

AMIC

ABERDEEN MOSQUE & ISLAMIC CENTRE

Bismillahi Rahmani Raheem

ABERDEEN MOSQUE AND ISLAMIC CENTRE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 2009 - JUNE 2010

Executive Committee

Omran Al-Mahtot - President
Momtazul Haque - Vice President / Treasurer
Abdulmoiz Muhammed - Education
Shahzad Shah - Dawah
Ibrahim Sani - Maintenance
Habeb Huq - Social
Yusuf ibn Abdulsalam - Secretary

Board of Trustees

Haider McKenna - Chairperson
Djamel Houhou - Vice Chairperson
Akhtar Rasul - Secretary
Shaik Nur-Al Amin
Y. Qureshi

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION / PRESIDENT’S REPORT	3
2.0	BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT	6
2.1	General management of Mosque	6
2.2	New Mosque Project	6
2.3	Interim Project	7
2.4	Update on legal case	7
3.0	TREASURY / VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT	8
4.0	GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT	12
4.1	Duties June 2009 - June 2010	12
4.2	Community Events	14
5.0	DAWAH SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT	15
5.1	Islamic Awareness Weekend (IAW)	15
5.2	Aberdeen Mosque Open Day	17
5.3	Future Dawah Activities and Action Plan	18
6.0	MAINTENANCE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT	20
7.0	EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT	21
7.1	Qu’ran & Hifz Classes	21
7.2	Library Project	23
7.3	Masjid Website	23
8.0	SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT	24
9.0	AL-NOOR SCHOOL REPORT 2010	26
	Appendix 1	34

1.0 INTRODUCTION / PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bismillahi Rahmani Raheem

Dear Elders / Brothers / Sisters / Youngsters / Guests,

Assalam Alaykum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,

All that we have achieved and what we've tried to achieve was entirely and solely due to the Mercy and Favour of Almighty Allah (SWT). We pray that what we did was for His sake only.

Alhamdulillah, a year has passed! The Executive Mosque Committee (EMC) was selected to service the Aberdeen Muslim Community for the term June 2009 to June 10. This EMC worked according to the 2000's constitution and numbers of activities have been conducted and run to the best of our ability. We had to make sure that more important activities will go smoothly and especially our children education. By the grace of Allah (SWT), we did our best to keep our beloved Masjid and community functioning affectively and in peaceful situation and United as ever. In summary these are the activities run last year:

- 1- Full Ramadan programmes.
- 2- Qu'ranic Classes.
- 3- Open Day / Islamic Awareness Weekend.
- 4- Mosque Maintenance.
- 5- Prison/School/Church/Scout Visits.
- 6- Youth/Children activities in association with Spital Youth Club.
- 7- Mosque School GCSE in Islam for Children and Adults.

In addition to the following regular ongoing activities and educational programmes:

- 1- Aberdeen Mosque School “Al Noor”.
- 2- Study Circles for Brothers, Sisters and Youth.
- 3- Prison Visits (Aberdeen & Peterhead).
- 4- Local Authorities cooperation (Council, Grampian Police, Social Work, Universities, etc).
- 5- Mosque Web Site & Newsletter.

We must offer our apologies for any shortcomings. We’ve had a very busy year and are highly appreciating the contribution of Brothers, Sisters, Youngsters and Elders. Special thanks go to the management of Al Noor Mosque School and its teachers. We must also pray for our elders who have been active in offering advices and giving feedback to us and many more individual brothers and sisters. Thanks also go to the Board of Trustees (BoT) and our honourable and respected Imam (Shaik Ibrahim Alwawi) who had been working very hard and his contributions are beyond our recognitions.

On the other hand, there are some tasks and activities that we failed to do:

- 1- Forming proper sub-committees especially youth and sister sub-committee,
- 2- Involving more youth in Mosque’s activities,
- 3- Making a real progress on New Mosque Project as it linked to the legal conflict by Ex BoT.

The reasons for these failures can be attributed to:

- 1- The nature of work in voluntary sector.
- 2- Lack of resources and lack of participation from members of the community,
- 3- The flux of events, and 4- the size and needs of the community.

EMC would like to put these recommendations for next committee:

- 1- Formation of sub-committees as early as possible and involve sisters and youth in these sub-committee.
- 2- To move the New Mosque Project (NMP) (long-term) forward and take all measurements to tackle any individuals or collective obstacles.
- 3- To speed up the Interim Project (Short-term) and continue to make significant progress with the main NMP (long-term).
- 4- Improve the way of communication with the community such as a quarterly community meetings, a regular newsletter in addition of the use of web site.
- 5- Proper and professional appointment of Mosque Administrator and obtaining fund for it from local authorities like AIM.
- 6- More work and cooperation with local authorities especially with Grampian Police.

