

December 2014 International Committee Minutes

1. Attendance Rtms Deborah Connolly, G Colson, R.Boyd- Howell, J.Harris, A.Holmes,C.Lees,T.Pomeroy(Chairman) Rosie Iron (guest speaker) Peter Hodge was observing.
2. Apologies Rtn B.Anderson and V.Banks.
3. Minutes of November 18th –no matters arising.
4. Finance £4820 available.
5. Correspondence.
 - a. Email request for funding from Colin Nyabaza a member of the Swift Current Rotary Club in Canada who is a Zimbabwean Canadian trying to help disadvantaged youngsters in Zimbabwe. He requests £1054 to pay for the transport costs of shipping 2,000 books to Zimbabwe for the “Books for Africa Charity” This is a charity which is registered with the Charity Commission and based in Dover. Committee agreed that chairman would Email Colin to suggest he approached Dover Rotary or other Canadian Rotary Clubs for help before we would reconsider a request. Action. TP to do this.
 - b. Noted the Email from a Mr Shilling requesting information about the Shoebox Christmas Appeal that his daughter at the girls Langton wanted to assist. TP had sent him contact details of Inner Wheel who have information about the charity.
 - c. Talked about the request from Sean Copley for financial help for the ACROSS Charity – he is a Support Development Coordinator for the Charity which is based in Argyll. They run ambulance transport for disabled people to get to Lourdes. Action -It was agreed that the Chairman would contact Mr Copley suggesting that help from local Rotary Clubs in Argyll would be more appropriate.
 - d. Email request for funding from Mathew Gwyn a UKC student who wants to go to Nicaragua with the International Student Service an umbrella group which encompasses a number of other charities involved in overseas trips. Mathew needed £1,500 and had raised £300 so far. It was suggested that this might be more suitable for the Millennium Trust. Action Chairman to send details to Leslie Stephenson for consideration as Mathew might fit their criteria.
 - e. Email request from Alicia Schuitmaker a fourth year student at UKC who wants funding of £2,000 for the East Africa Playground Charity. She is going to Uganda in the summer of 2015 and this was the second such request from a UKC student. No reply so far to Chairman on how much she has raised herself and a scan on the internet revealed that the charity charges students a fee of £700 before they would consider setting up a trip. Action Chairman to contact Alicia for more information.
 - f. Discussion on whether we would consider funding the Guilford Rotary Club’s Eye Surgery Charity which has been involved in providing free surgery on people with sight difficulties in India. This charity has been running for some years and been responsible for giving sight back to many people in Indian either blind from birth or with little sight from cataracts or glaucoma. Agreed a grant of £500 to this charity- it is a worthwhile charity with a good track record and would also show fellowship to another Rotary Club. Action Chairman to get cheque to the Charity.

- g. Noted that the committee is still involved in collecting second hand tools for the “Tools for Self Reliance Charity”**
 - h. Noted the two applications for District and for Designated Funds have been with District for some nine months and will not be considered until the summer.**
 - i. Chairman still waiting for the final report from the Kajokoji Educational Trust for the now completed Apprentice Training Project in Lire South Sudan. District need this report to sign off their grant to us. Action. Chairman to contact Alasdair Hogarth the charity’s secretary.**
 - j. Chairman said he has details of a new overseas project with the Operation Sunshine Charity and would provide details at the January meeting.**
 - k. Committee would get an update from Margaret Griffin soon on her Teacher Training Programme in Juba.**
 - l. Our Joint Pentangular Bursary Project at the Juba Secondary School should start next year but may be delayed because of Leuven not submitting their Global Grant Application. Action Chairman to contact Leuven to see what is causing the delay. We know that Juba Rotary Club has agreed to be the Host Club and that we can guide them through the grant application.**
- 6. AOB none**
- Talk by Rosie Iron on her trip to Nicaragua as a volunteer with the Neuvaz Espanantaz Charity and described the agricultural changes the charity are trying to achieve in a hostile environment of volcanic activity, earthquakes and water shortages. She recommended this charity as worthwhile and said she would accompany Joe Smith the UK representative when he comes to talk to the club sometime next year. Rosie stayed on for the meal as a guest of the committee.**

Next meeting will be on the 13th of January 2015 at 6.0 cricket ground.