

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

Minutes of the meeting of ISC held on Tuesday, 25 February 2025

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

1. **Present:** Raj Dasan (RD) (Chair), Robin Vickers (RV), Julie Reza (JR), Lewis Norris (LN), Jan Bobba (JB) and Graham Bough (GB).

Apologies received:

No apologies were received from other committee members.

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

Item	Matters discussed	Action by	Due date
2	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2024: These were approved and adopted.</p> <p>Matters arising not covered in other agenda items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">As both the RCC Club Council and the RCC Trust Fund Trustees have now made funding allocations to the ISC for the current Presidential Year, it was agreed that the previously proposed grants of ShelterBox - £650.00, Aqua Box - £600.00, and RC Dhaka Cancer Prevention and Screening Project - £500.00, a total of £1,750.00 are now to be paid out of the funding currently available in the RCC Trust Fund account. Tony Loughran (treasurer of both RCC and the RCC Trust Fund) is to be provided with a copy of the final minutes of this meeting as a formal request for these payments to be made.The commitment to make a grant of £500 to the LION Project in Malawi was discussed. Both RD and GB reported that no contact has been received from Chloe Baxter and no reply received to email communications. In view of this, the committee agreed to drop from the current years spending plans the previously made commitment to make a grant to this project.	GB/TL	ASAP
3	<p>ISC Funding</p> <p>Funding available to the committee at 25 February 2025 GB advised the ISC that the Trustees of the RCC Trust Fund made an allocation to the ISC of £3,000.00 from the funding held by the Trust Fund. After accruing for the funds committed for payment at point 2.1 above, the funds currently available from the RCC Trust Fund for ISC to allocate to deserving organisations amount to £1,250.00.</p> <p>GB advised that £547.66 is also available to the committee in the RCC Events account for allocation to deserving organisations.</p> <p>It was agreed that the committee will continue to research potential recipients of the funding remaining available and will make decisions about payments to be made at a future meeting.</p>		

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4	Progress on current initiatives + recent contacts		
4.1	<p>Rotary Club of Dhaka The Cancer Prevention and Screening Project During her time in Bangladesh, JR visited the Rotary Club and the project and emailed to the committee members a report on the activities undertaken. The grant to this project of £500.00 previously recommended has been agreed for payment at point 2.1 above.</p> <p>Other projects JR provided an outline of the Eye Surgery, Flood Rebuilding and Health Camp projects that RC Dhaka is currently involved with.</p> <p>It was agreed that JR will find out more information about the Other Projects and circulate this to the members of the committee for consideration. The matter is to be considered at a future ISC meeting.</p>	JR	
4.2	<p>RC Kandy, Sri Lanka Collecting spectacles RD is currently collecting spectacles that people no longer use. He is planning to send these out to Sri Lanka in support of an eye care project being delivered by RC Kandy. It was suggested that RD publicise this activity at a meeting of RCC as Rotarians may have spectacles they wish to add to his collection. It was agreed that the cost of posting the spectacles to RC Kandy in Sri Lanka is to be met out of funds made available to ISC.</p> <p>Mobility Devices and Equipment Project During his recent trip to Sri Lanka, RD visited this project and was impressed by the delivery of the project and equipment.</p> <p>Clean Water for poor children at their schools RC Kandy is also delivering a project to supply clean water at schools where underprivileged children attend.</p> <p>It was agreed that RD will investigate these projects. He is to obtain written information about each project, their delivery timetable, the costs involved and information about the RC Kandy bank together with its international account ID details. This information is to be circulated to the members of the committee for consideration prior to a discussion of the proposals at a future meeting.</p> <p>Surgical Microscope Project RD reported that a hospital in New Zealand has donated a surgical microscope to a hospital in Sri Lanka. A Rotary Club in New Zealand is currently considering the issue of transporting the equipment to Sri Lanka. It was agreed that, at this stage in proceedings, it was advisable to leave the Rotary Club in New Zealand to consider funding the shipping costs as the shipping will need to be booked from New Zealand to Sri Lanka.</p>	<p>RD</p> <p>RD</p>	

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4.3	<p>Lend With Care (LWC)</p> <p>RV reported that, in all years to date, the RCC has donated £3,050 to LWC to facilitate micro-finance loans to beneficiaries. A further 6 new loans have been made recently to projects in Pakistan, Philippines, Malawi and Ecuador. Out of the total funds donated, £10,351.81 has been lent in 320 loans. Small loans have been made to 1,267 entrepreneurs, 4,063 family members have been helped, 888 jobs created and overall, 6,218 people have been helped.</p> <p>Funds totalling £627.30 currently remains available to lend.</p> <p>RV will continue to monitor the funding requests posted on the LWC website with a focus on food production and related equipment, predominantly in the countries of Ecuador, Vietnam, Pakistan, Rwanda, Zambia and the Philippines.</p> <p>It was agreed that, in order to provide to Rotarians information about the LWC activity, RV will speak to RCC in general meeting.</p>	RV	
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 Black and White Photo 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 seek to include this event in his Presidential Year.</p> <p>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. An event based around Sri Lanka</p> <p>RD suggested that a fund-raising event based around Sri Lankan food and culture be arranged to promote support for the projects mentioned at point 4.2 above.</p> <p>RD proposes that this event will also be scheduled during his Presidential Year.</p> <p>There may be Sri Lankan students attending UKC or Christ Church University and RD will investigate how to communicate with them.</p> <p>RD undertook to find out about the costs incurred for use of premises and catering facilities and to report back to the committee.</p>	RD RD	
5.2	No further business was brought to the meeting.		

6. Date of the next meeting

Members of ISC agreed to the next meeting of ISC being held in April 2025 at a date to be agreed.

Should a matter arise that needs consideration before that meeting, the committee agreed that the subject can be discussed by email.