Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam 13 September 2008

Attendance

Alen J Nyanginywa

Ally Athuman Jumbe

Ally Mzee Amiri

Ally Saidi Mwishehe

Bashiri Rashidi

Beda John Mkusu

Chichi Iddy

Elaine Baker

Filbert Mbecha

Husein Hamza Hamisi

Juma Ali Salehe Jongo

Juma Hassan Chibaya

Kibwana Mohammad Msiga

Mejah Mbuya

Mussa Alex

Paulo Atibu Hatibu

Shamte J Kigoma

Shukuru Hassan

Tomassi Sabinussi

Wamba Memorial Fund - Road Safety Project

Mejah said that he was talking to Mrs Wamba, the mother of Phillipe Wamba after whom the Wamba memorial fund was named and who he knows. We agreed to invite her to visit UWABA, perhaps the 4th October.

Kibwana

Kibwana used the Tsh 35,000 to buy new tyres and brakes for his cycle. As he didn't meet Hussein Hamza he asked another fundi who will finish the work soon.

Monthly forum

On Wednesday Elaine, Juma Jongo and Juma Chibaya went to see Councillor Lupilya to explain about the forum. He was very supportive and said he would talk to some relevant people in the city council and get back to us.

Azzan Zungu is in Dodoma but will be back next week. Mejah and Juma will go to see him.

European Union

Elaine brought a printout of the email we have received from the European Union.

To follow up on this we agreed we would:

- try to meet the Tanzania Roads Association TARA, which the EU mention as a stakeholder representation group
- Write to the Ministry of Infrastructure to ask to be placed on the official list of stakeholders for roads projects, as the EU say that there is such a list. Also request to meet the new Minister Shukuru Kawambwa
- Write to the European Union and ask them to formulate a official policy on non-motorized transport, as they say they do not have such a policy at present.
- Members to cycle on Nelson Mandela Road and report back on whether there is a service road and whether vehicles are prevented from using it, as stated by the EU

Cycle Caravan

Mejah suggested we also try to ask the British High Commission for sponsorship.

The Dutch embassy said by email that they would not be able to sponsor us this year and suggested we try the Norwegian embassy.

Elaine phoned Mr Abdul of Bakhresa during the week and he said he had not seen the letter. Juma delivered another copy to him personally and he said he would ask Mr Bakhresa and give us an answer.

Councillor Lupilya suggested we write to Serengeti Breweries and that he would raise the issue on our behalf with them. Juma then delivered a copy of the letter to him.

Juma also delivered a letter to the Chinese embassy this week.

Mejah and Juma will follow up by phone and by visiting this week with Irish Embassy, Chinese embassy, CRDB, NMB, Bakhresa, Ultimate Security and the guta company.

Mejah and Juma will also visit Azzan Zungu to follow up on the letter asking him to be our special guest, and will follow up with Ilala Municipality on getting permission to use Mnazi Mmoja.

We discussed the route again and Elaine made the point that we should keep it reasonably short because of children and disabled people taking part.

gTKP Governance meeting in Cameroon

During the week Elaine and Mejah drafted a presentation to be made at the gTK{ meeting in Cameroon by Mejah and we discussed the presentation and made some changes.

Traffic Police

Members including Mejah and Husein Hamza heard television and radio announcements (Radio Taifa) about road safety and vehicles not parking on service roads. Juma delivered the letter to the traffic police.

Kigamboni Bridge

Juma delivered the letter about Kigamboni Bridge to NSSF.

Research by Rwandese student Alphonse Mkurunziza

Elaine said that a Rwandese student who is doing a PhD on cycle related issues in East Africa will be arriving this evening and she had arranged to meet him tomorrow morning. Juma will also accompany her. She will encourage him to come to the UWABA meeting next week to discuss how we can cooperate.

Foundation for Civil Society

Coincidentally we heard about the Foundation for Civil Society from three different sources – Mejah saw a program on ITV on Friday, the road fund suggested we seek funding for extra people to go to the Cameroon meeting and the Dutch embassy suggested we apply for funding for the caravan. Elaine looked at their website and emailed them and a person from the Foundation phoned her. It is a funding mechanism set up by bilateral donor governments to support civil society. There is a well defined procedure for applying for grants for projects, although we are too late to apply for the caravan or the travel to Cameroon as the applications take some time to process. We agreed to arrange to meet them in the next few weeks to discuss how we might cooperate in other projects.

Finances

Juma spent Tsh 800 on photocopying. Ally Saidi Mwishehe brought Tsh 14,000 to the meeting. It has been five weeks since he last brought money. He asked to be excused for two weeks due to his problems of his own guta and his phone being stolen and the members agreed to this. Therefore he is one week behind in payments. At the meeting we gave Tsh 10,000 to Mejah for phoning to follow up on the cycle caravan and we spent Tsh 3,000 on the photographs of last year's cycle caravan. Juma remains with Tsh 41,900 of UWABA money.

Juma Jongo requested an advance on his allowance and Juma Chibaya requested an advance on the rent for the office. We agreed to check our bank balance and how much of the balance is Wamba project money and therefore how much is left over for other needs before making a decision.

Other business

Alen who joined UWABA today and who is also a CHABADA member announced that on 5th October there would be a Dar es Salaam cycle race and on 19th there would be a national cycle race in Mwanza. He brought some photos of last year's cycle caravan which he had bought from the photographer and we decided to buy the photos from him for UWABA.

Paulo visited HUWATA during the week to update them on our work.

Elaine said she had talked to someone who had suggested that the design of the guta is top-heavy and it would be better to attach trailers to ordinary cycles. Other members said that ordinary bicycles would not be strong enough to carry the heavy loads as gutas are much stronger.