



## **KDDA UK General Meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

Apologies from Mr. Aiah Sodengbe and Mrs. Aminata Browne

Prayer by Minister Bryant Robinson.

Minutes of the last meeting was read by Mr. Sahr Queegbana Kamanda, the secretary.

The chairman, Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh, asked if there were any omissions or observations in the minutes. Mrs. Mary Robinson said that she did mention that she will give a report on the women's Empowerment Organisation, but the organisation was not involved in the school project in Yormandu.

Mrs. moved that the minutes be adopted and was seconded by Mr. Tamba Opas Jimmy-Kay.

Mr. Jimmy-Kay mentioned that search was still on for a storage container, and Mr. Sahr Queegbana Kamanda reported that the garages in his area were private garages which all in use by their respective owners.

Someone suggested that we ask the overseers of the Tenant Hall that we use for our meetings, for advice about storage/garage.

Mr. Sahr S Kabba asked what the official address for the KDDA UK was?

The chairman said the official address for KDDA UK was his home address.

Mr. Sahr S Kabba also suggested that the chairman contact his Borough or Council for advice on availability of storage or garage for rent.

Mrs. Patricia Saffa said containers are very expensive and renting them could cost up to £40 per week but suggested that we consider the cost of a container.

Mrs. Jaward asked for how long would we want to keep the container?

The chairman encouraged everyone to check in their Boroughs for storage facilities.

### **KDDA UK AND OSUSU**

The chairman also brought up the extensive discussion we had concerning the need for all us to invest in some kind of OSUSU to save for ourselves because it is difficult to save individually but when we save as a group, it becomes effective and it is based on trust. What you save is what you receive.

Dr Kai Ngegba intimated this kind of arrangement should be more comprehensive and extreme clarity is required for better understanding of what is involved.

A steering Committee is to be set up to discuss to modalities involved and make a report.

Mrs. Patricia Saffa advised that we contact people who are involved in this kind of arrangement and give their own first-hand experience.

A steering committee was set up which included the following:

1. Mrs. Patricia Saffa

*VISION: "Together the descendants of Kono will make Kono a better place to live"*

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Registered Charity Number: 1160673



2. Mrs. Elizabeth Nganga
3. Mrs. Finda Ngegba
4. Mr. Aiah Tondoneh
5. Mr. Sahr S Kabba
6. Mr. Sahr Queegbana Kamanda

Tondoneh

### **Chairman's Welcome Address**

He welcomed everyone present and acknowledged the presence of Hon. Tamba Opel Sumana.

He asked whether there was any good news or bad news in the community. He further mentioned that the welfare committee Mrs. Alice Deen-Will, which was well supported by members.

He said the bad news was that Mr. Joseph Gbenda was admitted at the Intensive Care Unit at the neurological Hospital in Barnet from the previous Friday and encouraged all to visit Mr. David Gbenda at The Barnet Hospital.

He also mentioned that on behalf of the trustees, He wishes to extend sincere condolences to Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Sodengbe for the loss of their family members.

He went on to say that when you have policies and guidelines that are restrictive, and death occurs, especially here in the United Kingdom, he said he wants to appeal that the KDDA UK membership considers the idea that the Welfare Department considers making appeal on behalf of the bereaved. Contributions will not come from the KDDA UK account but from the general public.

### **Tamba Opel Sumana.**

He suggested that an account be opened for the welfare Department with a minimum amount. Condolences can be made on all the forums, but general contributions will have to be made by the community. He also suggested that we should have trusted welfare officers to manage the account. Finally, he said that no amount of money should be taken from the KDDA UK funds for funerals.

Mrs. Patricia Saffa suggested that we should not add any sentence or clause to the policy as it stands.

The question was asked, "what can shall we do to safeguard ourselves in the time of bereavement?"

The chairman asked all to decide by voting to indicate whether we leave the decision to contribute financially open to the public or allow the KDDA UK to ask the membership and the public to contribute financially in times of bereavement.

Fifteen members were in favor of asking the general public to contribute financially for any bereavement, one member was against the motion. There was no abstention.

The chairman brought to the attention of the house about the meeting that scheduled to take place at the residence of the High Commissioner Mr. Tamba J Lamina.

The meeting was arranged to address the issues that were raised by the concerned and aggrieved persons against the chairman Mr. Aiah Tondoneh and the former secretary, Mr. Aiah Y. Sodengbe.

A few names were selected and sent to the High Commissioner to attend the mediation process and one of the members selected was asked to join the mediation team. The selected member was replaced by Mr. Abdul Aziz.

Mr. Dennis Turner asked whether Mr. Sahr Fasuluku had sent the letter he was threatening to send to the Charity Commission.

Mr. Tamba Opel Sumana advised that peace is the best option and if the High Commission requests a meeting with the concerned and aggrieved Konos, you must attend the meeting.

