

School for Peace Support Group

Minutes of meeting held

Tuesday 9th May 2023

Present: Michael Ellwood, Mary Ellwood, Jane Mawer, Rona Baxter, Sydna Playford,

Apologies: Alan Williams, Pippa Blair

The minutes of the last meeting (4.04.23) were approved and signed by Michael

Treasurer's report

Mary and Michael will soon have a meeting with Alan via Zoom.

As Amazon Smile has ceased their donations via shopping in February, we could look into Give as you Live which is another online fundraising platform, but it does seem similar to EasyFundraising. Small amounts of money have been coming in from Amazon but we will soon receive our last donation.

Alan has paid the bills for the Sea Cadet hall (£90) and the newsletter printing (£10).

Sponsorship

Mary has written to sponsors who have not automatically renewed their sponsorship and has had a positive response from one.

Sydna has been sponsoring a university student but as he changed course after one year (due to problems created by the pandemic) and had to start again, we have lost sight of the amount now owing (Action: Mary).

An enquiry has been received about sponsorship from a parishioner which is good news.

There was a suggestion that we should be clear that sponsorship is due on say 1st August, but that is not always possible if somebody starts sponsoring mid-year.

News from Congo

Sister has contacted us to say that she is now in Kinshasa awaiting the letter of application from Rome so that she can apply for her visa.

Three sisters have now died. She has had to fly back to Kalémie, the mother house, for the funeral of Sister Marie-Louise whom I have met on more than one occasion.

Sister is happy that we sent £4000 recently: £1600 for the toilets (extra due to increasing prices), £400 for Pichona's laptop, £2000 for books for the secondary school (library) and the labs which includes the sum raised at the Quiz and Curry evening. She says the university fees were only fixed at the end of February and that is when the money was released to the students. The work on the toilets started on Easter Monday as the rains have eased off and the area they get the sand from is now dry.

The garden party (June)

There will be no charge, but donation boxes will be strategically placed near the cakes. There will be sandwiches (brown and white bread). Fillings: cheese (Sydna) and Tuna/mayonnaise (Mary). Rona has made a fruit and walnut loaf and will make a date and ginger one; Mary has made a chocolate cake; Jane will make shortbread. We could also approach Maria-Asumpta to ask if she would contribute one or two cakes. Sydna will also provide crisps and biscuits. Mary distributed a list that was used for a previous tea party which is quite a handy aide-memoire. We should be careful about allergies and list the ingredients in the cakes. We could use the green cups and saucers from the church as well as an urn. We could also have a display showing what has been achieved since 2001 as well as a video on a loop. We must not forget to appoint a photographer this time!

Recent events

- The stall in Ravensmere on Sunday 30th April raised £314.15, which was an excellent sum especially as we had no fees to pay!
- Rona has sold quite a few tea cosies but some have not been paid for (Mary to pursue)
- Neil has put together the footage for the nursery school and it is already quite long! Michael suggested that we have three individual films: one for the Nursery, one for the Primary and one for the Secondary.

Future Events

- We will have a garden party when Sister Virginie comes (details above).
- Set up an online shop: Etsy and /or EBay
- We will have another stall at the Friday market on 14th July (8am – 1pm).
- Music Garden Party in the garden of 40 Puddingmoor Beccles. We hope that this will take place at the end of July.
- August date for the Beccles Antiques Fair TBA.
- Someone has offered to do an evening of poetry and song this year which might be nice in a cosy venue in the Autumn.

The next meeting TBA