

Annual General Meeting of the Marlborough Brandt Group

Held Monday 20 June 2016, 6.30pm Marlborough Town Hall (27 in attendance)

Welcome	MBG Chairman Anna Quarendon (AQ) welcomes members and guests
Apologies	16 apologies recorded and read by Sarah Lively
Last AGM minutes	Approved and signed
Chairman's report Anna Quarendon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQ Chairman for 5 yrs, stepping down this AGM</li> <li>• 2015 Justin Walker (JW) research thesis 'MBG/Gunjur Relationship' raised lots of questions for MBG and it's future</li> <li>• Shift from focus on linking</li> <li>• MBG Director Nick Maurice (NM) wants to retire early 2016</li> <li>• MBG decides to continue collective decision to go forward to advertise for a part-time paid Director</li> <li>• AQ thanks trustees for help and support for securing the appointment of Karen Bulsara</li> <li>• AQ thanks office team, executive committee, Steph Dale, Andrew Mallinson, and MBG volunteers</li> <li>• AQ thanks NM for his contribution to MBG, and the world in a global context</li> <li>• Thanks members and friends for donating to MBG for NM retirement present</li> <li>• AQ bestows on NM the title of MBG Founder Patron</li> </ul>
Election of trustees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Morley, Robert Hiscox stepped down 2015 AQ thanks both</li> <li>• Theresa Ardley nominated</li> <li>• Janneke Blokland nominated</li> <li>• Sarah Giles nominated</li> <li>• Lilli Loveday nominated</li> <li>• George Cooper nominated</li> <li>• Trevor Kearley nominated</li> <li>• Geoffrey Findlay nominated</li> <li>• Patrick Hazlewood nominated</li> <li>• Anna Quarendon nominated</li> <li>• AQ standing down as Chairman but remains a trustee</li> <li>• For the following year each trustee will be responsible for specific Chairman roles</li> </ul>
Treasurers report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQ notes treasurer Theresa Ardley absence and apology and delivers report on her behalf</li> <li>• Copies of MBG end of year accounts are available on request. Contact Emma Henderson MBG Accounts Manager</li> <li>• MBG is in healthy position due to legacy, although without it expenditure would exceed income</li> <li>• Acknowledges grants/ funds raised by NM and WGEC's Caroline Harmer</li> <li>• MBG needs further inputs of financial support to be sustainable</li> <li>• AQ asks that this body continues to adopt accountants Munroe Audit Ltd</li> </ul>

<p>2015 Director's Report Nick Maurice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomes mayor, and Gambian friends</li> <li>• Thanks AQ and Richard Draper for hosting retirement party and thanks everyone who contributed</li> <li>• Thanks the MBG volunteers and members for their support</li> <li>• Reflects on 2015 AGM guest speaker Dr Touray, Director of GAMCOTRAP, Gambian NGO tackling Female Genital Mutilation FGM. Notes that since our last AGM FGM now banned in The Gambia</li> <li>• Outlines an increase in human rights abuses in The Gambia, and questions whether MBG should be doing more to promote human rights in The Gambia or if it risks putting Gambian friends and colleagues at risk. Recommends that MBG will only lobby on request from the Gunjur community.</li> <li>• The Gunjur Business Youth Programme is going well. Combination of training students at the GTTI college and supporting small businesses through loans</li> <li>• NM thanks St James' Place for their support, strengthened since Alex Davies joined the SJP team as CSR manager</li> <li>• Talks about MBGs advocacy role, must use the learning we gain through partnership to advocate on behalf of those who don't have a voice</li> <li>• 2015 NM wrote a letter to the UK Govt on Chinese fishing exploitation and climate change in the Gambia</li> <li>• Thanks WGEC's Caroline Harmer and Steve Atyeo for bringing a vital global dimension to students and teachers in Wiltshire</li> <li>• Acknowledges all the hard work undertaken by current MBG Director to bring MBG onto a more professional footing</li> <li>• Has every confidence KB will take the link forward albeit with a different focus</li> <li>• NM &amp; KB to visit Gunjur in July</li> <li>• Thanks AQ for keeping MBG on even keel, taking us forward on a new strategic direction</li> <li>• Thanks trustees</li> <li>• Thanks MBG members</li> </ul>
<p>MBG Director Karen Bulsara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hopes to take MBG into its next chapter</li> <li>• MBG faces many challenges</li> <li>• Joined under the spectre of closure, is appraising the viability and sustainability of MBG, which is still in question</li> <li>• KB is following up on the issues raised in Justin Walker's report</li> <li>• Asks members to share any hopes and suggestions for MBG's future</li> <li>• Is working on safety and compliance for the summer visit and future visits. Still work in progress and thanks Alex Davies for his support and contribution</li> <li>• Acknowledges that times have moved on since MBG started, the need to make MBG compliant with safety standards</li> <li>• Experienced the Gunjurian warm welcome in Feb 2016 and recognizes the unique offering MBG has fostered with the community, where visitors are accepted as friends.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has already started dialogue with the Gunjur Community Link will continue during July visit. KB will be reviewing processes</li> <li>• On top of 4 original aims should consider the additional aim of funding community development projects – how can this be sustained?</li> <li>• There are capacity issues in the UK and in Gunjur that need to be addressed for this work to continue successfully</li> <li>• Will be assessing TARUD’s capacity as an implementing NGO</li> <li>• Sees the underlying core to the work of MBG has been education</li> <li>• Believes that the link will endure through the many individual relationships which have been forged between the communities of Marlborough and Gunjur.</li> </ul>
Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death of Boyo’s mother. NM circulated information to members</li> </ul>