Vacancies that existed within the Board of Trustees were filled and the following are the names and roles:

1. Project Coordinator - Mr. Dennis Turner
2. Assistant Secretary – Elizabeth Sam
3. Deputy Social and Publicity secretary – Mrs. Annie Kabba
4. Deputy Project Coordinator – Rev. Sylvester K. Amara
5. Welfare Officer – Minister Bryant Robinson
6. Assistant Welfare Officer – Mrs. Sia Jaward

### **Dinner and Dance**

1. Income from the sale of tickets - £2403.20
2. Raffle - £264.00
3. Total £2767.20
4. Payments through the Bank £3303.20
5. Total Income £5970.40

Expenses for hotel	£3750.00
Music	£ 350.00
Decoration	£340.00
Raffle	£ 60.00
Postage	£29.61
Payment for printing	£152.00
Payment for ushers	£70.00
Payment for patrons and drink	£102.80

Total Expenditure	£4702.41
Profit	£1269.99

The chairman said that he appreciated the support members gave to the dinner and dance and said promised that there will be a change of venue for that dinner and dance to maximize the



profit margin. He further said community and sensitize them

that we should call people in the Kono about the organisation.

Someone mentioned that Mrs. Ngandi-Capio was not well.

Mr. Dennis Turner suggested that Mr. Tamba Opel Sumana should join the drive to contact and sensitize people about the KDDAUK not only in London but other areas in the United Kingdom. Seaside Outing to Hastings.

The chairman encouraged everyone in the meeting to highlight the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2019 as the date of the Outing to Hastings.

Three coaches have been hired for the Outing, two coaches will be at Elephant and Castle and one coach will be at Kilburn Station.

The chairman stated that this time the outing will be for all the descendants from Kono District and Sierra Leone at large.

He went on to say that Mr. Opas Jimmy Jay and the social welfare department were waiting for quotations.

### **The Women's Empowerment Wing**

They had their teleconference and agreed that they agreed to organize a barbecue, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2019.

Mrs. Patricia Saffa agreed to assist with the storage of the barbecue stand and Mrs. Nganga Tondoneh to help with the advertising for the barbecue and check the weather condition for the day of the occasion.

Mrs. Robinson requested that the KDDAUK help with the finance of the barbecue.

### **Constitutional Review**

Dr Kai Ngegba promised to get back to us with updates on the review of the constitution.

### **Monthly contributions and registration**

1. Mrs. Sia Jaward - £30
2. Mrs. Finda Ngegba. £30
3. Dr Kai Ngegba. £30
4. Mr. Tamba Opel Sumana £10. Registration
5. Mrs. M. Sumana £10
6. Mr. Sahr Queegbana Kamanda £20

Total. £130

Pound contribution. £11

The chairman also referred to Clause 14 of the KDDA UK Constitution, which discourages political postings on the KDDA UK WhatsApp forum but encourages News of National interests and development.

### **Any Other Business.**

The question was asked if there was any update from the Kono Conference.

The chairman informed all the Conference Draft is out and there were two important observations:

1. There were no inclusions of the contributions made by Mr. Aiah Sodengbe, the Kono Conference Secretary and the KDDA UK Chairman, Mr. Aiah B. Tondoneh.
2. There was no mention of the financial contributions made by KDDA UK and contributions made by the members who attended the conference.

The chairman promised that when the revised and updated version is made available, it will be circulated to all the members.

Another point of observation was the fact that KDDA UK should recognize its heroes. Members who have contributed to the long history of KDDA UK. A Committee to be set up to search out all the members who have sacrificed for the development of KDDA UK and be recognised for their contributions to the development of the organisation.

The members of the Awards Committee are shown below:

1. Miss Elizabeth Sam
2. Minister B. Robinson
3. Rev. Sylvester K. Amara
4. Mr. Tamba Opas Jimmy Kay

The Committee should agree on all the relevant criteria for qualification by the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

Problem with our meeting in July. The funders of Tenant Hall we use for our meeting, will have a meeting scheduled on the same Saturday we should be holding our meeting. Therefore, we either hold the meeting earlier or we skip the July meeting.

Also, there will be food (Restaurant) provided by Mrs. Finda Ngegba on every Saturday. All are requested to put in their orders in time every Saturday.

Menu:

1. Egusi and foo-foo.
2. Jollof rice, and many more items on the menu.

KDDA SL

Members and Contractors have requested that we ask the chiefs to provide land for farming.

Mr Dennis Turner asked that the suggestion be submitted to the Project Committee.



Also, it was suggested that the report High Commissioner and Deputy was asked that the report be submitted in Black and White.

for the Reception and welcoming of the extremely overdue, and members have

Mrs. Finda Ngegba asked that we obtain the reason for Kono Women's Organisation failed to support our Dinner and Dance.

Your Sincerely,

Sahr Queegbana Kamanda

KDDA UK Secretary

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