

Rotary Club of Canterbury (RCC) - International Service Committee (ISC)

Minutes of the meeting of ISC held on Tuesday, 2 July 2024

1. **Present:** Raj Dasan (RD) (Chair), John Bobba (JB), Robin Vickers (RV), Julie Reza (JR), Gill Dixon (GD), Nan Miller (NM), Graham Bough (GB).

Apologies received from: No apologies were received from other committee members.

Other Committee Members are thought to be: Lewis Norris (LN), Farrukh Hussain (FH), Mark Rosen (MR).

Item	Matters discussed	Action by	Due date
2	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2024: These were approved and adopted.</p> <p>Matters arising not covered in other agenda items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £600 has been paid to UNICEF UK for the Gaza Children Relief Appeal. 2. NatWest Bank has been instructed to pay £550.00 to RC Dhaka for their Cancer Prevention and Screening Project. <p>All of the funding made available to ISC for the 2023/24 Presidential year has been paid out.</p>		
3	<p>ISC Funding</p> <p>1. Funding available to the committee at 2 July GB advised the ISC that the Trustees of the RCC Trust Fund have yet to meet to consider an allocation to the ISC of part of the funding held by the Trust Fund. There are no funds currently available for the ISC to allocate to deserving organisations.</p> <p>2. Funding Future Needs It is always difficult to assess with any accuracy the ISC funding needs for the full 2024/25 Presidential year. Funding for the Lend With Care (LWC) micro-finance platform was discussed. Over the years to date, £3,050 has been invested in this platform and it was agreed that no additional funds were to be added during this Presidential year. See item 4.4 below for a summary of the current position of funding being managed by RV on behalf of ISC. Based on current thinking, and in order to assist the RCC Club Council, the Trustees of the RCC Trust Fund and the RCC Treasurer with their considerations of the allocation of funds currently held and the possible funding to be raised from the 2024 Duck Race, it was agreed that GB send an email to the RCC Treasurer advising of future potential spending should a sum of funding be made available:</p> <p>ShelterBox - £650, Aqua Box - £600, RC Dhaka Cancer Prevention and Screening Project - £500, Chloe Baxter for the LION Project - £500, Sri Lanka Kidney Dialysis Project - £500 and Other potential grants £750. A total of £3,500.</p> <p>Any special disaster events that may arise will be referred to the Rotary Club in general meeting.</p>	GB	ASAP

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4	Progress on current initiatives + recent contacts		
4.1	<p>Rotary Club of Dhaka, Cancer Prevention and Screening Project</p> <p>JR informed the committee that this project is progressing well in many areas, not merely in rural areas. Project staff and volunteers are working with local Rotary Club members meeting with women, providing advice about what cancer is and how to identify it, and encouraging them to attend at clinics to obtain screening to identify the condition.</p> <p>ISC expressed the wish, subject to funding being made available, to further support the project and a sum is included in the 'wish list' of future spending.</p> <p>JR agreed to stay in contact with the project in order to keep ISC informed of progress and needs.</p>	JR	
4.2	<p>Education and Life Foundation, Lahore, Pakistan</p> <p>A direct email application has been received from this organisation but there is no evidence that there is any involvement from a local Rotary Club. RD agreed to communicate with them to say that ISC currently has no funding available to support their project and to advise that they contact their local Rotary Club to see if they could work together.</p>	RD	
4.3	<p>Kidney Dialysis Machine, Sri Lanka</p> <p>RD advised ISC that he had received from a contact in Sri Lanka, a request for funding to assist with the purchase of this equipment. ISC indicated that it would be preferable if this application could be supported by a local Rotary Club who would oversee the situation. RD agreed to communicate with the applicant to suggest that they contact their local Rotary Club to see if they could work together. RD will follow up with them to obtain further information that may enable ISC to consider a grant when some funding becomes available.</p>	RD	
4.4	<p>Lend With Care (LWC)</p> <p>RV reported that, in all years to date, the RCC has donated £3,050 to LWC to facilitate micro-finance loans to beneficiaries. A further 5 loans of £45.00 have been made recently such that, out of the total funds, £9,766.81 has been lent in 307 loans. Small loans have been made to 1,236 entrepreneurs, 3,934 family members have been helped, 856 jobs created and overall 6,026 people have been helped. Funds totalling £600.04 currently remains available to lend. RV will continue to monitor the funding requests posted on the Lend With Care website with a focus on food production and related equipment, predominantly in the countries of Ecuador, Thailand, Cambodia and the Philippines.</p>		

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5	Any other business		
5.1	<p>Future Fund Raising A 'Frugal Meal Event with a film' as a fund raiser was mentioned to the members of RCC during the general meeting on 5 March and it received a general if disappointing level of support. This event will be reconsidered at a future meeting with a view to holding it in the Spring of 2025. RD will consult with President Maxine to see if this event will fit into her programme.</p> <p>Fish and Chips Quiz night RD and JR suggested that a Quiz night be held at Lower Hardres Village Hall with a fish and chip supper being provide by a mobile fish and chip shop. RD will consult with President Maxine to see if this can be fitted into her programme in late October 2024. Once a date has been agreed, the ISC will work on the full details of the event and which members of ISC will be available to assist with the logistics. RD agreed to contact the Village Hall to identify availability and costs and to contact the operator of the mobile fish and chip shop to identify his/her availability, menu and pricing.</p>	RD	
5.2	No further business was brought to the meeting.		

6. Date of the next meeting

As the K&C Club have indicated that they will charge for the use of meeting rooms for use by the RCC committees, the members of ISC agreed to defer setting the date of the next meeting until more information is known about the arrangements with the K&C Club.

RD agreed to contact President Maxine and to ascertain the details of the agreement with the K&C Club.

Matters relevant to ISC that may arise before that date will be circulated to the members of the committee by email for their consideration and comment.