

Minutes of the Meeting of the OVERSEAS LINKS WORKING PARTY

Held: 16 January at 12 noon.

<u>PRESENT:</u>

<u>Councillor Johnson - Chair</u> <u>Councillor Coles - Vice-Chair</u>

Councillor Corrall (for Cllr Bhatti) Councillor Green Councillor Willmott

Co-opted Members (non-voting)

Mr P Lee	City of Leicester European Twinning Association
Mr E Brown	Leicester Masaya Link Group
Mr D Clint	Leicester Masaya Link Group
Mrs C Plumb	Leicester Masaya Link Group
Mr H Tanna	Leicester Rajkot Twinning Association
Mr M Patel	Leicester Rajkot Twinning Association

Officers in Attendance

Sandra Rieger	International Development Officer
Joanne Ives	Acting Head of Europe and The Regions
Mark Mizzen	Economic Development Group
Daxa Pancholi	Economic Development Group
Eric Pemberton	Curriculum Advisor
Alexandra Kowalczuk	Lord Mayors Secretariat
Rebecca Owen	Committee Administrator

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16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they might have in the business to be discussed, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them. No declarations of interest were made at this time.

19. REPORT OF THE LEICESTER MASAYA LINK GROUP

The Leicester Masaya Link Group submitted a progress report which outlined work undertaken during the previous quarter and planned work for the next quarter.

It was noted that the Group's development education work was very active, and that over the past few years 6,000 students had been reached, and many bookings were being received from schools. The Group had continued its partnership with the St Matthews Contact Project, and a bid for funding had been submitted to the Arts Council.

The Working Party was informed that the water tank project had been completed several months earlier than planned, and had been very successful. It was noted that the Link Group was planning to work again with the Non-Government Organisation that ran the water tank project, to launch a poultry breeding project aimed at women in order to provide them with an independent income. Fund raising for this was already underway.

Concern was expressed that if funding for the Leicester Masaya Link Group for 2004/05 was reduced, the work undertaken by the group would be seriously affected. The importance of the educational aspect of the Group's work was emphasised.

Councillor Willmott, seconded by Councillor Corrall, proposed that the Cabinet be requested to give consideration to the level of funding to be granted to the Leicester Masaya Link Group for 2004/05. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

- That the Cabinet be requested to give consideration to the level of funding to be granted to the Leicester Masaya Link Group for 2004/05;
- 2) That the report be noted.

27. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.05pm.