Finally, we pray to Almighty Allah (SWT) to reward all of you in this life and in the hereafter. The out going EMC serviced the community for a year. We worked with full sincerity and for sake of Allah (SWT). As humans, we would have made mistakes and we ask for forgiveness and ask Allah (SWT) for His Mercy and Forgiveness. Whether we are in the EMC or not, we will continue to work with the community and encourage all brothers and sisters to be actively involved in each and every activity of our Mosque and Islamic centre. We pray to Allah (SWT) to keep us united and help us in the interim project and help us in building the new Mosque. Finally, we praise and thank Almighty Allah (SWT) who willed all to happen. We pray to Him (SWT) to accept all our humble effort, deeds and forgive us all for our

shortcomings. If we did anything right that is from Allah (SWT) alone, and if we did anything wrong that is from ourselves and from the Satan (may Allah curse him). We ask Almighty to forgive us all. Jazakum Allah Khaira.

2.0 BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

2.1 General management of Mosque

BoT would like to thank the Executive Committee for their hard work and time they have given in running the affairs of the Mosque to such a high standard. The community is always present to help when we require funds to achieve certain projects. The Mosque relies totally on donations from within the community and therefore we would like to thank all brothers and sisters who set up standing orders for the Mosque and executive committee can better manage the affairs. The Mosque has three accounts and each one is used for their specific function only. There are still some difficulties with the bank accounts as they were **frozen by Ex BoT**. However, each account is used for its functions only. The Mosque has only a few paid posts and the rest are voluntary, but besides that there are the normal outgoings of bills and up keep of the Mosque.

2.2 New Mosque Project

BoT is meeting with local authorities to discuss the movement of this project forward. The talks and discussions are going well and certain issues are being addressed. AMIC gave insurances to the local authorities that this is a community project which the Muslim community require to be resolved urgently as we are facing major problems at the present site. The local authorities and Mosque are very keen and willing to move this project on and required some information from the AMIC. AMIC provided the council with all the information that they requested in the meetings. The Project will be put forward to the Resources Management Committee in June 2010. As progress was being made it started suddenly to slow down again. We made enquires and found out that few brothers (some from ex BoT) have again approached the council and are trying hard to stop the Mosque from continuing the negotiation and move the project forward. Some of these brothers (May Allah guide them)

are no longer live in Aberdeen and are holding the Muslim community to ransom. AMIC will inform the community of local authorities decision by the end of June.

2.3 Interim Project

AMIC have been and are **actively** and **seriously** looking at suitable sites that would be suitable for our current/urgent needs as **short term** project. Meanwhile if there is no real progress with the project, due to the few brother's actions putting pressure on the local authorities then AMIC will move swiftly in obtaining an alternative site for the interim (**short-term**) project. However, The Mosque will continue to work with the local authority on New Mosque project despite all obstacles and NMP will stay as ever the **long term** project for the Muslim community and the Mosque will never compromise or gave up this project.

2.4 Update on legal case

The case has been on hold since November 2008. The last verdict was in favour of the Aberdeen Mosque and Islamic centre represented by the current BoT. In the last meeting with both parties with legal teams present to resolve this conflict by mediation, we the present BoT offered them a solution to resolve this case. The offer (Appendix 1) was that **EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THIS CONFLICT STEPS DOWN, and LET THE COMMUNITY SELECT NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO RUN THE AFFAIRS OF THE MOSQUE**". Although the Ex BoT (2 out of 5 members!) refused to participate, the offer still on the table. On behalf of all members of community, we would like to ask our brothers in the ex BoT to accept this proposal for Allah's sake, and let the Aberdeen Mosque and the community conduct its services and activities in peaceful manner to build a proper future for our children and future generation.

3.0 TREASURY / VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

I would like thank all brothers and sisters for your generous support to run Aberdeen Mosque and Islamic centre last year and would like to mention following points about the last year activities.

The centre had five accounts in three different banks. Out of which three accounts were frozen because of court case, one was dormant and no transaction was made in those accounts. Two accounts were used for all financial transactions. Balance of those accounts is as follows:

1. Lloyds TSB (principal account): 25,746.98 (31.5.2010)
2. Lloyds TSB (Save the Mosque): 10553.83 (31.5.2010)
3. BOS (Mosque commette frozen ac): 11889.50 (28.5.2010)
4. BOS (central Mosque frozen ac): 130,458.83 (15.5.2010)
5. BOS (Mosque property frozen ac): 939.41 (28.5.010)
6. RBS (Mosque commette dormant ac): 485.64 (28.5.2010)

With your generous help the committee was able to do some major refurbishment work last year namely change of all carpets in 164 and transformation of Mosque library. Some new books were purchased. Development of the library should continue.

