



SMP AGM 2018:
'Our Shared Future: Youth Participation & Sustainability'
6th October 2018

MINUTES

1) DOORS OPEN, NETWORKING AND MARKETPLACE

The 2018 AGM opened its doors to guests at 2pm at the University of Glasgow Union, where delegates were invited to network over teas, Malawian coffee and Mandazi whilst browsing the Marketplace of 26 stalls.

2) WELCOME ADDRESS

KEN ROSS

Attendees were formally welcomed by the Chair of the SMP, Ken Ross, and the SMP's Chief Executive, David Hope-Jones. The 2018 SMP AGM was based on 'our shared future', promoting youth participation and sustainability in the partnerships between Scotland and Malawi.

3) MEET THE TEAM

SMP STAFF

SMP team members each took turns to briefly share their roles and responsibilities with the delegates, using it as an opportunity to ask for input and feedback from the membership on work they've done and priorities going forward.

4) MaSP UPDATE

MPHATSO SAPANGWA

Visiting from Malawi, Mphatso Sapangwa, the Malawi Scotland Partnership's Finance and Administration Officer, gave a brief overview of the progress that MaSP has made, and their current priorities. Mphatso and David engaged in an informal Q&A, where Mphatso answered relevant questions regarding MaSP's development and their future direction. David opened the floor to questions, where Mphatso received one question regarding the possibility of MaSP's expansion of offices in other regions of Malawi. Mphatso explained that the option to do so is limited by budget, but that MaSP would be open to doing so finance-allowing.

5) SUSTAINABILITY CASE STUDIES & DISCUSSION

Guest speakers – Kevin Simpson, Malawi Fruits; Bob Kalin, University of Strathclyde; the Rotary Club; Andrew Vincent, Classrooms for Malawi; and Webster Siame Kameme, University of St Andrews. Each guest spoke for a few minutes on their interpretation of sustainability, what they were doing to incorporate sustainability into their projects and partnerships, and invited delegates to speak with them further on the subject during the networking break.

6) COFFEE BREAK, MARKETPLACE, NETWORKING AND LIVE MALAWIAN MUSIC

Delegates were invited to network over Malawian coffee and tea in the University of Glasgow Union's Dining Room, where +26 stallholders facilitated a vibrant and engaging networking environment accompanied by Malawian musician, Davie Luhanga. Stallholders included: the SMP, the SMP Youth Committee, Scottish Government, British Council, David Livingston Trust, STA Travel, Kenyawi Kids, Beath High School Partnership, The Bananabox Trust, SCIAF, Huchisons Grammar School, WOSDEC, Fair Trade Scotland, University of Strathclyde, Classrooms for Malawi, Friends of Malawi Guiding, Orbis Expeditions, University of Glasgow, Global Concerns Trust, Keep Scotland Beautiful, Water Witness International, Wildlife & Environmental Society of Malawi, and the Social Enterprise Academy.

SMP staff displayed individual postboxes where delegates were invited to write input slips on each staff members' priorities for the year ahead.

7) MALAWIAN MUSIC 'WARM-UP'

Malawian musician Davie Luhanga brought delegates back together in the Debating Chamber for a traditional Malawian musical 'warm-up' through song and dance.

8) TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE KEN ROSS

Ken Ross gave delegates a summary of the recent [Malawi-Scotland Conference](#) in Lilongwe on 28th and 29th September 2018. The Conference was open to members of the SMP and MaSP to celebrate the friendship between Scotland and Malawi and discuss the next chapter in the bilateral relationship.

The Conference set out five strategic objectives: Unite, Listen, Learn, Envision, and Plan. You can read more about these objectives and structure of the Conference on the [SMP website](#). Ken talked through the success of the Conference, and showcased some photographs and images from Malawi.

9) YOUTH PARTICIPATION

GEMMA BURNSIDE

Gemma Burnside, SMP Youth and Schools Officer, introduced the SMP's newly-created Youth Committee and they were given the opportunity to speak about their own Malawi links, what drove them to apply for positions on the SMP Youth Committee, and what they sought to achieve. The speakers included Nicola, Chiara, and Sam and Anna who talked about their links to Malawi through school partnerships, global health initiatives and volunteering opportunities. Their reasons for joining the SMP Youth Committee included a passion for the partnership and what it meant to them, a drive to spread the word about the partnership, and a feeling of how much there is to learn from their links with Malawi.

