

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2019

In attendance: Viv Pritchard (Chairman), Margaret Griffin, Rosemary Doyle, Graham Bough, Bob Anderson, Gill Dixon, Kailash Maunick. Also Carol Townsend of Canterbury Soroptimists.

1. Apologies – Robin Vickers, Michael Leadbeater, Caroline Lees, Julie Reza.

2. Minutes of last meeting of 8th October 2019 - agreed

3. Matters arising
 - a. Shelterbox, Aquabox, Water Aid – Letter of thanks received from Aquabox and Water Aid. Problem with cheque for Shelterbox is now resolved and a new cheque will be sent by the Treasurer shortly.

 - b. RC Dhaka – Julie has heard from the contact at RC Dhaka. They have expressed their thanks to the club for our continued support. Hopeful that Julie will be able to visit the club in the New Year.

 - c. Seeds for Africa – Viv introduced Carol from SI Canterbury who is the Regional Ambassador for the Meru Women's Garden Project in Kenya. Carol explained how the project was initiated by Seeds for Africa but was subsequently taken over by Child.Org. The project is managed in Kenya by CIFORD. It was adopted by the GB and NI Soroptimists as one of its key projects over the past 3 years. It was intended to help improve food security for a very poor community in the Meru district. With the support of Soroptimists it was able to work with 500 women and groups to promote sustainable gardens to grow their own food and to sell any surplus. The scope of the project has been expanded to help new businesses, improve education and training on nutrition and reduce FGM. The Soroptimists involvement in the Garden project is now drawing to a close. However arising from earlier work, Child.Org has initiated a further project Team Mum. This is to help young unmarried women through their pregnancy and to care for their babies, and to overcome social and cultural barriers.

4. Juba Bursary Project

- a. Update – MG briefed the committee on current activity at the Juba school and circulated the latest newsletter. She hopes to visit the school again at the start of the new academic year.
- b. Budget – provisional approval from district on the application for Year 4 district grant, but awaiting confirmation.
- c. JPP4 – Graham pointed out that, at the recent Pentangular Presidents meeting in Leuven, a report was received on St Quentin's project in Moldova which is being prepared for a Global Grant application. This committee will need to monitor progress on this project.

5. Lend with Care – The login details are:

Email: Km13ykk@gmail.com

Password: Rotary1922

Kailash reported that 170 loans have been made. The credit balance now stands at £245.

- 6. Budget – £914 available to spend, awaiting confirmation of further £500 when all duck race sponsorship has been received.

7. Ideas for new donations

- a. Transaid – A speaker from Transaid will be addressing the whole club at the lunch meeting. We will consider a possible donation at our next meeting.
- b. Tools for Self Reliance – Bob announced that they will hold their AGM on 5th December at 2.00pm at the Hospice – members of the committee will be welcome.

TfSR are now able to send electric tools. However they will need to be properly checked and certified for reuse. They require an Electric Tester and Bob proposed that the club purchase one with the cost split between International and Community

Services. **It was agreed that the Committee would commit £175 towards the cost of a new electric appliances tester.**

8. Any other business

- a. Map Action – A speaker from Map Action will make a presentation to the club at a meeting in January.

9. Date of next meeting – 14th January 2020 at 6.00PM