

## **International Committee Minutes**

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

#### **Present**

Rotarians Boyd Howell, Harris, Holmes, Anderson, Banks, Bobba, President

**Apologies:** P. le Fleming, B. Wheeler, G. Coulson, M.Griffin, C. Lees

**Visiting Speaker** Keith Dimond, former Rotarian and Lecturer at University of Kent, spoke on his on-going experiences in Israel/Palestine as an International Observer from the World Council of Churches. This involves monitoring access through the dividing wall which cut across farms, policed by Israeli Military and restricted to specific times in the day. The role of observer is to be strictly impartial but to report where human rights violations occur whether Israeli or Palestinian. Training is provided by the Society of Friends in seeking to promote trust, understanding and tolerance. 16 Members from countries as diverse as Finland, Bosnia, Norway and Brazil are sent out for 3 month tours. Travel, training and accommodation costs are significant

A Grant of £1,000 was approved to the Society of Friends specifically for this purpose.

**Minutes** July 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting approved.

#### **Business Items**

**Finance:** After £1,000 Grant, current Funds stand at £1,300. (Duck Race to come)

**Juba Project Sub-Committee** (R. Boyd Howell, M.Griffin, T.Pomeroy)

Minutes of the Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> August were received.

Points noted were:

Clarification of the timing of release of Matching funds for Global Grant is to be raised via Tony Pomeroy, and as necessary Dennis Spiller, also supported by the President and R.B.P. at Seminar Funding Meeting. Suggestion made of setting up large screen projection facility for Meetings in UK and with out Partner Clubs. MG is currently in Juba. The International Committee takes the view that, as is the practice of the other Pentangular Clubs, travel and accommodation expenses for MG should be met by the Club.

#### **Funding Requests**

Request from ..... - Chairman to write with regret not in our catchment area.  
Patti Baxter to be invited to give an up-date to the Committee of Hope Rumania needs and funding status.

#### **AOB**

Rosemary Berry to give follow-up Report on Syrian Village Project.

Refugee Problems: After discussion of the different categories of migrants from Africa and the exodus from Syria and the Middle East, the President wished to take soundings from District and the national body to establish real needs and the context in which support and relief might be best channelled.

Invitation from F. of B. Club to participate in joint Auction of Promises in 2017 to be passed to President for attention of 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. S. Jordan.

**Dates next Meetings:** November 10<sup>th</sup>, December 8<sup>th</sup> venue/timing to follow.