A good amount of money was donated to a local charity which support disable and special need people. This support was much appreciated in the local media. However as usual the Mosque also supported different national and international Muslim charities. Especially a medical charity in Pakistan and support for Haiti people after disaster can be mentioned.

This year the committee faced a huge surge of demand for financial help from the local people especially who came here recently. The committee helped those people from the zakat and sadaqa money as much as possible. However it is necessary to mention that Mosque itself is a charity it is run only by peoples' donation. Mosque cannot support many people and organisations by jeopardizing its activities.

As you know utility costs have raised many folds in the recent past. Initiatives were taken to reduce gas and electricity costs by switching to a cheaper supplier and by paying the bills through direct debit.

A good amount of money was paid for the professional services. We would like to encourage Muslim professional especially accountant and solicitors to come forward and provide some services for the Mosque for free of charge or with minimum fees.

With the increase of community members the costs of the Mosque have increased considerably. It is important that we all keep supporting the Mosque by making generous donation and by helping to reduce the costs.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT, 2009-2010	
INCOME	
FRIDAY COLLECTION	28,005.00
DONATION BOX	5,079.00
OTHER DONATION	11,590.00
EID COLLECTION	5,074.25
RAMADAN COLLECTION	8,455.15
STANDING ORDER	11,428.00
TOTAL INCOME	69,631.40

EXPENSES	
DAWAH	2,624.00
DONATION MADE TO OTHER CHARITIES	2,515.00
EDUCATION	1,295.49
INSURANCE	926.10
REFURB & REPAIR	9,995.36
PROFESSIONALS' FEES	5,704.93
LOAN REPAYMENT	1,000.00
RAMADAN (expenses for Hafizs)	2,127.57
UTILITIES	5,211.93
SOCIAL	4,845.55
STATIONARY	48.00
SALARY- Imam	6,600.00
SALARY- Caretaker	1,800.00
SALARY- Administrator	1,300.00
SALARY- Cleaner	3,000.00
RENT-Imam accommodation	8,100.00
BANK CHARGES	218.13
TOTAL EXPENSES	57,312.06
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	12,319.34

ZAKAT /SADAQA MONEY COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION	
INCOME	4,483.00
EXPENSES	
GAZA APPEAL	400.00
ONE SERIOUSLY ILL BROTHER	1,500.00
LOCAL NEW MUSLIM	950.00
THREE LOCAL BROTHERS IN NEED	850.00
FOREIGN STUDENTS IN NEED	550.00
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CHARITY IN PAKISTAN (MONEY WAS RAISED LAST YEAR)	3,500.00
TOTAL	7,750.00
SURPLUS	233.00

ZAKAT UL FITR MONEY COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION	
INCOME	3,750.00
EXPENSES	
SUDAN	500.00
ERITREA	500.00
MAJIDA TRUST	500.00
DARU ULOOM HANST (INDIA)	500.00
INTERPAL	550.00
ISLAMIC RELIEF	700.00
BANGLADESH	500.00
TOTAL	3,750.00
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-

4.0 GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT

The work which was carried out during the period of June 2009 - June 2010 was performed with the help of Almighty Allah. Alhamdulillah there were a lot of people who actively participated in helping make the work smooth and easy. Jazakallah khair for your support and advice.

4.1 Duties June 2009 - June 2010

The following is a list of duties carried out by myself and my team during the last year:

4.1.1 *Committee Meetings*

Regular Committee meetings were held every month to discuss relevant issues pertaining to the Mosque and its activities.

4.1.2 *Imam Assistance*

Most of the work included assisting the Imam with preparation of letters, answering queries and other miscellaneous activities.

4.1.3 *Community Liaison*

Throughout the year there were several correspondences with the community. Letters and emails were attended to and answered accordingly. Also, several issues were dealt with in the immediate neighbourhood of the Mosque which included answering complaints regarding parking and unruly behaviour outside the Mosque's premises.

We ask anyone to please not use the Mosque's address for their personal correspondence as we are receiving a lot of mail. Another important issue to note is that anyone wishing to invite the Police, Fire department or any other authorities to the Mosque should do so through the Mosque Committee.

The Mosque's telephone has been removed from the main hall for a more professional and effective answering system and communication with the community.

4.1.4 Prayer Timetables

The timetables were carefully prepared and regularly uploaded onto the Mosque's website.

4.1.5 Preparation of Forms

The following forms were prepared for the following activities:

- Qu'ran Competition (Registration and Assessment forms)
- Janaza procedure (forms explaining the steps to take in the event of a death of a Muslim)
- Marriage Certificate
- Divorce Certificate
- New Muslim certificate
- Zakat Eligibility Form

4.1.6 New Projects

- *Video Recording of Friday Khutba and other Islamic Talks:* The Khutba is now being recorded and uploaded via the Mosque's website every Friday for the benefit of those who cannot make it to the prayer.
- *New Muslim Project:* My team helped to prepare a CD to go along with "My Prayer Book", which also included other essential audio and video material to help new Muslims on their way in learning Islam, has been made and soon to be distributed.

