

**Minutes of the Salisbury-Sudan Link Education Sub-Committee**  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2009.**

Present:- Richard Dean, Richard Ambrose, Sheila Soper, Ian Pinder, Alastair Campbell, John Foster.

Apologies:- None received.

Welcome:- Alastair Campbell attended the meeting as an observer in order to learn more about what we do as a prelude to deciding whether to join us.

Item 3. JDMSS.

Richard Dean gave a summary of the situation as it stands now.

- The school will need another classroom block. The British Embassy in Khartoum is being approached for financial help.
- 10 teachers were recruited in April.
- There are now 30 bursaries per school year which means 90 sponsors from within the diocese.
- A further 30 sponsors are needed by May 2010.
- A proper water and sanitation system is needed. The existing supply is contaminated. The aim is to provide clean water for all the institutions on that site.
- A girls' boarding house is needed. An application has been made to Comic Relief for funds.
- They are still looking for a replacement Headteacher who is sufficiently well qualified to move the school forward.
- There is a large deficit for this year and next because of low student numbers, and the failure of GOSS to pay teachers what they had promised (£40,000 needed).
- The present 3<sup>rd</sup> Year is poorly prepared for the end of year exams. Additional teaching is being provided to try and raise the pass rate.

Items 4 and 5.

There were no reports for Grace and Hope Schools.

Item 6. 'Schools in Sudan'.

Richard Ambrose reported on the difficulties of recruiting Trustees for this charity. At the moment there are only three which is insufficient to operate with. There is the possibility of one or two more people joining so Richard intends to call a Trustees meeting in January and see where they go from there.

Item 7 Visit of Sudanese Youth Leaders

As Claire Estell was not at the meeting we did not have a report on progress. There is to be a meeting of the working group on 27<sup>th</sup> November which we will be able to report on at the full committee meeting.

Item 8 Bursaries.

Sheila Soper reported that we have one outstanding bursary to fund for 2010.

Item 10 Theological up-date.

See attached report.

Item 11. Support for diocesan schools.

We knew in advance of the meeting that Jackie Drake no longer feels able to continue to deliver Sudan Days in schools once she has honoured existing arrangements. We are very grateful to Jackie, and Jane, for all the work which they have put into these days on behalf of The Link.

Ian Pinder has begun to make contact with some diocesan schools, both Secondary and Primary, offering help in raising awareness of life and schooling in Sudan. With his knowledge of curricular needs he will be able to tailor his input to support those needs. This is in its early days but could become a natural follow-on to all the good work done by Jackie.

**Dates of meetings in 2010:-**

**9<sup>th</sup> March; 18<sup>th</sup> May; 9<sup>th</sup> September; 25<sup>th</sup> November .**