Cross-Party Group on Malawi

Tuesday 09 September 2026

Minutes

Present

MSPs

Liam McArthur MSP (LMcA)
David Barratt MSP
Monica Lennon MSP
Carol Mochan MSP
Jenni Minto MSP

Non-MSP Group Members

Prof Jeremy Bagg
Roger Bamkin (RB)
John Riches
Dr Christine Campbell (CC)
Patrick Grady
Anya Wortley
Asha Wright
Ariane Briggs
Moira Dunworth (MD)

Niamh Flanagan (aide to Liam McArthur MSP)
Stuart Brown, SMP
Chad Morse, SMP

ONLINE

Prof Heather Cubie (HC)
Susan Dalgety
Sarah Gibson, EMMS International
Phunziro Jawiri
Dr Charles Leyman Kachitsa
Prof Tracy Morse
Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness
Shakira Phiri Malawi
Emma Wood

Revia Bamusi, SMP
Dorothea Nelson, SMP

Apologies

Clare Haughey MSP
Murdo Fraser MSP
Dr Barry Klaassen

Welcome, apologies and minutes of last meeting

Liam McArthur MSP welcomed attendees, recognised MSPs in attendance and noted apologies where these had been given. The minutes of the previous CPG were proposed by Prof Jeremy Bagg and seconded by Stuart Brown.

Election of Convener, Vice Conveners and Secretary

- Liam McArthur MSP was re-elected as Convener. (P:Dr CC, S: MD)
- David Barratt MSP was elected as Vice-Convener. (P: LMcA, S: RB)
- Stuart Brown, CEO of the Scotland Malawi Partnership, was re-elected as Secretary. (P:LMcA, S: Prof HC) Liam thanked Stuart and the SMP team on behalf of the CPG, for the support they provide.

There were no objections to the slate being approved.

The Malawi CPG: Progress to Date and Priorities for the New Parliamentary Session

Liam McArthur MSP thanked his MSP colleagues who had been able to attend and was confident that further MSPs of five different parties would join in time of the registration deadline of 21 November 2026.

Stuart Brown then gave a short overview of the recent history of the Malawi CPG, one of the oldest in Parliament.

Attendees were encouraged to consider priority areas for the New Parliamentary Session and in no particular order the following were identified by the Group:

- Agriculture
- Climate Emergency (El Niño and La Niña) and its effect on Malawi
- Water
- Education
- Economic situation of Malawi
- Justice

AOB and Close

Thanks from Chair – Liam McArthur MSP

Liam McArthur MSP thanked all attendees and the Scotland Malawi Partnership.

After the meeting closed, in-person attendees had the opportunity for networking over Malawi gin and tonics or soft drink.

Minutes Approved:
Proposed by Prof Heather Cubie
Seconded by Patrick Grady.
03 November 2026