

School for Peace Support Group

Minutes of meeting held

Tuesday 25th February 2020

Present:, Michael Ellwood, Mary Ellwood, Sydna Playford, Rona Baxter, Alison Scott, Mary Nicholson

Apologies: Alan Williams, Colin Childs

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by Michael

Sponsorship/ Donations news

We hope that two new potential sponsors who said they would start in January are still interested. Mary told the meeting that we need to do some Marketing/PR to attract new sponsors as at the moment we are sending money to the Congo for 100 children but only have sponsors for 70. The additional funding comes from our fundraising.

News from the Congo

Mary read out a message she had received today.

Treasurer's report

Unfortunately Alan was unable to attend the meeting as he was unwell.

Recent events

- Mary visited St Benet's Primary School to find that the Congo project was not visible so she might need to help them with it.
- Sue and Chris Boyes have been busy making marmalade and have donated £10.
- The Italian Buffet at Barsham Rectory held on 15th February 2020 was a great success and raised £906.20 which has been increased to £1,000 from a donation from Howard.
Mary to write to Hazel and Nate to thank them for their help.

Forthcoming Events

- Regarding the potential concert at St Benet's Church: the conductor of Suffolk Strings has now made contact with Father Martin, although no date has yet been set for Father's eye procedure so the concert is unlikely to take place in the Spring.
- The charity has been invited to have a stall at the Caritas Charities Festival at St George's Church, Sprowston on 28th March. Mary to update our leaflet.
- Summer Garden Party at Barsham Rectory on Saturday 6th June from 3 – 5pm – Mary to confirm date with Howard. It would be free entry but we would charge for refreshments and have various stalls – bric a brac, plants, bottle stall and a raffle. Mary to source some music. Also we can use the wine that is left from the Italian Evening.
- Possible concert with Mary Nicholson's choir in September – venue to be arranged.

AOB

- Stephen and Helen Blake, excellent musicians who live just outside Beccles, have suggested doing a concert this year either at their home or elsewhere. Mary will be in touch with them.
- Addy, our friend in Leicester, has been given a quantity of Lladró porcelain which is being sold on Ebay for the school.
- Father Martin said he would draw up the list of second collections for 2020 and we have a date for early July.
- Mary to get in touch with Neil about updating our website.
- Peter Aldous MP has forwarded a letter to us about obtaining a grant from the Small Charities Challenge Fund (SCCF) - applications need to be in by 30 April 2020. We would be applying for a literacy scheme for 12 – 21 year olds in the Congo but will need to know about staffing, costs, how many children etc.
- Mary then read out the wording of our constitution as she felt some of the wording might need to be changed so that it can be proposed at the next AGM.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 24th March**
at 7.30pm