

## **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

In attendance: Viv Pritchard (Chairman), Graham Bough, Caroline Lees, Jan Bobba.

1. Apologies received from - Kailash Maunick, Dee Mepstead, Robin Vickers, Rosemary Doyle, Julie Reza, Gill Dixon
2. Minutes of last meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 agreed
3. Matters arising
  - a. Child Aid to Eastern Europe – VP had made arrangements to pay £300 donation, as agreed and had received confirmation and thanks. Money will be spent on a paediatric health centre in Moldova.
  - b. Mary's Meals – VP has made arrangement to pay £500 donation and has received confirmation and thanks. Money to be match funded by UK government.
  - c. Rohingya Refugees – JR has tried to contact Pat Kerr again but without success. She has proposed that we consider supporting Hope Foundation for Women and Children in Bangladesh. They run a field hospital for refugees from Myanmar. It is led by a US based doctor
  - d. Health for All – VP has made contact with this local charity and they are planning another visit to their project in India. They have promised to get back to us with suggestions.
4. Juba Bursary Project
  - a. Budget – The project team is likely to meet shortly to review budget and the funding shortfall for Years 3 and 4, totalling \$10,900. VP has prepared brief papers for the team to propose ideas for:
    - i. Securing funds to meet shortfall
    - ii. Future reporting to members and others on financial situation
    - iii. Brief for planned independent financial inspection.
  - b. "The Rotarian Raffle" – no information.
5. Lend with Care – Arrangement made to top up Lend with Care account with a further £500. Good stories about some loans made posted on the club website. The committee asked if it would be possible for KM to provide a status report with a summary of the loans made and repaid.
6. Budget – Before the meeting, the funding available to the committee was £2870.

7. Ideas for new donations –

- a. DESO – an email reply has been received from Mavis Hyde. DESO is running a project in Ghana to help disabled people. They would be happy to receive cash donation or surplus equipment for disabled people. Suggested that Robin Vickers be asked to check their accounts on the Charity Commission website and report back. If found suitable, maybe a donation of £200 would be appropriate
- b. Tools for Self Reliance – this is a national charity with one centre based in Canterbury. Bob Anderson has informed VP of a microcredit scheme being piloted by TSR in Sierra Leone and are looking for partners to support this. There was a general discussion about this proposal. It was felt that as we are now fully committed to Lend with Care, it could be complicated to become involved with a second microcredit scheme. We have supported the local centre of TSR in the past and we should do so again. It was suggested that we try and arrange a visit to their workshop and discuss ideas with the local team.
- c. Health for All – see 3d
- d. Chaaria Hospital – JR has been in contact with Michelle Hamer. Interesting article posted on our website on the hospital following our donation of heart monitors last year. They need funding to purchase operating gowns. VP to ask JR to liaise with Dr Hamer for specific request ie how many gowns required at what cost. VP delegated to approve donation of up to £300 before next meeting, if request is urgent.
- e. Hope for Bangladesh – see 3c. Details can be seen on their website [www.hopeforbangladesh.org](http://www.hopeforbangladesh.org). This looks to be an effective charity, doing humanitarian work in a disaster area, which would be worthy of support. Instructions for donations can be found on the website – to a US charity based in Miami. Payment would need to be by credit card in US dollars. Would need advice from the Treasurer on how a donation could be made.

8. Any other business - none

9. Date of next meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019, at 6.15pm, time to be confirmed