

Annual General Meeting of the Marlborough Brandt Group

1 July 2015, The Court Room, Town Hall Marlborough in presence of Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Item & Speaker	Notes	Action
Welcome Anna Quarendon Chair	AQ welcomes members and guests	
Apologies Sarah Lively	SL reads 19 apologies (record kept)	
Last AGM Minutes	Approved & signed	
Annual Report	Approved	
Chairman's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQ introduces the AGM by highlighting the differences between AGM style in Marlborough and Gunjur!</li> <li>• Focus is on the business scheme in Gunjur, reflects on high unemployment amongst young men</li> <li>• 11 young entrepreneurs have received loans of no more £250 so far</li> <li>• Colin Crorkin British Ambassador in The Gambia held a meeting in Gunjur about the current visa issue and who/how to apply for a chance of success. Note that for young Gambians visas are almost impossible to get</li> <li>• Thanks the Trustees for their support and guidance – Patrick Hazlewood, Geoffrey Findlay, Sarah Giles, Theresa Ardley, David Morley</li> <li>• Robert Hiscox has stood down as a Trustee and is now a Patron</li> <li>• Discusses the various sources of funding. Recent legacy and memorial collection from Janet Henderson and Patrick Gowers</li> <li>• Thanks Nick Maurice Director for fundraising efforts through grants and concerts</li> <li>• Thanks Alex Davies &amp; Angela Hutt for organizing quiz which raised funds</li> <li>• Thanks Sue &amp; Peter Webber for their efforts towards organizing the Summer Gala – cancelled</li> </ul>	
Re-election of Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQ leads the re-election of existing trustees by asking members to propose and second</li> <li>• Geoffrey Findlay elected</li> <li>• Patrick Hazlewood elected</li> <li>• David Morley elected</li> <li>• Theresa Ardley elected</li> <li>• Sarah Giles elected</li> <li>• Anna Quarendon elected</li> </ul>	
Election of new Trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQ introduces the new trustees and asks for members to nominate and propose</li> <li>• Janneke Blokland – nominated by Jane Nicholson, seconded</li> <li>• Lilli Loveday – nominated by Anita Bew, seconded</li> <li>• Trevor Kearley – nominated by Barney Rosedale, seconded</li> <li>• George Cooper – nominated by Jan Polack, seconded</li> </ul>	
Treasurer's Report Theresa Ardley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance report is covered in the annual report 2014, sent to members</li> <li>• Full copy of accounts available, contact Emma Henderson in the office</li> <li>• End of year accounts approved by Trustees at May 2015 board</li> </ul>	

	<p>meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently healthy, although always aware of the increasingly difficult environment operating in, lacks of funds available</li> <li>• Look to the future, for core costs. Office heating has been condemned will require some investment</li> <li>• New rules and regulations for pensions requirements – starting date Jan 2017. Have started process will incur expenditure</li> <li>• MBG continues to be viable</li> <li>• Generous legacy will require thought and planning with MBG strategic direction</li> <li>• Asks members to continue to adopt the accounting firm Munro Audit Ltd – adopted</li> <li>• Thanks Emma Henderson, one year in, for all her hard work</li> </ul>	
Chairman’s Report AQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflects again on the TARUD AGM, Sandang TARUD’s Director</li> <li>• Introduces Director’s Report</li> </ul>	
Director’s Report Nick Maurice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomes the Mayor – invites to Gunjur, and ex Mayors, councillors, friends from Kombo Sillah Association from Bristol</li> <li>• Reflects first AGM 32 yrs later and still going strong</li> <li>• MBG unites Marlborough with Muslim friends and colleagues in The Gambia</li> <li>• Thanks Anita Bew for her long-standing commitment</li> <li>• Compares effect Gunjur has had on overseas visitors (and vice versa), those that have had the opportunity now in careers in development, positions of influence in Gambia, those living abroad contribute to their communities through remittances</li> <li>• Students from St Johns Academy, 26 Lloyds D of E visitors, 3 gap year students spent time in Gunjur fence building, renovating classroom block and teaching – return true global citizens</li> <li>• Currently very difficult for Gambians to obtain visas – led one way stream of traffic – undermined the link</li> <li>• Importance of advocacy, Claire Perry MP and her daughter Eliza spent a week in Gunjur</li> <li>• MBG punches above it’s weight – community based NGO grass roots which scaled up can influence global policy</li> <li>• Thanks part-time staff Emma Henderson, Sarah Lively and Caroline Harmer, thanks the volunteers, trustees, members, donors</li> <li>• Discusses the global problem of disaffection amongst young men leading to mass drowning crossing the Med</li> <li>• Gunjurians known to have lost their lives trying to enter Europe the back way</li> <li>• Anxiety that extreme Islamist organisations such Boko Haram will infiltrate The Gambia and target these young men</li> <li>• Hence the focus the business scheme to encourage study/training, entrepreneurship</li> <li>• Giving out loans of no more than £250 to businesses as diverse as interent café, bee keeping, hairdressing, electrical &amp; building supplies vendor</li> <li>• Importance of advocacy, recent letter to Justine Greening MP on ‘how men getting left behind could be addressed by promoting employment’ generated a response from her highlighting that DfiD is increasing its funding of employment opportunities in Africa</li> <li>• Recent meeting with Bill Gates in House of Commons again</li> </ul>	

	<p>promoting discussion on this issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Talks at this time of global conflict the importance of Marlborough standing with friends and colleagues in Gunjur and The Gambia, Gambian community in Bristol, with our different faiths to march together to promote peace, justice and human rights</li><li>• Invitation from Kombo Sillah to work together with Gamcotrap on FGM shows the level of trust built up over the communities</li><li>• Introduces guest speaker Dr Isatou Touray, Director of Gambian NGO Gamcotrap</li><li>• Isatou Touray, holds a Master's Degree in Development Studies (The Hague, Netherlands) and a PHD in Development Studies (IDS, Sussex University). An accredited trainer on Gender and Development in the Commonwealth, she is now the Executive Director of GAMCOTRAP, and a Women's Rights Activist working on the elimination of female genital mutilation in Africa and the diaspora, and travels the world speaking and lobbying on the issue. She also coordinates the Women and Law Project of the Network of Women living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) in The Gambia.</li></ul>	
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