

Annual General Meeting of the Marlborough Brandt Group

Thursday 4 September 2014, 7pm, MBG Office

Item & Speaker	Notes	Action
Welcome Anna Quarendon MBG Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna welcomes 19 MBG Members to AGM, including David Morley –to be voted onto the board of trustees. • AQ remembers Tim David, a former MBG Chair who died earlier this year 	
Apologies Sarah Lively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SL reads 18 apologies 	
Minutes of last AGM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved and signed by AQ 	
Annual Report 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved 	
Finance Report Theresa Ardley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomes Emma Henderson as new MBG Office & Accounts Manager • Thanks Lynne Mawby (Emma’s predecessor) for her hard work and contribution to MBG • Relates that MBG is in a comfortable position financially • But ever mindful that always looking for ways to raise money for projects through grants • Accounts approved by Trustees at June 2014 meeting, agreed to allocate some core funds to projects • Continue to receive financial support from members, membership fees and donations and thanks members present for their contribution • Always looking for new fund raising ideas. If anyone has any ideas on fundraising then please get in touch • Asks those present to continue to approve the accountancy firm Munroe Audit Ltd. Approved 	
Director’s Report Nick Maurice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks Trustees for their support and contribution. Grateful to have the combination of skills and experience the Trustees bring, • Thanks Anna as Chairman • Thanks volunteers for the hard work and support – Anita Bew, for her role in bringing volunteers and students to Gunjur over the past 30 years • Thanks Darren Bew for his work as PSG Chair • Thanks Stephanie Dale for her year round commitment of coming into the office twice a week to help • Welcomes Emma as new Office & Accounts Manager • Thanks Sarah Lively & Ida McConnell (web designer) for new MBG Website • Wants to look towards the future. Historically the focus has been on project support, literacy, health, education • Acknowledges benefits that this approach has brought 	

	<p>to Gunjur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talks about research conducted by Lilli Loveday on the main impact of MBG in Gunjur over past 30 years • Overwhelming response was the difference made to the relationships between men and women which changed beyond recognition, with major shift to the empowerment of women • Discusses global trend to support women – rightly so. But how this has resulted in young men getting left behind • Major concerns with unemployment with young men in Gunjur • Opportunity to address this problem by supporting business entrepreneurs and those in early stages of start-up businesses • Arkleton Trust Grant awarded to MBG earlier this year will allow WGEC to run a competition for UK students to produce business proposals – winners to go to Gunjur • Same competition to be run in Gunjur – winner will receive £500 start-up loan • Grant will allow training of eight young people, men and women, 1 from each kabilo to train for 1 year for City & Guilds • New opportunities brought to Gunjur which now has electricity and running water for the first time • MBG has been working with St James Place, Wealth Management Firm on the role Corporate Social Responsibility CSR in the Gambia • Discuss the potential benefits of securing internal funding for projects rather than relying on hand outs with support from George Sheriff UK Deputy Ambassador • Intend to run CSR conference in Gambia supported by STJP • Thanks Sarah Giles for helping the Kombo Sillah Association to achieve charitable status • Comments on ebola outbreak and is in process of producing a policy document • Thanks Robert Hiscox for securing the next Lent Lecturer – Baroness Cox – founder of HART • Talks on success of Brilliant Young Pianists series from fundraising perspective and for its support to young musicians • Student Summer visit was great success, thanks the 2 group leaders Max Ansell and Ali Vyvyan • Talks about legacy of sending students on this type of trip, many continue with study and careers in 	
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	<p>International Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MBG punches above its weight – recent publicity spat with Amir Khan, on the misrepresentation of Gunjur/Gambian residents as starving orphans, made front page news The Standard, Gambia • AQ – in defence BBC were offered the story at a local level but didn't run • AQ thanks Nick for all his hard work, past present and future 	
<p>Election of Trustees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AQ leads the re-election of existing trustees by asking members to propose and second • Theresa Ardley – Elected • Sarah Giles – Elected • Geoffrey Findlay – Elected • Patrick Hazlewood – Elected • Robert Hiscox – Elected • Anna Quarendon – Elected • New Trustee David Morley – Proposed Anita Bew, Seconded Jane Nicholson - Elected • AQ thanks David Morley for becoming a trustee and welcomes his wealth of experience as former ambassador to the Gambia • David Morley – responds on how he is happy to be a trustee. Had hoped that when he retired from his role as ambassador to the Gambia he would be able to maintain a link with the country so this was a good opportunity to support something positive • Reflects on how when considering role for MBG did he want to be associated with? Answer, yes • DM has experience of lesser successful charities operating in the Gambia. Often hard for charities to operate without govt interference • Has seen how MBG operates effectively within the political restraints and rises above any levels of corruption • Is fully supportive of the shift towards CSR, believes it is economic regeneration Gambia needs. Will be met with approval from the business sector • DM – in addition, MBG reputation is held with high regard in the Gambia and amongst colleagues in the foreign office • AQ welcomes Jacki Morley, David's wife 	
<p>Adoption of new Constitution Sarah Giles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members resolved unanimously that, having obtained the prior written consent of the Charity Commission to alter the objects of The Marlborough Brandt Group as set out in the new articles of association presented to the meeting, clause III of the 	

	<p>Memorandum of Association containing the charitable objects of The Marlborough Brandt Group be deemed to be revoked and new charitable objects as set out in the articles of association signed by the Chair and presented to the meeting, be included in and adopted as part of the new Articles of Association to be presented to the members for adoption at this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members unanimously resolved that the existing Articles of Association be revoked and accordingly new Articles of Association produced to the meeting and, for the purpose of identification signed by the Chair be adopted as the Articles of Association for The Marlborough Brandt Group in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing Articles of Association, including those clauses in the Memorandum of Association which are deemed to be incorporated into the Articles of Association by virtue of section 28(1) of the Companies Act 2006. • AQ thanks Sarah for her work 	
<p>Any other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoffrey Findlay comments now moving away from giving to Gambia and helping Gambia to help themselves through 1) entrepreneurship 2) CSR • Asks David Morley how CSR is perceived politically – DM big business very keen, Most big business in Gambia off shore banks, manufacturing – already have CSR programs. Smaller organisations are Gambian owned, usually trained in UK so are also supportive of CSR • Nick uses example of UK woman identifying a drop out rate of pubescent school girls, solution to produce sanitary towels to stop girls dropping out of school when they begin to menstruate • Now a business in Gunjur employing female tailors to manufacture sanitary towels, MBG now supporting • NM gives another example of entrepreneurship – collecting plastic bag rubbish and compressing into bricks to build houses • Alexander Kirk-Wilson congratulates MBG on the presentation of annual report. AQ thanks SL 	