4.1.7 New Mosque Logo

My team had successfully designed a suitable logo for the Aberdeen Mosque which is now being used in all the communication.

4.2 Community Events

4.2.1 Ramadan 2009

- **Ramadan timetable:** The duties which fell within the remit were to prepare with the preparation, distribution and uploading onto the Mosque’s website of the timetable for 2009 Ramadan. This was done successfully as timetables were always readily available for everyone at the Mosque.
- **Charity contribution:** during the month of Ramadan a generous amount of £10,000 was collected from the community for the Aberdeen Mosque and a local charity “Archway” also received the sum of £2,000 from the members of Aberdeen Muslim community.
- **Standing Order Forms:** the forms were prepared and distributed during the Eid el-Fitr prayer.
- **External Charities:** correspondence was carried out with UK registered charities to come and make appeals in the Mosque days during the Ramadan period.

4.2.2 Eid ul-Adha 2009

- An Eid Newsletter was prepared in time for the Eid event.
- The Eid Khutba was also recorded by video and uploaded onto the Mosque’s website for the benefit of those who could not make it to the event.

4.2.3 Islam Awareness Weekend 2009

The Islamic Awareness Weekend occurred during the weekend of October 3rd and 4th of 2009. The preparation for this event included:

- locating and booking a suitable event (Sunnybank School)
- ordering of relevant books and materials for the event
- sending out invitation letters to all the local councils and VIPs
- assistance with preparation of the flyers and their distribution

5.0 DAWAH SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

5.1 Islamic Awareness Weekend (IAW)

The Aberdeen Mosque Open Day was held on the 3rd and 4th of October 2009 as part of Dawah activities on behalf of Islamic community.

5.1.1 Aim of the event:

The aim of the event was to educate the Aberdeen community on the different aspects and principles of the faith. It aimed to open up to the community and share our way of life, belief and practices.

5.1.2 Event Summary

The event consisted of poster exhibition, Video Screening Area, Virtual Tour Station, Reading Area, Talks Sessions, Mosque Tours and Catering. This was also an opportunity for non Muslims to witness prayers, Q&A with Imam and poster facilitators, free Dawah material on various Islamic topics/issues and multicultural food.

The committee targeted to invite all the councillors. Invitation was also sent to various community centres Greg etc. Posters of the event were displayed on all the shops belonging to Muslim community, different libraries in Aberdeen and Aberdeen city council website. Many leaflets were distributed.

The event was organized with a view of tight control over the budget without compromising on the quality. Preparation and managing the event, as always, was a challenge but Alhamdulillah the event was successfully held and had a healthy turn out. It is estimated that little more than 50 people attended the event.

5.1.3 Event Review

The performance of the open day team was praiseworthy. The event was followed by a review/lessons learnt meeting with aim to review the event, feed back from the event team and highlight areas that require further improvements.

The event took a different approach to the previous Open Day in the sense that the visitors had freedom to walk around freely and ask questions later after they have digested the material. That proved to work better as the visitors felt free and asked questions as they pleased.

The venue for IAW was more professional in its capacity but only around 50 people were able to attend the event. The reason for the low turnout was attributable to the weekend coinciding with the Aberdeen International Food Fair Festival and the event's location not being at a suitable busy walking route.

Alhamdulillah the quality of the event was excellent and the people who attended appeared to be genuinely interested in Islam. By the Grace of Allah (SWT), out of the people who attended the event, four reverted to Islam and others had serious considerations, while the rest went away with a positive impression and more knowledge on the faith.

5.2 Aberdeen Mosque Open Day

The Aberdeen Mosque Open Day was held on the 8th and 9th of April 2010 as part of Dawah activities on behalf of Islamic community.

5.2.1 Aim of the event

The aim of the event was to educate the Aberdeen community on the different aspects and principles of the faith. It aimed to open up to the community and share our way of life, belief and practices.

5.2.2 Event Summary

The event consisted of poster exhibition, opportunity for non Muslims to witness prayers, Q&A with Imam and poster facilitators, free Dawah material on various Islamic topics/issues and multicultural food. The committee targeted to invite all the councillors. Invitation was also sent to various community centres Greg etc. Posters of the event were displayed on all the shops belonging to Muslim community, different libraries in Aberdeen and Aberdeen city council website. Around 3000 leaflets were distributed. The event was organized with a view of tight control over the budget without compromising on the quality. Preparation and managing the event, as always, was a challenge but Alhamdulillah the event was successfully held and had a healthy turn out. It is estimated that around 300 people attended the event.

