

Rotary Club of Canterbury (RCC) - International Service Committee (ISC)

Minutes of the meeting of ISC held on Tuesday, 5 November 2024

The meeting was held at 11 am at the Oriole Café, Kent Couty Cricket Ground

1. **Present:** Raj Dasan (RD) (Chair), Robin Vickers (RV), Julie Reza (JR), Graham Bough (GB).

Apologies received from: Lewis Norris (LN), Jan Bobba (JB) and Gill Dixon (GD).

No apologies were received from other committee members.

Other Committee Members are thought to be: Nan Miller (NM), Farrukh Hussain (FH), Mark Rosen (MR).

Item	Matters discussed	Action by	Due date
2	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2024: These were approved and adopted.</p> <p>Matters arising not covered in other agenda items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The payment of £550.00 to RC Dhaka for their Cancer Prevention and Screening Project was completed by NatWest Bank.		
3	<p>ISC Funding</p> <p>1. Funding available to the committee at 5 November GB advised the ISC that the Trustees of the RCC Trust Fund have yet to make an allocation to the ISC of part of the funding held by the Trust Fund. There are no funds currently available from the Trust Fund for ISC to allocate to deserving organisations.</p> <p>GB advised the ISC that the RCC Club Council have yet to allocate to the committee any of the funding generated by the 2024 Duck Race. GB advised that £547.66 is available to the committee in the RCC Events account for allocation to deserving organisations.</p> <p>It is anticipated that both the RCC Club Council and the Trustees of the RCC Trust Fund will meet in November 2024 to make allocations of funding for use by the spending committees.</p> <p>2. Funding Future Needs It is always difficult to assess with any accuracy the ISC funding needs for the full 2024/25 Presidential year. Further to the decision made at the ISC meeting held on 2 July, in July 2024, GB sent an email and a copy of the ISC meeting minutes to the RCC Treasurer advising of future potential spending. In view of decisions made below, this proposed spending is amended to the following should a sum of funding be made available:</p> <p>ShelterBox - £650, Aqua Box - £600, RC Dhaka Cancer Prevention and Screening Project - £500, Chloe Baxter for the LION Project - £500, and other potential grants £1,250. A total of £3,500.</p> <p>Any special disaster events that may arise will be referred to the Rotary Club in general meeting.</p>		

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4	Progress on current initiatives + recent contacts		
4.1	<p>LION Project in Malawi – Chloe Baxter</p> <p>RD has sent emails to try to establish contact and the needs for this project. To date no reply has been received.</p> <p>As Chloe Baxter undertook a trip to Malawi in September 2024, it was agreed that no further consideration of a grant for this project was needed until the summer of 2025.</p> <p>It was agreed that RD and GB will try to contact Chloe and to see if a fund grant would be useful in the summer of 2025.</p>	RD + GB	
4.2	<p>Communication received from Juliet Atako</p> <p>JR advised the meeting that Juliet Atako is the Rotary District 1120 International Service Lead. ISC members present agreed that, while the committee will note international projects and suggestions issued by District 1120, it will continue to work independently of District on the support of its own international projects.</p> <p>Investigation revealed that this was a round-robin communication and the project has no specific links with the Canterbury district.</p> <p>It was agreed that no action was to be taken on this application.</p>		
4.3	<p>Rotary Club of Dhaka, Cancer Prevention and Screening Project</p> <p>JR informed the committee that this project is progressing well. RC Dhaka is working with other RCs, Rotaractors and local clinical teams around the country on cancer screening camps, holding roughly 2 camps per month. In the lead up to these camps, women are encouraged to come forward for screening. JR had shared some images of the project prior to the meeting.</p> <p>JR advised that her private GoFundMe fundraiser raised £1,065 for the project. After GoFundMe fees, a total of £1,000.80 was sent to RC Dhaka to contribute towards the purchase of two HTU-110 thermocoagulation units at a cost of US\$1,500. Thermocoagulation, also called ‘thermal ablation’, is another ablative treatment for cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN) – abnormal changes in cells that line the cervix.</p> <p>ISC confirmed the wish, subject to funding being made available, to further support the project and a sum is included in the ‘wish list’ of future spending.</p> <p>JR is to visit RC Dhaka and the project towards the end of 2024 or in early 2025. She agreed to stay in contact with the project and to keep ISC informed of progress and needs.</p>	JR	
4.4	<p>Kidney Dialysis Machine, Sri Lanka</p> <p>RD advised ISC that he had received confirmation from a contact in Sri Lanka that the project was being funded by a Sri Lankan charity based in the UK and that no further funding was needed at this time.</p> <p>RD will keep a watching brief on this project to keep ISC advised of any needs that arise.</p>	RD	

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4.4	<p>Lend With Care (LWC)</p> <p>RV reported that, in all years to date, the RCC has donated £3,500 to LWC to facilitate micro-finance loans to beneficiaries. A further 7 new loans have been made recently such that, out of the total funds, £10,081.81 has been lent in 314 loans. Small loans have been made to 1,249 entrepreneurs, 3,996 family members have been helped, 880 jobs created and overall, 6,125 people have been helped. Funds totalling £581.71 currently remains available to lend. RV will continue to monitor the funding requests posted on the Lend With Care website with a focus on food production and related equipment, predominantly in the countries of Ecuador, Vietnam, Pakistan, Rwanda, Zambia and the Philippines.</p>		
5	Any other business		
5.1	<p>Future Fund Raising Events Proposed</p> <p>1. A Quiz night with a Fish and Chip supper</p> <p>RD and JR have previously suggested that a Quiz night be held at Lower Hardres Village Hall with a fish and chip supper being provide by a mobile fish and chip shop. RD will consult with President Maxine to see if this can be fitted into her programme in the Spring of 2025. JR agreed to devise and host a Black and White Photo Quiz. Once a date has been agreed, the ISC will work on the full details of the event and which members of ISC will be available to assist with the logistics.</p> <p>RD agreed to contact the Village Hall to identify availability and costs and to contact the operator of the mobile fish and chip shop to identify his/her availability, menu and pricing.</p> <p>2. A Taste of the East event</p> <p>A fund-raising event with this title is to be considered for 2025 or beyond. RD agreed to contact Dee Mepstead to find out about the costs incurred for use of the school premises the catering facilities and the caterers when the previous event was arranged.</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>RD</p> <p>RD</p>	
5.2	No further business was brought to the meeting.		

6. Date of the next meeting

The Oriole Café at the Cricket Ground proved to be a useful venue for future ISC meetings as parking is available close by the cafe. Members of ISC agreed to defer setting the date of the next meeting until after the RCC Club Council and the RCC Trust Fund Trustees meetings at which it is hoped funding will be allocated to ISC as a spending committee.