

Report Year Ending December 2020

of the

Barrhead Churches Kibera Project

As a result of the impact of Covid19, it was again not possible to hold a public AGM in 2021. This Report, along with the audited accounts for year ending 31/12/20 will be published on the Project's website and distributed to the members of the other Churches in Barrhead.

Chair's Report:

Jim Mitchell reports that during the last year we had 11 trustees, a co-opted member along with Bourock's minister, Rev Pamela Gordon, on our committee. Our members come from 3 different churches in the town. Sadly, we have lost some very enthusiastic and regular supporters; we extend our condolences to their families as well as our gratitude for their support over the years.

Last year we continued to sponsor 21 pupils – these are pupils who without our sponsorship would not be able to attend secondary school. This aspect of our project is vitally important for these pupils to get the opportunity to attend school and then to have the opportunity to access the job market or further education. Members of the committee continue to regard sponsorship as our primary focus.

Last year, their education was severely negatively impacted by Covid 19; the school closed in March in line with Kenyan Government's restrictions, and the November Examination period moved to March 2021. Pupils sitting examinations returned in the autumn. The School re-opened on 4th January 2021 with 75 pupils. They are not able to offer E-learning.

£6000 was forwarded to the Parish for the sponsorship of 21 students last year and to enable them to buy some books; this includes allowing money for fluctuations in the Kenyan, US and UK currencies and bank charges. This money also covers the cost of a school meal every day for our sponsored pupils, when they were allowed to attend school.

Communication with Florence (PCEA Session Clerk) continues to be good. She reported that their Church also closed in March 2020, reopening in the summer for 6–65-year-olds, with limited numbers, and their service being videoed.

Our only fundraiser of 2020 was Bourock's Christmas Greetings' Leaflet. This raised £715. Our thanks go those who supported this.

The only publicity/awareness event held in 2020 was a presentation from Jim Mitchell and David Miller to The Guild in Bourock Church, in February.

As previously reported, we are incredibly grateful for the support and donations that we have received from our supporters over the past year. Without your help the school would not be able to function, and the students would not be able to receive an education. So, our committee and the Session in Kibera would like to thank everyone who has supported the project in any way.

Treasurer's Report

David Miller reports that the 2020 Accounts were completed and have been examined by Jim Auchincloss. Last year had been difficult; donations were down by £287, fundraising down by over £2000 and sponsorship down by £155.

£715 was raised by the Christmas Greeting's Leaflet in Bourock. HMRC Gift Aid recovery has raised £630. £6000 was forwarded to Kenya via our central office in February. £40 annual fee was paid for GDPR Data Protection. The total income was £3840, total expenditure was £6040. This led to a deficit at the end of the year of £2200, however with the 2020 opening balance the closing balance at the end of 2020 was £7077.

If anyone has any questions on this report, they are invited to forward them to the Secretary via email deb.mitchell@ntlworld.com