5.2.3 Event Review

The performance of the open day team was praiseworthy. The event was followed by a review/lessons learnt meeting held on 16th of May 2010 with aim to review the event, feed back from the event team and highlight areas that require further improvements. It was observed the Non Muslims community takes more interest in Mosque Open Day than Islam Awareness Weekend. Alhamdulillah around one hundred and fifty (150) people attended the event over the two day period.

5.3 Future Dawah Activities and Action Plan

The committee is currently reviewing the scope of the event and discussions are ongoing to merge the two events into one due to the reason mentioned above. Furthermore, Imam Ibrahim is of the view that more efforts are required to increase the number of Dawah activities. It is for this reason that the Dawah committee has the intentions to organize the following events in the future:

5.3.1 *School visits to Aberdeen Mosque*

This is an Islamic awareness event for school children by showing them a tour of the Mosque.

5.3.2 *Dawah Material for the Schools*

Also the committee is aiming to prepare Dawah material and other useful literature for the schools.

5.3.3 *Permanent poster Exhibition Facility in the Mosque & Regular Mosque tours for adults*

This is required for visitors visiting the Mosque or the Imam from time to time. The poster needs to be very focused with emphasis on the fundamentals. The Mosque requires “Minbar”, “Qibla”, for such Mosque tours. Such visits should at least cover “Qu’ran”, role of Mosque in Islam history of Mosque, statistics, how many Muslims pray here.

5.3.4 *Leaflets distribution on weekend in the city Centre*

Leaflets distribution on weekend in the city Centre: Dawah committee is currently assessing whether this can be arranged on a regular basis.

5.3.5 *Prison Visits*

There has been good progress in organising and coordinating prison (Peterhead & Torry) visits. These visits are including education of Muslim inmates and organising social and religious celebration whenever is possible. Very few brothers are working on this task with Our Imam and this is one of the areas that need to be managed more properly and need more commitment from the community. Regular tours are required by committee accompanying Imam.

5.3.6 *New Muslim Project*

The issue of completely integrating new Muslims into our community is being overlooked for a long time and keeping the importance of the matter in view requires immediate actions. Currently there is no comprehensive program in place to deal with new Muslims religious education and other issues.

Dawah committee is currently working on ‘new Muslim bag’ to be given to every new Muslim brother and sister as a starter kit. The committee plans to put in place the following:

- Education program covering fundamentals of believe, Prayers, Fasting, Zakat, day to day Fiqh issues etc.
- Social activities to be organised from time to time in the form or meetings and discussion. Discussing problems faced by reverts and coming up with actions to resolve these.
- Buddy system i.e. assigning one Muslim for one or more new Muslims.

6.0 MAINTENANCE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

First of all, we would like thank all brothers and sisters who helped us in maintaining our Mosque in very good conditions and may Allah reward them for their contribution. By the Grace of Allah (SWT) we tried our best and what we have we achieved are listed below:

- Day to day maintenance of the Mosque; cleaning and collection of rubbish
- Provision of cleaning materials and equipment when required
- Replacement of the Mosque carpet
- Repairs on ad-hoc basis
- Removal of unwanted items in the main hall
- Worked with the members of the committee to deal with emergencies regarding the Mosque.
- Inspection and replacement of the roofing tiles in the 164

There are other tasks are still outstanding and we highly recommending the new Mosque committee to work on them:

- The refurbishment of the Wudhu area (quote received from Wudhu Mate still awaits an accurate specifications).
- Revamp of the main hall entrance to increase size (Consultation made with some members of the community, quote received but another good idea was proposed by some brothers and a decision to be made and implementation of new idea. .
- Provision of drinking water system in the Mosque. (Inspection made, quote received to be decided).
- Setting up direct debit for the Mosque cleaning materials supplies.
- Modification of the Mosque telephone system.

We do ask our respected community for our shortcomings and pray for us too.

7.0 EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

7.1 Qu'ran & Hifz Classes

Qur'an Hifz class for children takes place every Friday evening (6-8pm) over most part the year. The hifz classes are for children between the ages 6-14yrs to memorise the Qur'an properly with Tajweed. The class is currently divided into 2 main groups, Reading and Hifz in a segregated environment. Students in the reading group get lessons (from Qaida nuraniya) on how to read the arabic alphabets fluently as well as joining them into words, phrases and sentences while the hifz group get lessons on memorising the Qu'ran. Each group is divided into several levels to ensure that students are getting consistent lessons, effort is made to have lowest number of students in a group so that students can get individual attention. Suitable materials for the classes are also supplied free of charge with a prize and report certificate is given at the end of each session. Students are also scheduled to attend moral education classes biweekly so that they can learn Islamic morals & values as well.