10) YOUTH COMMITTEE Q&A

SMP YOUTH COMMITTEE

In celebration of the AGM's focus on the Year of Young People, and in parallel to a Q&A session that took place at the conference in Malawi the week before, the SMP Youth Committee took the opportunity to ask questions directly of Ben Macpherson, Minister for International Development.

Responses from the Minister to questions included his recognition of the important role the SMP plays in enhancing youth links between Scotland and Malawi, his realisation while visiting Malawi of the ambition to include more of the youth voice in development work, and his willingness to put young people at the heart of the link between Scotland and Malawi and to strengthen and build on the already well-established work achieved in Scotland through initiatives like the Year of Young People. The Minister also talked about the importance of facing challenges in Scotland and Malawi together in empathy rather than sympathy; using partnership and collaboration in place of simply charity as an approach to developing the partnership.

11) UPDATE FROM WESTMINSTER & HOLYROOD

Patrick Grady MP (Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group) and Alexander Stewart MSP (Co-Convenor, Malawi Cross Party Group) both took the opportunity to showcase highlights from the past year at both the APPG and CPG meetings. They gave a brief overview of the guest speakers who have presented and led discussions at each group, the variety of topics, and how important these conversations had at parliamentary level are.

12) MEMBER AWARDS

Prior to the AGM, delegates were asked to submit a short video either showcasing their work with young people, or in tackling sustainability issues. Member videos had been shortlisted by a Scottish and Malawian judging panel, and the four winning videos were played at the AGM. The winners of the SMP's 2018 Member Awards were, in no particular order: Link Community Development International, First Aid Africa, Steka-Kenyawi Kids, and St Maurice's High School. Each recipient of a Member Award were presented with a hamper of Malawian goods, including Mzuzu coffee, Nali sauce, Malawian gin,

Kilombero rice, and an SMP t-shirt, as well as one of the new Scotland-Malawi Chitenje and a hand-engraved wooden Member Award plaque straight from Malawi. Recipients were also able to randomly choose from a selection of tourism prizes

'Runner-ups' – Mission Rabies, Responsible Safari Company, and Dunblane-Likhubula Partnership – were also able to randomly choose from a selection of tourism prizes.

13) CORE BUSINESS

KEN ROSS

Ken Ross introduced the AGM core business for the afternoon.

Approval of 2017 AGM Minutes

The minutes of the 30th September 2017 AGM were approved by the membership. Proposed by Seonaid Stevenson and seconded by Alasdair Beaton.

Adoption of 2017/18 Accounts

A summary of the 2017/18 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 Caroline Beaton and seconded by Andrew Vincent.

Motion 1: Appointment of Independent Examiner

Martin Aitken & Co, Chartered Accounts, were reappointed as independent examiners for a further twelve months. This was proposed by Alan Laverock and seconded by Catriona Connolly.

Director Elections

- Two Directors had their three-year term end at the 2018 AGM: Heather Cubie and Sam Riddell. In addition, Stuart Brown stood down from the Board to take up employment with the SMP, leaving three seats available.
- Heather Cubie stood for re-election.
- Sam Riddell was thanked for his time and dedication on the SMP Board.
- Over recent months, all members had been invited to stand for election to the Board. Three applications had been received, from: Heather Cubie, Denis Robson and Lilian Haire.
- As the number of applicants standing for the Board was equal to the number of vacant places, the Board proposed a slate of nominees to the membership at the AGM.
- On a vote being taken, members unanimously elected Heather Cubie, Denis Robson and Lilian Haire to the Board.

14) FINAL PRIZE GIVING

Final tourism prizes were given to delegates for 'Best Tweet' and the 'Networking Passport Activity'. The winner of 'Best Tweet' was Terry Strain and his team of youth volunteers from St Roch's Secondary School who supported the SMP team on the day. The winner of the Networking Passport Activity was John Niven of Gleniffer High School.

15) FINAL REMARKS

KEN ROSS

Ken thanked guests for coming and invited everyone to stay and continue their conversations over a Malawian Gin & Tonic, Mandazi, with live music from Davie Luhanga, and encouraged delegates to browse the Marketplace stalls again before departing.