



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GLOBAL OGB ASSOCIATION (GO)

Sub-Committee Meeting

Held on Saturday 23 November 2019 at 11.30 am (IST)

PRESENT : Management GO Team

Anirban Bhattacharyya – Chair	- Mumbai, India	- 11.30 am
Thuten Kesang - Member	- New Zealand	- 6.00 pm
George Borthwick - Member	- New Zealand	- 6.00 pm
Alfred Khan - Member	- Kolkota, India	- 11.30 am
Pauline Singh - Member	- Delhi, India	- 11.30 am
Dawn Van Steensel – Minute Secretary	- Australia	- 4.00 pm

Apology :

Tenzing Norzang – Member	- Minneapolis USA
Sushil Marda - Treasurer	- Siliguri, India
Kenny Hammond – Patron	- Scotland
Vanda Fraser – Member	- Scotland

A quorum was present, and the meeting commenced at 11.30 IST.

As there were a number of key Members of the GO Management Team absent from this meeting, the Chair recommended conducting this as a Sub-Committee meeting, specifically to finalise preparation for the Jan/February 2020 Projects.

ITEM NO. 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The GO Management Team noted the Minutes of the sub-Committee meeting held on 17 August 2019, had not been circulated.

Therefore, Dawn outlined some of the issues considered at the August meeting and it was recommended that they be incorporated into the Minutes of this meeting i.e. 23 November 2019.

ITEM NO. 3 Matters Arising

Item No. 3 The Committee did not review the Matters Arising report.
Refer update on attached report - **Appendix A**

Guttering – Cottages (Phase 2)

Sushil delivered guttering material to Col.Gogoi in July 2019. New material for up to 8 Cottages was supplied.

Feedback from Col.G was that the work will be carried out during the Winter break.

Action: Sushil to monitor the quality of the work being done by the Workshop.

ITEM NO. 4 MAY FAIR 2019 – Funds Raised

May Fair vouchers to the value of Rs.11,000 was given to Col. Gogoi, by Pauline, following the May Fair 2019.

Action Sushil to contact Gogoi to recoup the cash value of the coupons, on behalf of GO. Funds are required for the Jan/Feb 2020 Projects.



ITEM NO. 5.0 FINANCIAL REPORT

The following financials are attached to the Minutes : **Appendix A**

- GO balance sheet as at November 2019, prepared by Ken was tabled. This included funds available in Ind.Rupees in Kolkota.
 - UK £ 13,472
 - Ind.Rupees 1,261,009 (includes funds held by Sushil/Alfie/DGH Bursar
 - NZ\$ 4,520
 - US\$ 4,778
- Alfie tabled the funds available in the Kolkota Account. The Account did not balance with what was provided by Ken (Scotland).
- Alfie to contact Ken and clarify the Accounts.
- Alife was authorized to withdraw the funds from the Kolkota Grahamites Asso bank Account and take to Kalimpong. The danger of carrying large amount of funds was discussed but there was no other alternative to this arrangement.

- ACTION**
- Alfie to reconcile the Accounts with Ken
 - Alfie to contact Nanette Gomez and arrange to withdraw the GO funds from the Grahamites Asso. Account and take the funds to Kalimpong.
 - Re. funds from the UK Account . If required, to contact Ken Hammond to arrange transfer of some funds.

Item No. 6.0 SUB-COMMITTEE – 2020 Project

Volunteer Housing in Murray /New Thorburn Cottages

- Following the November meeting, received confirmation from the Principal, Neil Monterio for GO to use new Thorburn and also Murray Cottages for housing the January/February 2019 volunteers.
- New Thorburn will be utilized first - with overflow volunteers housed in Murray Cottage

Good outcome.

ITEM 7.0 2020 PROJECT PLAN

Table of works attached – **Appendix B** – tabled by Pauline.

