

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING TUESDAY 12th APRIL 2022

Present: Viv Pritchard (VP) (Chair), Michael Leadbeater (ML), Gill Dixon (GD), Julie Reza (JR), Graham Bough(GB), Robin Vickers(RV), Keji Moses (KM), Tony Laughran (TL), Avril Vickers

1. Apologies – Margaret Griffin (MG), Rosemary Doyle (RD)
2. Minutes of the meeting of 22nd March 2022 agreed
3. Matters arising
 - a. New Life Nyambene – cheque for donation sent and email expressing thanks received.
 - b. Shelterbox for Yemen – cheque sent
 - c. District Grant – confirmation received that the application for grant for Eye Surgery Camps in Bangladesh was successful. VP to ask Treasurer to transfer funds to RC Dhaka asap.
4. Progress on current projects:
 - a. Ukraine – Cheque for £7,212.88 sent to the DEC following joint fundraising by the three local clubs. The appeal will remain open for the time being, pending decision by the three clubs on focus for the next phase of Rotary's humanitarian support. The president is trying to set up a meeting with the other clubs on this. Options could include financial support for refugee families in the Canterbury area. A local charity Canterbury Welcomes Refugees is active and may be an effective approach. GB also explained Canterbury Rugby Club's initiative to transport essential equipment to Ukraine.
 - b. Dhaka Projects –
 - i. JR has received confirmation that further Eye Surgery camps are proposed during the coming year. District grant application will propose up to 25 new operations.
 - ii. Proposal from RC Dhaka Mavericks to construct an Octagreen House has been deferred for a short while. We will await further information.
 - iii. Desalination Project – JR/VP have circulated information about RC Dhaka's project for global grant submission, including a video link. Project proposes installing a special water system in 7 villages, following a successful pilot project. There was interest in joining in as an international partner club but the level of funding contribution would likely be modest. In principle, it was agreed that a club contribution of £1000 could be offered. In addition, JR would attempt to raise (say) £200. Then an application would need to be submitted for District Designated Funds as part of the Global Grant process. JR to check RC Dhaka's proposed timings for the grant application; hopefully, this will allow more time to secure the necessary club funds.
5. Budget – believed to be about £1,000 available for donations..
6. Ideas for donations
 - a. Treatment of Cleft Palate – No further details.
 - b. Octagreen House, Bangladesh – no further details

- c. Aquabox –We have supported them in the past. Their main role is to provide robust hand-pumped water filters for disaster areas so that people can have access to clean, safe water for drinking, cooking and washing. They are celebrating their 30th anniversary this year since being set up by Rotary Club of Wirksworth, so they are encouraging a series of sponsored walks across the country. They suggest the walk should have a water theme, so should take place along a river or the seaside. It was agreed that the committee could organise a walk some time in the summer, possible involving the three local clubs. This idea to be considered at our next meeting.
- 7. Tools for Self Reliance – We assume that the local group has now disbanded and arrangements are being made to transfer all their spare tools and equipment to other TFSR groups.
- 8. Lend with Care: Report from RV
 - a. Four further loans of £30 each have been made over the past month. A total of 238 loans, to a value of £6,826 have now been given. The account is currently £788 in credit, following some recent repayments. We have been notified of one case of loan default. This is very unusual but not surprising in view of the problems caused by the pandemic.
 - b. Members can access the Lend with Care website for up to date details of the club account. Need to login as vickers@roseberry.plus.com and use password Rot19int01ary.
- 9. Joint Pentangular Projects and Pentangular
 - a. GB has been in contact with Saint Quentin to ask about progress on their project in Moldova. An update report has been promised soon.
- 10. Any other business - None
- 11. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 6.00PM to be confirmed