**THE LIKHUBULA PARTNERSHIP**

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

**Steering Committee Minutes - 25th September 2023**

**Attendees:** Jenni Barr (Chair), Ann Hale (Minutes), Christine Patterson , Ivor Butchart, Ian Brown, , Sheila Macleod

**Apologies:** Fraser Boyd, Neil Kitching, Janine Mitchell, Paul Christmas

**Minutes of meeting held 14th August 2023 -** approved

**Matters Arising:**

* Jenni will be talking at the Bridge of Allan Church Harvest Thanksgiving and lunch and in the evening at St Mary’s Dunblane Night Church. She will provide an information leaflet from Fraser to distribute after the services with links to our website and Facebook page.
* Permission has been given to add something to the Bridge of Allan church newsletter.
* Christine is still waiting for a response from Colin Renwick regarding a table talk.

**Communications from Likhubula:**

Pritchard Safari tribute: Janine has suggested adding a tribute to the archive which is due to complete. This was agreed but there is probably not enough time to get it done in time for the launch. Those who knew Pritchard are asked to contribute a sentence or two of their memories for the archive. Jenni, Ian and Christine will make contact with suggested contributers: Colin McIntosh, Colin and Fiona Anderson, Stewart Brown, Janine Mitchell, Brigitte W, Fraser Boyd.

Jenni, Ian and Ann, would also like to contribute. Jenni will consolidate contributions.

**Budget and Finance:**

* Akimu’s request for repair of computer – Agreed that he should go ahead and get an estimate of cost.
* Setting up a bursary in Pritchard Safari’s name: to be discussed further.
* Neil reported that he has received acknowledgement from OSCR for our SCIO application, but they can take up to 90 days to determine.
* Ian reported on the current cost of fees for individual bursars in individual schools. Boarding fees have risen by 25%. Which means that the amount needed for this term is very close to the amount recently sent. We assumed there would be a buffer amount remaining for additional expenses but this will not be the case.
* We now know who our 19 bursars are and the costs involved. We should let the Likhubula Committee know that the increase in school fees has affected what we are now able to fund.
* Joseph and Prisca teacher training costs at current estimates:
  + the total cost for them both completing their qualification course would be approx. £500.
  + £320 for terms 2 & 3, including fees, food, stationery & transport
  + £217 for just the fees.
* Those present are minded try to meet these costs, at least partially. Committee members are requested to respond to the suggestion via WhatsApp. Perhaps these candidates would qualify for a special bursary in memory of Pritchard Safari.
* Delay in the recent bank transfer- Useful to remind the Likhubula Committee that bank transfers can take up to 2 weeks.

**Fundraising:**

* Fraser is booking a table for the Guild Coffee Morning on 11th November 10 – 12noon. Space will be very limited so Committee members are asked to submit suggestions as to what we want to sell at our table e.g.bric-a-brac, clothes, crafts, tombola?
* It was suggested that a full-scale “Good as New” sale could be organized at a later date.
* Congratulations to the BB on their successful fundraising for the repair of the Mary’s Meals roof repair.
* Still to be done – collect news for standing order contributers. Ann to contact George and Neil.

**Contact with DHS:**

No response from DHS following request for presentation at Assembly however money has been raised by the school which should be transferred to the Partnership in due course.

**Janine’s work and archiving:**

Janine’s archiving internship is coming to an end and she has indicated that she would like to stay on as a committee member. This is very welcome.

Point for discussion :- How to use the archive, to take it forward. Training from Janine on how to use it would be useful, e.g. how to extract photos etc for use in presentations.

**Mvano:**

Sheila will send a copy of the Guild Programme of talks and activities to Mvano via WhatsApp.

13th November Jenni will talk to the Guild.

**Publicity and Communication:**

Thanks to Fraser for communicating news from the Committee via Facebook and website.

WhatsApp conversations between our committees are now more frequent and on-going.

**Safeguarding: -** on-going.

**Trustee Decisions: -** None to report.

**AOB:**

* Christine has volunteered to contact Dunblane primary Schools to remind them about the work of the Partnership and encourage interaction, participation and support.
* Following the closure of the Mary’s Meals shop, Janice Hepburn has arranged for the Cathedral donations for Mary’s Meals to be transferred via the Post Office.
* It was agreed that there should be no hard and fast rule over the name of our Partnership except in regard to Banking and OSCR.

**Actions:**

* Contacts for Pritchard Safari tributes – **Jenni, Christine, Ian** to contactColin McIntosh, Colin and Fiona Anderson, Stewart Brown, Janine Mitchell, Brigitte W, Fraser Boyd.
* **Jenni** to contact Fraser re leaflets for Sunday talks.
* **Sheila** to send Guild programme to Mvano.
* **Christine** – WhatsApp feedback to Likhubula Committee - Let Akimu know about computer decision - to get an estimate of cost.
* **Christine –** contact Primary Schools**.** Also Colin Renwick.
* **Committee –** respond to suggestions regarding funding options for Joseph and Prisca.
* **Committee -** continue dialogue via WhatsApp re fundraising and table-top sale options.
* **Fraser –** book a table, if not already done.
* **Ann:** prepare a newsletter for standing order contributers.

**Date of next meeting: 30th October (Christine to chair.)**

**11th December**