

Ngwerere Progress Report December 2010

Three communities in Lusaka were visited and Ngwerere was picked to be the suitable one for the borehole sinking. This is a periurban community with a population of over 7,000. As previously observed during the first meeting access to clean drinking water is a very big problem.

A prior meeting with the Community Development officer (Mrs Daka) led to a plan which would ensure a sense of ownership of the borehole by the community. A meeting was set up with this community to start preparations for the borehole. Upon arrival at the clinic where the meeting was being held we were welcomed by the community with songs. 72 community members had gathered, and about 7 of these were men. Present at the meeting were two Community Development Assistants for this area, namely Mrs Margaret Mbewe and Mr Isaac Chirwa.



Some of the 72 community members present at the meeting



Rabbecca addressing the meeting with community Development Assistants in the background.

The community was reminded of the previous meetings which had been held and were informed that they were the first community UNForgotten Zambia was going to assist with a borehole in Zambia. The Agenda of the meeting was;

1. Inform the community of the borehole drilling programme
2. Propose sites for the borehole
3. Select committee members to be in charge of the borehole.

After the community had been informed about the borehole they were very happy. They immediately suggested that the borehole be dug at the clinic since it was the central place and everyone could reach it though it would be far away for some people. The community also felt that since there was a water problem at the clinic when they had no power, the borehole could be of use to them when at the clinic. It would not be easily vandalized since there were always people, at this location. The community was requested to choose three other sites which could be visited by the contractor in the event that the clinic was not conducive for a borehole according to the contractor's assessment. The community selected three more areas prioritizing where the need was the most.

The second suggested site was Sewarage followed by Soweto and lastly Katuta. The actual locations would be concluded with visits with the contractor. This particular part of the Agenda was deliberated for a long time before the community members came up with above areas.



Community member deliberating over the area for the sites

After concluding on the sites the issue of *taking care of the* borehole came up. To do this it was agreed that a committee be set up. To ensure equal representation in the committee

the community members split up according to the areas they had come from and came up with a person from the 7 areas represented at the meeting. These were:

AREA	REPRESENTATIVE
1. Soweto	Mrs Bwalya
2. Jere	Lucia Daka
3. Maplot	Kaira
4. Magrade	Elizabeth Nyireti
5. Sewerage	Agness Phiri
6. Katobe	Mrs Catherine Mwanza
7. Powerline	Pretty Zulu

Two more men were added to ensure that there were pump handlers after the borehole had been sunk. Namely Mr Njamba and Mr Shibuluwa.



Elected committee members for managing the borehole

To ensure that the pump did not breakdown the community discussed how they would take care of it. They were ready to start contributing money on a monthly basis which could be banked and drawn when the need to fix the borehole came in. The other option is to charge the community members a nominal fee when drawing water which would then be used at a latter stage to fix the borehole.

The meeting was very fruitful and the community is looking forward to the continuation of the project. Towards the end of the meeting the community was served with some drinks and biscuits, especially that the meeting had taken some time



Community members after being served with a drink and snack

The meeting was closed and the elected committee members were advised that a leadership workshop would be conducted for them on dates to be advised.