



KDDAUK General Meeting Saturday 25/10/25 commence at 20:30pm.

Attendance:

The following twelve (12) members were present at the meeting:

Mr. Aiah Sodengbe, Mrs. Christiana Sodengbe, Mrs. Finda Ngegba, Dr. Kia Ngegba, Mrs. Mariama Mafinda, Ms. Jasmine Mafinda, Ms. Petma Tejan, Ms. Kalay Wattu, Mr. Sahr Sam, Mr. Aiah Mbrwa, Mr. Komba Tondoneh, Mrs. Elizabeth Florence Tondoneh

Apologies: Ms Mary Boima, and Mrs Yei Bayoh.

It was also noted that Mr. and Mrs. Tondoneh, while present, were connecting from Sierra Leone and experienced significant technical difficulties due to a poor line.

Minutes taken by Mrs Mariama Mafinda

Chair: Interim Chairman

Key Focus: Updates on upcoming events, fundraising, and a reaffirmation of organizational values.

Opening prayer: The meeting began with a prayer led by Dr. Kia Ngeba, focusing on gratitude, unity, and divine guidance for the organization's work.

The Interim Chairman welcomed all members and apologised for the delayed start.

Chairman's Sodengbe Address

The Interim Chairman outlined five key priorities for the organization:

Trustee Responsibilities: Emphasised that trustees are "stewards of trust and transparency" and called for active member engagement and high standards of accountability.

· Africana Gala (Fundraiser): Announced for Saturday, 22nd November 2025. The goal is to raise funds for student education and youth empowerment in Kono District. Members were strongly encouraged to sell tickets, invite networks, and donate.

· Thanksgiving Service: Scheduled for Sunday, 7th December 2025. This will be a moment for reflection, gratitude, and community celebration. The venue has been secured, and details will be published.

· Newsletter: The second edition of the KDDAUK UK newsletter will be published by the end of October 2025. Members were encouraged to contribute articles and stories.

· GoFundMe Campaign: A campaign has been launched to raise funds for essential educational materials for students. Donations were highlighted as a direct way to invest in the future.

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3. Social Secretary's Report (Africana Gala Planning)

A detailed update was provided on the flagship Africana Gala event:

- Venue & Setup: The venue hire is paid. Arrangement for extra setup time was successfully negotiated down to one hour (£170). A call was made for volunteers to help achieve this.
- Volunteers & Roles:
 - Several members have volunteered for specific tasks (ushering, serving patrons, ticket checks, raffle sales).
 - Ms Kalay's children had volunteered to do the ushering and 4 other members to attend to our Patrons and chief patrons
 - A request was made for volunteers to sell drinks. Namely: Ms Mary Boima and Max Jimmy.
 - Ms Kalay for tickets verifications at the entrance
 - Ms Petma and Ms Kalay, will help handling the raffle tickets and money collection for each table.
 - Suggested names for conducting the raffle draw were presented for approval.

Namely: A representative from YANDA, & Kono Women, Mr. Jimmy Kay , Mr Tondoneh, Mrs Pratt, Mrs Miller, Mrs Kawa Mr Funny, Mr Baxter, and Mr Max Jimmy

- Raffle Prizes: A list of identified prizes was shared, including appliances, treatment vouchers, and gift hampers.
- Ticket Sales: Concern was raised over slow ticket sales, with 36 tickets remaining unsold. A strong appeal was made to all members to support this "collective project" by purchasing and selling tickets to achieve a sell-out.

4. Secretary's Report (Ms Mary Boima) presented by the interim chairman.

. Introduction & Implementation of Rules:

The Secretary presented her report, noting challenges in implementing agreed-upon rules. She addressed concerns about unilateral decision-making and rigidity, affirming that all actions were taken in line with the constitution to ensure structure, transparency, and accountability.

. Fundraising Effort:

The report indicated that the GoFundMe fundraising initiative has received limited support from members, with only a handful contributing. The Secretary expressed disappointment but reaffirmed her determination to seek alternative means of financial support.

. Publication of Minutes and Bank Statements:

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The Secretary stated that the minutes have not been published to the website, as the procedure needs to be revisited. She highlighted a breach of agreed protocol, noting that the Treasurer has been posting minutes and bank statements on the WhatsApp forum instead of distributing them via email to paid members.

. Communication with Patrons:

An update was provided that an email has been sent to Dr. Manyeh regarding the role of Grand Chief Patron, and the association is currently awaiting his response.

It was reported that the safeguarding training package has been purchased. The Secretary and the Safeguarding Officer will agree on a date for the training soon, and all members were strongly encouraged to participate.

. Conduct and Communication:

The Secretary addressed concerns about communication on the WhatsApp forum. She clarified that directing discussions to general meetings is intended to maintain professionalism and protect the association's reputation, not to silence members, and urged constructive and respectful handling of internal matters.

In closing, the Secretary acknowledged ongoing challenges but reiterated her steadfast commitment to transparency, teamwork, and the association's progress, urging all members to remain cooperative, supportive, and respectful.

5. Safeguarding Report

The Safeguarding Lead Mrs Mariama Mafinda delivered a serious and important report with regard to Bullying & Harassment

.Bullying and Harassment: It was firmly stated that preventing bullying and harassment is a core part of the organization's safeguarding duty under UK charity law.

. Definitions: Clarified that bullying includes intimidation, oppression, and abuse. Harassment includes tormenting, provocation, insults, and threats.

. Acknowledged Issue of bullying and harassment have been observed on the KDDAUK WhatsApp platform.

. Call for Respect: Members were urged to communicate respectfully and address issues through proper channels rather than in public forums.

. Training: The Safeguarding Lead has scheduled mandatory training for 15th December 2025. Following this, organisation wide training sessions will be arranged and communicate to the general public .



6. Other Business & Closing

- The minutes from the previous meeting were adopted. The motion was raised by Mrs Mariama Mafinda and Seconded by Mrs Christiana Sodengbe
- The Financial Secretary was absent, but her reports are available on the forum. Questions were to be directed there.
- The Chairman concluded by wishing a happy birthday to the absent Secretary and reiterating the appeal for unity and ticket sales for the Gala.
- The closing prayer was shared by Mrs Elizabeth Florence Tondoneh and the meeting comes to an end at 21:56pm

Mrs Mariama Mafinda
KDDAUK safeguarding lead