



KONO DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION UK KDDAUK

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 28 March 2026 | Held via Zoom

Date	Saturday, 28 March 2026
Format	Zoom (Virtual Meeting)
Opening Prayer	Mrs. Elizabeth Tondoneh
Closing Prayer	Mr. Komba Tondoneh
Chair	Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe, BSc (Hons), MA — Interim Chairman
Registered Charity	No. 1160673 E: info@kdda.co.uk www.kdda.co.uk

1. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

1. Mrs. Magdalene Yei Mani
2. Mrs. Theresa Williams
3. Dr. Kai Ngegba
4. Mr. Aiah B. Tondoneh
5. Mrs. Christina Sodengbe
6. Mr. Opas Tamba Jimmy-Kay
7. Mr. Sahr Kamanda
8. Mrs. Elizabeth Nganga Tondoneh
9. Mrs. Finda Ngegba
10. Mr. Sahr Sam
11. Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe (Interim Chairman)
12. Mr. Desmond Sahr Bockarie
13. Miss Kalay
14. Mr. Komba Tondoneh
15. Mrs. Mariama Mafinda (Safeguarding Lead)

Total attendance: 15 members. Meeting held via Zoom.

2. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting was opened with a prayer by **Mrs. Elizabeth Tondoneh**.

The Interim Chairman, **Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe**, welcomed all members and delivered the following address:

INTERIM CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS — 28 MARCH 2026

The Interim Chairman, **Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe**, welcomed all members and delivered his address covering the following key points: a **minute of silence** was observed in honour of the late Chief S.Y.O. Lebbie; **progress on educational items** for Kono District schools was reported as advancing well; members were encouraged to support **outreach and membership growth**; **Special General Meetings on 4 and 11 April 2026** were announced to finalise the constitutional review; the **2026 KDDAUK Outing in Littlehampton on 25 July 2026** was confirmed with a call to purchase tickets early; and a **proposal to utilise KDDAUK-owned land in Kono District for agricultural purposes** (such as cassava farming) was put forward for members' consideration as a



sustainable income stream for the organisation.

Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe, BSc (Hons), MA — Interim Chairman, KDDAUK Charity

3. AGENDA ITEMS

Item 1	Opening Prayer — Mrs. Elizabeth Tondoneh
Item 2	Chairman's Address — Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe
Item 3	Educational Items Update — Mrs. Finda Ngegba
Item 4	Bereavement: Death of Chief S.Y.O. Lebbie — Mrs. Saadatu Hashim (read by Mr. Aiah B. Tondoneh)
Item 5	Safeguarding Lead Report — Mrs. Mariama Mafinda
Item 6	Treasurer's Financial Report — Mrs. Elizabeth Nganga Tondoneh
Item 7	Constitutional Review — Mr. Aiah B. Tondoneh (Parts 12–14)
Item 8	Any Other Business (AOB)

4. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS UPDATE

Presented by: Mrs. Finda Ngegba

- School books have been received from St. Joseph.
- Additional educational items still need to be packed for shipment to Kono District, Sierra Leone.
- The project continues to progress toward completion, with further updates to follow.

5. BEREAVEMENT: PASSING OF CHIEF S.Y.O. LEBBIE

Report prepared by: Hajiya Sa'adiatu Hashim — Read on her behalf by Mr. Aiah B. Tondoneh

KDDAUK Community Welfare and Outreach Report — General Meeting, 28 March 2026

1. Bereavement Announcement

It is with deep sadness that the passing of **Chief Sahr Y. O. Lebbie** is reported. Chief Lebbie passed away on **13 March 2026** in London at the age of 74. His passing brought the Kono community across the UK together in a spirit of unity, compassion, and shared responsibility.

Chief SYO Lebbie's leadership extended far beyond the classroom and the chieftaincy. **From 1995 to 2001, he served as Chairman of KDDAUK**, a period that transformed the organisation. Under his stewardship:

- KDDA introduced the Kono Directory.
- The constitution was strengthened.
- Vibrant annual events and town hall meetings were established.
- Strong social cohesion across the diaspora was fostered.



During his tenure, KDDAUK earned recognition as one of the leading Sierra Leonean diaspora organisations in Europe. His legacy remains foundational to the work KDDAUK continues today.

Funeral Support and Community Collaboration

In response to his passing, members of the Kono community have been voluntarily contributing financial support. These funds are being paid directly into the daughter's bank account, an arrangement agreed upon due to the current impasse within the KDDAUK community particularly in London and surrounding areas.

Questions noted from the community regarding the 20% funeral contribution deduction and publicising the funeral (given Chief SYO was not formally registered with the group) were addressed. Given his significant and longstanding contributions — including his early efforts to mediate peace between the factions — the meeting agreed that unity and respect must guide actions during this period of bereavement.

2. Welfare Updates

Apart from the passing of Chief SYO Lebbie, the Welfare Team has no major additional cases to report at this time.

3. Member Engagement: Birthday Acknowledgements

The Welfare Team seeks the consent of members to collect their date of birth (day and month only, without the year) to enable KDDAUK to send birthday cards and strengthen community and personal connection.