The 2009/2010 session started on 23rd October 2009 after 2weeks of registration and is scheduled to end on 25th June 2010 after exams on 11/18th June 2010. The number of registered students is about 130 (75 males, 60 females) mainly between ages 5-14yrs. The students are divided into 8 levels (2 reading levels and 6 hifz levels) each for the separate male/ female classes. The classes are given by about 18 volunteer teachers (9 males & 9 females) who were assessed and found competent by Imam Ibrahim Alwawi.

7.1.1 *Suggested Improvements to the programme*

1. Electronic documentation of students' attendance

2. Dedicated email for Hifz administrator; password should be passed from one admin to the other
3. Communication by email with Teachers and Parents of students to reduce admin costs

7.1.2 Issues encountered

1. Continuous registration throughout the session
2. Lack of commitment by some volunteer teachers
3. Weather issues
4. Absence of Teachers / Students without prior information
5. Salah Jamaa time sometimes encroaches into the programme e.g. Asr Jamaa is 6/6.15pm in the summer
6. Registered students abandoning the programme without notice
7. Teaching methods are not uniform across all levels esp. when staff are absent
8. Student/ Staff ratio is sometimes unmanageable esp. when staff are absent
9. Paper copies of students' weekly evaluation was dumped initially but most teachers are not ready to spend time outside the classes for electronic documentation of their students' performance
10. Electronic documentation of activities (registration/ attendance) takes too much time outwith the programme scheduled times

7.1.3 Recommendations for the next session

1. Strict registration times must be observed
2. Age limits must be adhered to; most children below 5yrs are not easy to manage
3. More committed teachers need to be recruited to ensure the student/ teacher ratio is kept to a manageable size (<=10/ teacher)

4. Paper evaluation sheets for each student should be maintained but should be kept with the Admin team each week. Replacements can continue with the learning during Teacher's absence
5. Staff training/ meetings at regular intervals
6. In the long term, there is a need to develop the programme into a proper school where fees are charged and teachers are paid no matter how small. This should make the teachers and students more committed as free things are not valued by most!!!

7.2 Library Project

1. New Glass cabinets built
2. Dedicated Laptop for Library
3. New Islamic books in English are to be bought in the near future
4. Books to cover various topics for Children, Adults, Elderly for Men & Women
5. Books to be indexed and catalogued and managed via computer package in due course
6. It is proposed to Install a new overhead LCD projector in the library to make the library a multimedia centre as well

7.3 Masjid Website

1. New Website project is underway
2. Test Website to be launched soon to consult brothers about the way forward

8.0 SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

During 2009-10 period social committee involved in different social activities and good thing about the tenure period we haven't used single penny of the Mosque funds to pay for the activities which is done during the period 2009-10.

The main social activities during this period were:

- 1- Ramadan Program (Iftar, Taraweeh and Hafiz).
- 2- Eid Day celebration (Children celebration, Prizes giving, refreshments)
- 3- Arafat Day (Food/Drinks).
- 4- Organising Aqiqas.
- 5- Pizza weekly talk (in cooperation with Spital youth Club).

Ramadan was the biggest activity in which social committee involved. Initially the amount to for sponsor the iftar for one day was set by previous committee and it was agreed with a local restaurant (Lahore Karahi) to provide Food, Milk, Fruits, Dates, Drinks & Cutlery - for providing complete things. We called for sponsorship and all bookings were filled within a few days. We managed to successfully obtain the required amount of Nine Thousand Pounds (£9,000.00) for the event.

Immediately after Ramadan month was over, Lahore Karahi was paid Eight Thousand and Seven Hundred Pounds (£8700) and the remaining amount of Three Hundred Pounds (£300) was spent on Eid day and the two hafiz who come from England for the Tarawih.

The food/drinks for Arafat day cost around Five Hundred Pounds £500 and one brother had sponsored the same amount. In summary we used our "2008-09 maintenance" tactics i.e. getting sponsors for the activities rather than taking

money from the Mosque's budget and the group achieved the same for 2009-10 social activities whereby no money was used from the Mosque's pot/fund/budgets.

9.0 AL-NOOR SCHOOL REPORT 2010

9.1 Introduction: Brief History Of Al-Noor School

Al-Noor ‘The Light’ - Aberdeen Mosque School was established in 1984 and run by a management committee consisting of Head teacher (Sis Farida Amin), an administrative team (Sis Nur Mahmudah and Tamema Choudhury) and teaching staff. The school aim is to provide Islamic education to the children. The school run during weekends from 10:20 - 13:45. The fee is £10 per month (plus £20 registration fee). Despite all obstacles and limited resources It can be said that the School, with the grace of Allah SWT; is running well and hopefully it will continue to progress Insha Allah. The school session starts in August and ends in June every year and the admission of children to the school is age based starting from level 1 for 5 years old.

