

## NARRATIVE REPORT ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIBRARY AT ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA BOARDING SECONDARY SCHOOL FUNDED BY BLICKWINKEL AFRICA OF GERMANY

This report covers a period from 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019

It was on 11 July 2016 when Bishop Martin Mtumbuka performed the ground breaking ceremony to introduce the start of the construction of St. Ignatius Boarding Secondary school. Immediately after the ground breaking ceremony the construction of St. Ignatius of Loyola Boarding Secondary school started with the funding from Umckaloabo and Nagu Thina and Johannes Beese.

On 11 May 2017 the project received 7<sup>th</sup> February 16,000 Euros from Blickwinkel Africa organization of Germany, for the construction of School library. The construction of the school library started immediately after the coming in of the funds. In order to avoid environmental degradation all buildings at St. Ignatius of Loyola are constructed in Stabilized Soil Bricks (SSB). Only the foundations of the buildings are built in Small pan bricks. The library is also constructed with the same materials.

### **CONSTRUCTION WORK**

The project started the work by clearing the site. All the layout of the building was done on the site following the drawings as planned. The necessary tools for working and the building materials were purchased and brought to the site. The excavation of one meter foundation was done by using hoes picks and shovels. The foundation was constructed using small pan bricks up to slab level. The 230 cm slab was constructed on top of the foundation walls. The superstructure is being constructed on top of the slab. The superstructure is being constructed using the Stabilized soil bricks (SSB) which are environmental friendly.

### **CHALLENGES**

The project has faced some of challenges such as:

1. Nthalire being an isolated place it is hard to find well qualified and experienced skilled workers locally. The project has to hire from far and many do not like to stay in Nthalire for this they demand more money for them to work in Nthalire.
2. The transportation of materials is always a big challenge in Nthalire. Many transporters do not like going to Nthalire because the road is very bad hence therefore all those who go to Nthalire are very expensive in their charges.
3. The poor road condition affects some of the items, they get damaged by the time they reach Nthalire. This gives more work to the project and it also affects the budget.
4. The project has been affected on its budget because of the rise of the planks. The planks which were budgeted on MK 4, 500 each, as we are doing the project they are costing MK 5,500.00.

Due to the above challenges the project Budget is being affected.

## WAY FORWARD

Knowing that the project is facing the above mentioned challenges more effort is being made to make sure that we go fast with the work so as to take less time. It is very encouraging that the project is going on very well because most of the building materials are now on the site and the builders are doing very good work.

In order to do the ceiling properly we would need MK2, 200,000 more. This is due to the cost of the plank because the ceiling demands a lot of timber. The cost of the ceiling itself is also much higher than when we made the Bills of quantities.

Our expectation is to complete the construction by the end of May 2019

## VOTE OF THANKS

On behalf of Rt. Rev. Martin Mtumbuka Bishop of the Diocese of Karonga and on behalf of the entire fraternity of Nthalire and St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish the project would like to express our sincere thanks for the financial assistance project has received from Blickwinkel Africa. This is making a very big contribution towards the establishment of this school. The ***school without a library would be like a person without brain***. This support cannot be taken for granted. It is a great support that will help provide quality education in Malawi through St. Ignatius Boarding Secondary School.

I sincerely thank Blickwinkel Africa for the untiring support because apart from the Library under construction the organization had already donated funds for the construction of the Headmaster's House in 2017 of the same school.

The project appreciates greatly Rt. Rev. Bishop Martin Mtumbuka for making a courageous decision to establish a Boarding Secondary School at Nthalire Rural Growth center and for his untiring support.

The project sincerely appreciate the great support received from the traditional leaders and the entire local community of Nthalire Rural Growth area.

## CONCLUSION

The school opened its doors on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and was officially opened on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The school now is accommodating 194 Students for forms One and Two.

Below are some of the pictures of the project.



Front of the library Building under construction



Rear side of the library building



Roo truses being constructed



The House that was built by yhe funds from Blickwinkel African 2017 occupied by the Headmaster of the school



Students who are the beneficiaries of the project

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