

Highland Malawi Trust

Minute of meeting at 9 Lochardil Place, Inverness, on Wednesday 30th May 2018.

1. Present: Doug Monison (Trustee), Brian Macgill (Trustee) Reay Macgill (Trustee), Chrisanne MacLeod-Robertson (Trustee).
2. Previous minutes of meeting held on 23/04/2018 were approved.
3. Bank balance: as at 30/05/2018 was £5,020.36 with some outstanding lodgements of £100 in hand due to donations from St Peter's Church, Thurso.
4. Matters arising:
 - a. Continuing a dialogue regarding a project request for assistance from Thandazga Junior School a number of phone, text and emails had been received and made over recent days. Some disquiet had been experienced over unsolicited emails received from an individual not known to the trustees in which made allegations of impropriety against Mr Lupia. Contact had then been made with a friend of the trust, Mr Bob Baxter of Alba Aid, who was in Malawi at this time. Subsequently, after meetings had been arranged involving Bob and with the Thandazga School Board along with Mr Lupia, there appeared to be no substance to the allegations: Quotes and responses from the school Board indicated that there was concurrence and acceptance of both the revised pricing and quote contents, in order to deliver completion of a new schoolroom building. Confirmation of one item, that of removal of a large termite mound by the local authority, was seen as a prerequisite to the contribution of the approved amount by the trust. The amount agreed was 5.166 million Kwacha. This sum was a combination 4.166 million Kwacha for building materials and transport and 1.000 million Kwacha for Labour. Payment to be delivered to the project in two instalments: first at 80% of the total, to initiate the project followed by 20% on confirmation of completion of building works.
5. Fundraising
 - a. The Strawberry Tea was being arranged for 9th June 2018 and would accept donations of baking along with offers of gazebos and games for use on the day.
 - b. A coffee morning is planned for 17th November 2018 subject to confirmation of hall booking at Crown Church.
6. Other Matters.
 - a. Publicity - Doug reported that the website had been updated with information about the Strawberry tea and further items, including pdf's of previous minutes should be emailed to him in due course.
 - b. Exceptional to usual policy it was agreed that costs of remedial actions taken by trustees over the Thandazga building project, specifically that of international phone calls, would be reimbursed.
7. Agreed Actions
 - a. Pay 80% being 4,133 million Kwacha for Thandazga project after confirmation - Reay and Brian
 - b. Completion of arrangements for Strawberry Tea - All
 - c. Book hall for coffee morning in November - Reay
 - d. Action items received for HMT website - Doug
8. Date of next meeting Wednesday 10th October 2018, 7.30pm at 'Merrick', Lodge Road, Inverness.

Signed: Signed:.....