9.2 Study Materials and School Activities

Basic text and references that are used regularly in the classes are provided to the students without any charges. These include: Hadith booklets, Du’a sheets, Guide to Wudhu & prayer, Basic booklet to Qur’an reading, and any other worksheets that the teachers deem necessary to use for their students. photocopying service. The school also provides other facilities to accommodate and encourage interesting teaching methods (Islamic videos, fun times stories, art and crafts games, quizzes and competitions). There are also gifts and award certificates as appreciation and reward to outstanding and hardworking pupils/students.

9.3 Income and expenses

The school relies heavily on the payment of school fees from the parents (Admission fees of £45.00, registration fees of £20 and monthly payment of £10). It is very difficult to generate regular income as some parents who do not pay the fees on time. After discussion with Mosque committee the school get fund from direct debit sponsor. In addition the school will have a fundraising event in June insha Allah. The bank balance on the 31st May is £742.00. The following table provides the income and the expenses of session 2009/2010 (August 2009- May 2010)

Income (August 2009- May 2010)			
No	Months	Source	Amount
1	Balance of last session	Fee	£471.05
2	August to May collection	Fee	£15,365.55
3		Other income	
4		Book sale	£282.45
5		Tuck shop money	£150.00
	Total Income =		£16,269.05
Expenses (August 2009- May 2010)			
No	Months	Expenses for	Amount
1	August '09 - May '10	Teachers allowances	£14,712.00
2		books	£379.60
3		Qur'an	£150.00
4		Stationeries	£60.49
5		Papers	£80.00
6		Ink Cartridge	£141.96
	Total Expenses =		£15527.05
	Balance		£742.00

9.4 Teaching Staff and Progression of school

There are 17 teachers plus 4 class assistants and are in charge of 14 classes which are located at the main Mosque and next door houses. The total number of pupils/students is 147. The school is very fortunate to be assisted by dedicated and committed teachers. Their sincere and hard work is reflected annually with positive overall progress of the students' performance. Almost all classes completed their prescribed syllabus and the progress levels of the classes are expected to be high.

The school as usual take part in most of Mosque activities such as; Ramadan Programme, Poster Competition, Class Projects, Eid Party, and Open Day Project.

9.4.1 Students' Overall Progress

Students' overall progress for 2009/10 Session is still being processes and the format it is being carried out is by assessing each individual student via oral and written tests. The teachers are responsible to note each student's performance through out the year (such as regularity in attendance, punctuality, behaviour etc.) as well as their performance during the end of the year tests. The overall progress was 86% (Excellent).

9.4.2 Teachers' Performance

The school is indebted its success to the teachers' deep commitment to the school. This is further reflected in the assessment on the teachers' performance which is carried out annually. This evaluation covers the issues on the standard of teaching, students' assessment and report as well as records of students' work. Al Noor has also considered enhancing the teachers' continuous development process. In order to fulfil this noble objective, a more effective method of communications is stressed and a few meetings are carried out.

9.4.3 Evaluation of the school: Monitoring the school overall performance

By May 2010 the school progress has improved rapidly in areas of; resources, training and assessments and fairly okay in areas such as; the accommodation, security system and in physical maintenance of the buildings.

9.5 Supports from the Mosque Committee

Alhamdulillah, we thank the Mosque committee for their highly appreciated support and last year there are many agreed works completed (Facilities with shelves in the school office, New locks in the cupboards, Facility given to use house 170 for the school, Clearing out all unnecessary and unsafe items from the houses 166 and 168, and new printer and a projector bought, Mosque Committee had arranged an intensive teachers' Training session the School Teachers and the support financially for the accommodation of GCSE Islam Course. However there some other tasks need to be completed and hopefully the new Mosque committee will take them on board (provide a Laptop for the school, provide keys for the back doors of the school buildings, repair all bits and pieces of school buildings, continue with financial help for GCSE Islam Course, provide the facility to create a webpage for the school, and provide internet facility for the school.

9.6 GCSE ISLAM COURSE

In session 2007/2008 Al-Noor school had started an extended study programme for the students who are over 14 years old. The reference to GCSE Islam was made due to the absence of similar qualifications offered in Scotland. The GCSE Islam Course was run based on the syllabus issued and monitored by Edexcel (An awarding body offering academic and vocational qualifications and testing to schools, colleges and employers).

Because there is no examination centre in the North East of Scotland where students can sit their exam we had to try many places and finally special arrangement finally was successfully agreed with Aberdeen College to enable the first batch of students to sit for their internally assessed GCSE Islam examination and we are highly appreciating the effort of Sis Ruqaiyyah Maqsood (the pioneer and the examiner of this GCSE Islam course).

