

Minutes of the Salisbury-Sudan Link Education Committee
Thursday 25th November 2010.

Present:- Richard Dean, Rev Joe Edwards, Sheila Soper, Ian Pinder, John Foster.

Apologies:- Claire Budd, Richard Ambrose.

We remembered in our prayers Richard Ambrose (a member of this committee) who is recovering from heart problems, and Bishop Francis Loyo who has been in hospital in Kampala.

Item 3 Reports on school projects.

(a) JDMSS. Richard Dean reported on the latest developments which can be summarised as follows:-

- Staffing. The new headmaster is proving to be a success. 4 new teachers were appointed in October.
- The governing body is now functioning well with separate sub-committees for buildings and finance.
- The prize giving was a great success. About 400 attended and it lasted for 5 hours!
- The school is now fully subscribed in its first year and it is anticipated that each successive year will now be full as the reputation of the school spreads.
- Additional land equivalent to the size of the current site has been allocated to the school in order for it to expand.
- A new classroom block is now needed, and a girls' boarding house is seen as a long term need.
- The school wants to become a 'beacon' school for science. Plans are being drawn up to train teachers from the school, and other secondary schools, in the teaching of science.
- An 'Eye Opener' evening for JDMSS held in St. Francis Church in November attracted about 90 supporters. The 'Plugging the Gap' fund has now received £33,000 towards its target of £50,000.
- Richard explained the plans, as they stand, for running a science training course for teachers in 2011. These teachers would come from JDMSS and other secondary schools. The government education department has agreed to provide transport costs within Sudan for teachers. When the plans are clearer this committee will reconsider recommending a grant from the Link education budget to support the travel costs of the trainers.

(b) Hope School. This is supported by the pupils of Clayesmore School led by Rev. Joe Edwards. Joe is leaving the school at the end of this term but told us that another member of staff (Mrs. Helen Christmas) will continue his work. We have invited her onto the sub-committee. Joe will also remain on the committee as he wants to continue to work on behalf of Sudan in his new role.

Joe reported that all is going well with Hope School. The numbers are good, more classrooms are gradually being built, Clayesmore has just raised almost £1000 for them, and their charity committee will be raising more as the year progresses.

(b) Grace School. Claire Budd sent a written report on progress at the school which opened in May of this year. The main points are:-

- WFP failed to provide the promised food so Bishop Andudu, together with pupils, parents and staff have worked hard to provide food to see them through the first months.
- The promised water bore hole has not yet been dug by Samaritan's Purse.
- They have finally been given charity status under the name of 'Key to the Future'—chosen because they may want to help other schools in the future.

- Claire and Richard are trying to establish a 'Friends of Grace' scheme, asking people to become regular givers.
- Their major fund raising event is the Christmas Ball on 18th December.

Item 4. Links with diocesan schools.

Ian Pinder reported that the links with the schools in Juba are going well. Ian is talking to more schools within the Salisbury diocese which are asking about forming a link. A potentially larger link could be made via the Poole East Pyramid which contains 7 schools, and which has already had a Sudan Day to generate interest. There are also schools in Sudan asking for us to establish links for them including three in Kajo Keji.

Item 6. Youth Leaders' visit 2011.

We now have the names of the two men who will come to us from April until August 2011. Bishop Ezekiel of Khartoum has named Rev. Yunis Abdalla, and Bishop Hilary Garang has named Rev Alfred Ephrima from Malakal. Steps must now be taken to obtain visas for them.

Item 7. Bursaries.

We have one outstanding bursary for James Garang which will end in November 2011. Sheila Soper manages this and has been told that the outstanding money to pay will be £6285. Sheila is to contact James to find out his hopes/intentions when he completes his course.

Item 8. Up-dated report by John Foster.

- The £10,000 bid by Bishop Hilary Garang to the Archbishop of Canterbury's Anglican Communion Fund for the work of the Theological Commission has been granted and the money received in Juba.
- Work has been moving at a considerable pace on the new buildings for NBGC using the money from Bishop David's farewell. Please see Trevor Stubbs' report/blog for full details.
- BATC. This has been a frustrating few months for the college with more steps back than forward. John Foster will give a more detailed report to the full Link Committee.
- A funding bid is going to the Bishops' Council in January for clergy from the Salisbury diocese to support teaching in theological colleges in Sudan in 2012. This is a partnership bid with the LDMT.
- Constructive links are being made with Sarum College to support theological teaching in the 5 Provincial colleges. This will be partly in conjunction with the LDMT led by Jane Charman.
- Contact is being maintained with Ripon College, Cuddesdon, in the hope that they may be able to become a partner in our work in the theological colleges.

Item 10. Venue and dates for 2011 meetings.

Ian Pinder has kindly agreed to allow us to hold future meetings in his home.

We agreed the following **PROVISIONAL** dates depending on the timetable for Standing and Full Committee meetings:-

17th March, 19th May, 1st September, 24th November.