- **Thorburn** - prior to the Team arriving in Kalimpong, the cottage will require a quick fix-up and cleaning.
 - Sharon Foning has advised she will fund the painting for Thorburn.
 - Thuten advised that the New Zealand Committee will fund the building of an external Water Tank for new Thorburn.
 - Work to be done by end December 2019. Prior to Teams arriving
- **Murray Cottage** – To be cleaned prior to the Team arriving. Funded from General Funds received.
- **Elliott** has raised approx.Rs.200,000 and Denki Lhamu has indicated another Rs.80,000 from the Bhutan Elliott girls has been raised. If required, additional funds



will be subsidized from GO General Funds.

- **Bene** – raised approx.Rs.150,000 - if required, additional funds to be subsidized from the GO General Funds.

- ACTION**
1. Pauline to keep the GO Team advised of her projects and any roadblocks that she may come up against.
 2. Sushil to obtain a cost estimate for the installation of a suitable water tank and advise Thuten ASAP.

Woodburn Cottage

At the time of the meeting – GO was still in limbo about Woodburn and whether it was forming part of the GO Team projects. All indication is that the Woodburn Team were keen to do that Cottage, independent of GO.

No response from Alison Piling to specific questions raised with her in September 2019.

- RESOLVED** **GO resolved - if Woodburn is to be done independent to GO – they would be required to get their own permissions from the BOM for access etc. separate from GO.**

Workshop Assistance –

GO had requested Neil Monterio to allocate some Workshop people to assist with the Winter projects. Advised by Neil that most of the Estate Workers are on leave during that period or already pre-scheduled to do maintenance work on the campus. Therefore, would not be available to assist GO.

It is hoped that the guttering work will be finalized in January 2020.

Volunteers –

- Starting to arrive in KPG from 4 January 2020.
- Volunteers to be asked to bring pillows and towels for their personal use
- Some Blankets from 2019 are available. Additional blankets will need to be purchased.

Project Operations -

- Pauline to advise Neil M as soon as she arrives in Kalimpong in mid-December, that she needs custody of the keys for Murray, new Thorburn, Elliott and Bene on 28 Dec 2019.
- Ruth Glashan has arranged for Cooks to assist with the preparation of meals
- Most of the Equipment is available from previous years
- Sushil – has sourced the electricians and carpenters
- Sushil – will arrange to purchase the paints and necessary accessories

ITEM NO. 9.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 BTB Scholarship Foundation

Pauline advised that she has spoken to Neil M about the BTB Scholarship foundation that had been set-up in the name of Mr. BTB, to sponsor students going to Mt.Herman College to complete their 2 years Teachers Training course.

Neil was not aware of the current status of the Scholarship.

- ACTION** Pauline to pursue with the UK Committee



9.2 Continuing Maintenance of Cottages

The meeting received update from a couple of the GO Members, following their visits to Cottages, during the September 2019 Birthday celebrations.

Following assurances from the Chair of the BOM and NeilM at DGH, it appears that still no daily or regular cleaning and maintenance has been carried out during the year.

Observation is that the Houseparents seem to be lacking in the necessary skills to monitor and supervise the house-keeping of the Cottages. Feedback from a couple of Houseparents is that the response time for repair work to the Workshop is slow or non-existent.

ACTION

Once the Jan/Feb 2020 projects have been completed, GO proposed that we request a meeting with the Chair + Principal. Need to emphasise that on-going and regular maintenance is the responsibility of the BOM and DGH Management.

GO and OGBs do not have the funds to repeatedly carry out renovations .

2020 Bike Ride

Tenzing has prepared a webpage advertising the Bike Ride. Details can be found via the following

Link : <http://bikefordgh.wixsite.com/bikefordgh>

Ride scheduled from Thimphu Bhutan to DGH from 18th to 22nd September 2020 at the start of the Birthday celebrations.

The Bike Team is looking for Riders and if you can't ride – volunteer to assist riders along the course of the ride and give donations towards their fund raising.

NEXT MEETING

GO Management Team : Saturday 22 February 2020

There being no further matters, the meeting closed at 2.00 pm IST