9.6.1 GCSE Progress Report

Due to shortage of manpower, there was no intake or classes being held for 2008/09 session. For year 2009/10 Session, the course has commenced October 2009 with 20 students. *Classes held and completed for 2009/2010 Session and the school managed to conduct the classes with the commitment of 6 dedicated tutors. The covered topics are included (Beliefs & Values, Community & Tradition, Worship & Celebration, Living the Muslim Life).* Students had to do 4 separate tests conducted upon completion of each section of this module and one Mock Test was carried out culminating all topics and sections completed at the end of the session. The students were supported with discussion sessions after each lesson and they were also further provided with revision time prior to each test. Students' performance is reflected in the results of the written tests. Though the basis of their achievements is not solely based from the lessons conducted, it may provide a general perspective on the quality and ability of the students. A general observation by the tutors linked with the expectation of the course specification laid down by Edexcel, the course would be recommended for candidates who are over 16.

The overall performance of students did not exceed 65%:

The low overall performance may be explained by the considerable level of ability and competencies exist amongst the students and lack of skill of the answering techniques. The students are to sit for the national examinations in 2011.

9.7 Income & Expenses

The following tables will provide the income and the expenses of session 2009/2010

Income (September 2009- May 2010)			
No	Description	Source	Amount
	August to May collection	Fees	£ 2850.00
	Total Income =		£2850.00
Expenses (September 2009 - May 2010)			
No	Months	Expenses for	Amount
1	August '09 - May '10	Tutors' allowances for delivering the 3-hourly lessons + preparation of the comprehensive notes/handouts	£1705.00
2		Books	£300.00
3		Printing	£330.00
	Total Expenses =		£2335.00
	Balance (reserved for payments to Examination Centre and upcoming expenses)		£ 515.00

The School once again express deepest appreciation on the support provided by AMIC Executive Committee Members in approving the funding; without which the course would not be possible to be carried out. However there are some problem, challenges and *obstacles* facing us running this important course and can be summarised as; finding/hiring venues, short-long term financial support, permanent examination centre

9.8 Al-Noor School website / webpage

Al Noor school Management Committee has designed an web site for the school, the web site is under construction and will be published very soon insha Allah. It will part of Aberdeen Mosque web site.

8.0 PROBLEMS & OBSTACLES

8.1 The reality: Problems: Every organization faces some problems and obstacles and the same is faced by Al-Noor that faces the following problems of the school:

- ❖ Internal problems: these are summarised as; Students irregular attendance, lateness, one-day only attendance.
- ❖ External problems: Due to the fact that these houses are not the most suitable place to run a school at especially when you have well over 100 children. Many items need to be maintained and repaired regularly which would cost more money each year (Toilets. Toilet door & keys, Parking in front of the school, Back doors of the houses, emergency exit of houses, fire extinguisher for the houses).

9.9 Steps forward for solutions

The school has arranged two helpers to help to clean the school buildings before/after school day. The school would like to request the Mosque Committee to give them permission to do minor repairs such as toilets locks, cupboard locks, door handles and any emergency repairs etc.

9.10 Conclusion

The School is part of AMIC and will stay the same for ever and by the Will of Allah (SWT) then the help oh Mosque Committee and the commitment of the community the School would flourish and improve and progress well each year. Our children are our future generation . Through Mosque and Mosque school they will learn the Deen and the best Islamic education and the importance of praying in Jama'ah. This is the place to learn the practical Islam and since its establishment; Al Noor Mosque School was, is and will be in the Mosque Insha Allah.

Appendix 1

The outline of the Mosque’s proposal is as follows:

- An equal number of people involved in the dispute from both sides to step down from any management positions. These people will not be nominated for any election for a period of 4 years. The community will then select a new Board of Trustees. The 2000 constitution remain the governing document. The mechanics of this same proposal would be:
- All members of the ex BoT group involved in the current dispute are to step down and not be nominated for any election for a period of 4 years.
- These will include: All ex-Board of Trustees members, All ex-New Mosque Project Sub committee members, All Board of Trustees members of the newly created Charity Number SC038010
- The ex Board of Trustees to nominate an equal number of the Aberdeen Mosque’s representatives to step down and not to be nominated for election for a period of 4 years.
- The Executive Mosque Committee will call for an election of the new Board of Trustees during an Extraordinary General Meeting, as per the 2000 constitution guidelines.
- This proposal has to be approved and endorsed by the members of the charity/community. Upon acceptance of this proposal from the ex Board of Trustees, Aberdeen Mosque will call for an Extraordinary General Meeting with the members of the charity/community to run this proposal by them.