on his results. Has the support of the Likhubula Committee. Request is for examination fees and 1 term tuition fees. No other costs. We indicated that the Dunblane Committee is in agreement with this.

Prisca Matimati and Josephy Khunle – Both have been selected by the government to attend teacher training college. The costs advised are all that is required. No laptops or further expenses required for these students. Jenni advised that the Dunblane committee is not in a position to pay these tuition fees at this time. Mr Safari and Mr Nyambalo understand the circumstances (provision of Emergency Aid that has used up currently available funds) and thanked the committee for their consideration. We were able to convey that this seems the kind of course we would like to be able to support in the future. Didn’t get a clear answer about the possibility of deferring.

Isaac Limited - we thanked the Committee for his encouraging letter.

**Second food distribution**

Jenni advised that the committee is not in a financial position to fund a second distribution of food at this time. Mr Safari and Mr Nyambalo were understanding of the circumstances and thanked the committee on behalf of the community for the emergency funds already sent.

**Impact of Cyclone Freddy**

Life is returning to normal in Likhubula. Families have returned to their homes from the temporary camps that had been set up at schools. Schools reopened on 17th April. Some roads behind Mt Mulanje were impassable and Gawani had been completely cut off. Government planes were flying aid into that particular area. Most of the roads are now passable - some only with smaller vehicles - but all roads around Likhubula are passable. Tarmac roads that we will use to connect to Blantyre and Chitakale are unaffected, save for one bridge that has a workaround. Mr Safari and Mr Nyambalo believe that most roads should be repaired by the visit in June - this is currently a priority for the government.

**Mvano**

Mr Safari met the new chair of Mvano and encouraged her to send a letter to the Guild along with their program for the year. He is meeting her again this week. A meeting and distribution will be arranged during the trip in June. Since Jenni and Janine will meet with Mvano on Wednesday 7th June, their first full day at Likhubula, it could make sense for the funds to be sent in advance via the Likhubula Committee, so that purchases can be made and then the distribution can take place on that day.

*Our recommendation:* on receipt of a letter from Mvano, send the £100 in advance via the Likhubula Committee.

**Committee/Bursar’s Lunch**

Provisional date: Saturday 10 June 2023 at Likhubula House. Present: those Bursars that can access Likhubula during term time (estimated 13), Mr Nyambalo, Likhubula Committee.

**Urgent Requests**

**Urgent Requests (from an agenda, preprepared by Mr Nyambalo and Mr Safari)**

**Library:**

Shortfall of books. Some are out of date and new editions are required, some were not available previously or have gone missing or been stolen (Mr Nyambalo stressed the wear to these books, highly used within the Bursar groups year by year). Jenni advised that a list of requirements should be sent in an email along with costs so that this can be included in the Bursars’ Spreadsheet shared by the committees and allow a decision to be made.

*Our recommendation* - action should be taken when possible to restock the library. One option is to include discussion of the use of the library when Janine and Jenni meet with the Bursars and give the go-ahead to restock as an outcome of a satisfactory face to face discussion.

**Bursar’s maize**

Due to the loss of crops during the cyclone the cost of maize has risen to MK 5,000/kg - currently a 5kg bag costs MK25,000. Jenni advised that the increase of costs be communicated in an email so that these can be updated on the Bursars’ Spreadsheet.

*Our recommendation:* Can the Dunblane Committee confirm when the next release of maize would normally be due? The message is that food insecurity is real following Cyclone Freddy and the cost of maize is likely to rise in the coming months.

**Gift suggestions**

Polo shirts for the 7 chiefs (sizes L and XL)

Bags (committee members x 10, Bursars x 18)

\* *Our Recommendation* refers to action by the Dunblane Committee, recommended by Jenni and Janine