

# Highland Malawi Trust

Minute of meeting at 9 Lochardil Place, Inverness on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

1. Present – Reay Macgill (Trustee), Brian Macgill (Trustee) Chrisanne MacLeod-Robertson (Trustee), Doug Morrison (Trustee).
2. Previous minute of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 were approved.
3. Reported cash at bank was £7,503.76 with outstanding commitments for transport of banana boxes of approximately £900. The bank balance included £2,092.80 received following 'Gift Aid' claims for prior years and it was recalled that a substantial personal donation made during the year could also attract gift aid.
4. Matters Arising: (1) The late Anne Stocks donation of £1,000 had in effect been re-given by her executor Bernadette O'Halloran (2) The open day in Lewis had been postponed and other events were reported during the meeting (3) It was agreed to keep circulating the 'Book of 500 Squares' as free squares remained. (4) The transport of containers to Malawi will soon cease via the raven Trust from Dundee. A number of boxes would be taken there in time to catch the last lorry this week.
5. Malawi activity
  - a. Mr Lupia will require a grant for distribution of boxes as the next container is due to arrive at Ekwendeni shortly. It was agreed that he be requested to delay distribution if possible pending the arrival of Reay and Chrisanne in May. Also noted school fees were due for Brown Lupia.
  - b. A request had been received for support to a water tap at Thangazda nursery. More information was needed in support of a figure of 241,000 MKW. Quotations also needed about a temporary pig shelter.
  - c. The groups at Chattata and Chamlaza were looking for support in refurbishing existing pig corrals.
  - d. Also, requests outstanding to renovate existing kitchen buildings at Thandgazda and Chattata.
  - e. Support had been offered to HMT for any groups requiring a toilet block. It was thought that the group at Chamalaza may be interested as it was thought they currently lacked such a facility.
  - f. The borehole project at Chamalaza is yet unfinished and it is hoped that the impending visit by trustees to Mzuzu may precipitate conclusion of necessary work. Local expertise identified may also help.
6. Fundraising and presentations
  - a. A number of presentations had been undertaken by Chrisanne and Reay notably in Caithness where the Noss Primary school pupils showed much interest in the work of the trust and have donated hand drawn postcards to be taken to school children in Malawi. The Boys Brigade hall in Thurso was the venue for an open presentation and receipt of donations of over £170 to HMT. Messy Church at Dunnet also made donations of clothes following a presentation there. Back Inverness the Milton of Leys Primary School donated goods for transportation to Malawi.
  - b. The Burns Supper in January had been a great success enjoyed by all and raised £1,200.
  - c. The Strawberry tea is planned for 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at Raasay Road and it is hoped that there will be more exciting news to share with HMT supporters attending.
  - d. A hunger Lunch is planned for the Autumn (September) with an updated PowerPoint presentation.
7. Publicity
  - a. Recent trust activity photos with suitable captions would enhance and inform the website. It was agreed to add a note about the trip to Dundee to catch the 'last container' of banana boxes.
8. Agreed Actions
  - a. All requests to be clarified, by quotation email where possible – Reay
  - b. Transmit money to Mr Lupia for temp pig shelter, transport and school fees – Brian and Reay
  - c. Photos and captions for the trust Website – Chrisanne & Doug
  - d. Contact the NGO Ungwero for information about local project workers - Reay
9. Proposed next meeting is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 9 Lochardil Place, Inverness at 7.30pm.

Signed: Reay Macgill Signed: Brian Macgill