4. Planned Visits to the Sick and Elderly

The Welfare Team, together with the Trustees, is planning to visit sick and elderly members in London and surrounding towns. Members were asked to inform the Welfare Team of any Kono elder who is unwell, isolated, or living alone, so that visits can be arranged.

Report signed by: Hajija Sa'adiatu Hashim — Welfare Lead, KDDAUK

6. SAFEGUARDING LEAD REPORT

Presented by: Mrs. Mariama Mafinda — Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The Safeguarding Lead presented her report to the general meeting. Members were reminded of the KDDAUK Safeguarding & Communications Policy and their responsibilities under it, including safe digital conduct across all KDDAUK platforms.

7. TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Presented by: Mrs. Elizabeth Nganga Tondoneh — Interim Treasurer & Trustee

Period: 1 February 2026 – 27 March 2026

Opening Balance

Opening Balance (1 Feb 2026)	£10,669.68
------------------------------	------------

February 2026 — Summary



KONO DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION UK (KDDAUK)

General Meeting Minutes | 28 March 2026

Held via Zoom | Registered Charity No. 1160673

Item	Category	Amount (£)
Membership fees	Income	91.00
School Project	Expenditure	(2,096.71)
Net Movement (February)	Deficit	(2,005.71)
Closing Balance (28 Feb 2026)		£8,663.97

March 2026 (1–27 March) — Summary

Item	Category	Amount (£)
Registrations	Income	20.00
Membership fees	Income	81.00
Refund of legal fees (Court Injunction won)	Income	3,142.50
Compensation from Barclays Bank	Income	75.00
Legal fees	Expenditure	(2,000.00)
School Project	Expenditure	(1,031.11)
Seaside Outing	Expenditure	(1,000.00)
Donor recognition gift	Expenditure	(150.00)
Total Income (March)		3,318.50
Total Expenditure (March)		(4,181.11)
Net Movement (March)	Deficit	(862.61)
Closing Balance (26 Mar 2026)		£7,801.36

Cumulative Position: 1 February – 27 March 2026

Description	Amount (£)
Total Income	3,409.50
Total Expenditure	(6,277.82)
Net Movement (Deficit)	(2,868.32)
Opening Balance (1 Feb 2026)	10,669.68
Closing Balance (27 Mar 2026)	£7,801.36

✓ Balance fully reconciles. Closing balance £7,801.36 as of 27 March 2026.

Key Financial Highlights

- The Association recorded a net deficit of **£2,868.32** over the reporting period.



- Major expenditure drivers: School Project funding (£3,127.82), legal and governance costs, and member/community engagement activities.
- March income was boosted by a legal fee refund (£3,142.50) and Barclays compensation (£75.00), partially offsetting operating costs.
- Donor recognition expenditure (£150.00) correctly classified as a donor stewardship expense.
- KDDAUK remains financially stable with a positive closing balance. However, continued fundraising and careful monitoring of project costs are required.
- Members are encouraged to pay membership dues promptly to support financial sustainability and membership growth.

Report presented by: Mrs. Elizabeth Nganga Tondoneh — Interim Treasurer & Trustee

8. CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Led by: Mr. Aiah B. Tondoneh — Constitutional Review Committee Chairman

Parts 12–14 of the KDDA UK Draft Constitution were read and discussed. The following key points were agreed upon by the membership:

Membership Subscription Fees

Following lengthy discussions and deliberations, a majority vote was conducted. The following was **agreed and adopted**:

- **Registration Fee: £10.00** (proposed by Mr. Opas Tamba Jimmy-Kay, carried by majority vote)
- **Monthly Subscription: £5.00** per member per month

Members in Good Standing — Attendance Requirement

A vote was conducted to amend the attendance requirement for active membership in good standing. The following was **agreed and adopted**:

- Active members must attend at least **six (6) meetings or events** in the calendar year (amended from the previous requirement of 3 consecutive absences).

Postal Voting

- The consideration of postal voting in certain circumstances was discussed and agreed for further review.

Future Sessions

- Special General Meetings scheduled for **4 April 2026** and **11 April 2026** to finalise the remaining constitutional review process.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AOB)

- **Financial Statements:** Agreement reached that financial statements are to be posted via the KDDAUK Charity WhatsApp group or by email to members. Safeguarding of financial information to be observed at all times.
- **Monthly Meetings:** Mrs. Theresa Williams raised a question regarding the schedule and format of monthly meetings. This was noted and will be addressed by the trustees.
- **KDDAUK Land Proposal:** Members noted the Chairman's proposal to utilise KDDAUK land in Kono District for agricultural purposes (cassava or other crops) and agreed to consider further.



10. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with a prayer by **Mr. Komba Tondoneh**.

Recorded by:	Confirmed by:
_____	_____
Mr. Desmond Sahr Bockarie	Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe
<i>Interim Secretary, KDDAUK</i>	<i>Interim Chairman, KDDAUK</i>
Date: _____	Date: _____