**2017 AGM: *‘Celebrating Partnership’***

***30th September 2017***

**Minutes**

**Visit** <http://www.tinyurl.com/SMP2017AGM> **for full photos, videos**

**and documents from the 2017 SMP AGM**

## opening video

**The 2017 Scotland Malawi Partnership AGM began with a video of Scots and Malawians reflecting on what they believe ‘partnership is…’:** [www.tinyurl.com/PartnershipIs](http://www.tinyurl.com/PartnershipIs)

## Welcoming address Ken ross & DAVID HOPE-JONES

Attendees were formally welcomed by the Chair of the Scotland Malawi Partnership, Ken Ross, and the Scotland Malawi Partnership’s Chief Executive, David Hope-Jones.

The 2017 SMP AGM was based on ‘celebrating partnership’ between Scotland and Malawi – promoting the SMP’s Partnership Principles, reflecting on their importance, and engaging with ideas on how the 11 Principles can be put into action.

## Video Message from MaSP Andrew Namatkhoma & vera kamtukule

Andrew Namakhoma, Chair of the Malawi Scotland Partnership delivered a video message updating attendees on recent achievements in Malawi. **Vera Kamtukule, Chief Executive of the Malawi Scotland Partnership, made a surprise entrance following a light-hearted video filming her journey from Malawi to Scotland to attend the AGM. She** followed with an opening address on the importance of partnership, and why the 2017 SMP AGM was based on ‘celebrating partnership’. She spoke about how partnership is integral to facilitating a prosperous relationship between Scotland and Malawi.

## member awards, session 1

Members had been invited to submit video nominations, highlighting one of the 11 Scotland-Malawi Partnership Principles that most underpinned their work.

In the first Member Awards session, the nominations and two winners were announced. The winning video entries were shown before a short presentation was given about their work in Malawi, highlighting the importance of partnership in their success. They were presented with a wooden carved trophy made in Malawi and a hamper of Scotland-Malawi products.

The winners in session one were:

* **Mamie Martin Fund & The Soko Fund**
* **The University of Glasgow**

## youth voice emily mnyayi

Emily Mnyayi, Head of Youth and Schools, gave a welcome address and invited young people from **Beath High School** and **St Margaret’s Academy** who had recently returned to Scotland from their first visit to Malawi to offer reflections on their experience, and to speak to the meaning of true partnership from a youth perspective.

## highlights from the team SMP staff

The SMP staff spoke about their highlights from the year, including increased engagement with members and on social media, successful forums on schools and higher education, and the welcoming of two new staff members: Kathy Wright and Grace O’Donovan, the new Member Services Manager and Member Services Officer respectively. Each staff member also made a request of the membership related to their roles and the SMP’s 2017-2020 Theory of Change. The requests included:

1. **Joining remotely**, if an event is too far away to attend. Webinars, Skype meetings and other tech are being explored to make this an option.
2. Finding out whether the **schools in your area have Malawi links**, put them in touch with Emily who can visit to do an assembly or lesson, or join Emily on the visit and share your Malawi links with the school too.
3. **Updating member profile**. To do so, one needs to [download our Website Profile Guide here >>](http://scotland-malawipartnership.org/download_file/1877/) and then [sign-in to the website to get started](http://scotland-malawipartnership.org/login/). (Instructions of how to do this are in the Website Profile Guide).

## core SMP business KEN ROSS

Ken Ross introduced the AGM core business for the afternoon.

Approval of 2016 AGM Minutes

The minutes of the 9th October 2016 AGM were approved by the membership. Proposed by Heather Cubie and seconded by Ben Wilson.

Adoption of 2016/17 Accounts

A summary of the 2016/17 accounts was presented by Claire Martin as Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee. The accounts were unanimously accepted by members. This was proposed by Isabel Bruce and seconded by Tony Begley.

Motion 1: Increase in Membership Fees

Motion one was unanimously passed by the membership, increasing the membership fees as listed below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Catergory** | **2018-19 Fee** | **2019-20 Fee** |
| Individuals | £20 | £22 |
| Organisations under £20k | £40 | £44 |
| Organisations, £20k-£100k | £75 | £80 |
| Organisations, £100k-500k | £120 | £130 |
| Organisations, £500k-£1m | £180 | £190 |
| Organisations, £1m-£5m | £260 | £275 |
| Organisations over £5m | £350 | £370 |

Motion 2: Appointment of Independent Examiner

Martin Aitken & Co, Chartered Accountants, were re-appointed as independent examiners for a further twelve months. This was proposed by Seonaid Stevenson and seconded by Heather Cubie.

Director Elections

* Seven Directors had their three-year term end at the 2017 AGM: Stuart Brown, Isabel Bruce, Mizeck Chagunda, Claire Martin, Jeremaya Phiri, Ken Ross and Jack Thompson. In addition, Grace Manyika chose to stand down at the AGM.
* Five of the eight Directors standing down stood for re-election: Stuart Brown, Isabel Bruce, Claire Martin, Jeremaya Phiri, and Ken Ross.
* Grace Manyika and Mizeck Chagunda were thanked for their time and dedication on the SMP Board.
* Jack Thompson, who sadly passed away earlier that summer, was remembered.
* Over recent months, all members had been invited to stand for election to the Board. Four applications had been received, from: Vincent Mzembe, Fidelma Beagan, Tione Mtalimanja, and Nicholas Gubbins.
* There were therefore eight places available on the Board at the AGM and nine nominations for these places.
On a vote being taken, members elected Stuart Brown, Isabel Bruce, Claire Martin, Jeremaya Phiri, Ken Ross, Vincent Mzembe, Tione Mtalimanja and Nicholas Gubbins to the Board.

## member awards, session 2

In the second Member Awards session, two further winners were announced and were also presented with a wooden carved trophy made in Malawi and a hamper of Scotland-Malawi products. Videos were played and the winners gave short speeches.

The winners:

* **St Matthew’s Academy**
* **500 Miles**

## partnership principles in action

The activities encouraged active networking, sharing and planning around the Scotland Malawi Partnership Principles. Balloons were attached to each of the 11 Principles, and attendees were asked to stand next to the Principle they most identified with and write their ‘Pledge’ to that Principle on one balloon. The Pledges were later collected to be emailed to each attendee to encourage and remind them of their commitment.

Attendees were also asked to fill out individual feedback forms answering the question: “What should the SMP do on this in the next year?” for each of the SMP’s 7 strands.

##  prize giving

Prizes were awarded across the membership throughout the day, thanks to our friends at Ethiopian Airlines, Ngala Beach Lodge, Mvuu Lodge, Chelinda Lodge, Kumbali Lodge, Luwawa Forest Lodge, Kayak Africa, the Responsible Safari Company, and Kibobo Safaris.

Prizes were awarded for the Member Awards, for making connections on the Networking Board, for visiting the ‘marketplace’, and other activities.

##  closing ken ross

Ken thanked guests for coming and invited everyone to stay and continue their conversations over a Malawian Gin & Tonic and mandazi, with live music from Davie Luhanga.