**Ahtutu Meetng** – not AGM 20th December 2018

At 1 Houghton Gardens, Ely

Present: Mary Durkacz Founder Trustee

Erica Utsi Treasurer

Stella Fox Trustee

Katie Betts Admin Man and Trustee

(Apologies from Kate McNeil and Kate Durkacz – both in Edinburgh)

**Annual Report for 2018:**

Mary presented various points from this including

* £1500 donated by Sacred Heart School, Pennycuik, Edinborough
* Revisiting of aims and objectives of Ahtutu – we want to firm up links between young people in UK and Myanmar.
* Napier University volunteers have been once now, with another group expected this year. We need to plan greater forewarning of numbers of volunteers, funding, etc, ideally during the January preceding a visit – ie – one year ahead.
* Fundraising – 2 new contacts have been made. Mary feels diffident about approaching DFID, for instance. Erica says we shouldn’t ‘think small’ or we will be treated as insignificant in our aims.
* An adviser has told Mary to suggest ‘business links’ as a way to go, eg. Marine engineering to improve the lot of fishermen and farmers.
* One more potential volunteer – lived in Myanmar till age 15
* Mary is to meet someone with a charity at Inle Lake. (Mention was made of the book ‘Children of the Revolution’.)
* Another potentially useful contact in Tonbridge Wells – worked in Foreign Office.
* Mary is to speak to the Britain-Burma Association

Katie mentioned a recent introduction who is involved in developing the insurance industry in SE Asia.

Another link was with Prof Michael Kelly, from Cambridge, who suggested we talk to the students at Fisher Hall, the University Catholic Chaplaincy in Cambridge.

Mary and Joan have also met a potentially helpful contact: Ian Harvey from Hills Road, who has been involved with Sierra Leone and (British?) Army.His interest is in Practical Science.

Erica said that in a CIO, which we now are, we don’t need to insure trustees.

**Days for Girls**

Displays for this have been very helpful in raising awareness – we need to also include education of mothers.

**Grifaid Filters**

Not certain whether these are really appropriate? Very effective in practical demonstrations and in engaging with the public.

Market place online has not been very successful – people are visiting the site but not buying.

Erica suggested that Engineering student volunteers could be using their skills to be asking questions re projects and reporting back to the trustees. This would be useful to the students and to us.

**DBS**

Katie produced a guidesheet for checkers, from Caroline Ward, to ensure that we are filling in forms correctly.

Mary, Kate Durkacz and Katie are all now evidence checkers.

Katie drew attention to the payment of £10 per head, for admin costs, which Caroline needs. We had previously thought application was entirely free.

**CVCS**

**Cambridge Volunteer Society –** Mary thinks we should join – trustees agreed – cost £35 pa.

**Financial Report**

Presented by Erica - bottom line being £2,839 in funds.

**Monamy** in Edinburgh has been given all Father Peter’s plans for developments in Pathein. A meeting was held last week at which it was decided not to allocate more funds to Kate McNeil’s project in Cambodia as she is not a registered charity. This was taken as very disappointing. No news yet as far as Ahtutu is concerned in terms of whether we will obtain any funding from Monamy.