**Zambia Issues**

**The original project concerned Kafue, which on the one hand is a town in southern Zambia but for the purposes of the project is a boarding school and rural health clinic outside the town.**

**A considerable amount has been achieved over the years in the Kafue project and the clinic is certainly transformed from what I saw in 2007. The small group of trustees, who oversaw fundraising fro a mixture of churches and the Zambian community, had decided that we were moving towards winding up the charity. However the recent news from Louis Nawa and others has suggested that the drought, which is particularly acute in southern Zambia, is causing many complex difficulties including not only water but also power generation. I am checking on some of these details with some friends who travelled in Zambia last summer and who know the area well. I saw them recently and they mentioned the severity of the drought in the far north of Zimbabwe, but they didn’t mention the southern area along the Zambesi.**

**In terms of a response, it is true that Endcliffe and SAPL were major contributors to Kafue and there will be those from Endcliffe who may well feel a strong link with the country. That may well be true in SAPL too. Rodney understands that churches move on to other partnerships but notwithstanding that, since the suggestions for support are fairly specific –i.e. the machine for making briquettes – that we might do something to make a contribution to that and then manage it as a ‘watching brief’. I am also contacting my friends who have recent experience (and are planning two visits this year) to see what part they might play. They lived and worked in southern Africa for many years and Lindsay’s son (who is a GP in Chesterfield) is committed to spending a part of the year supporting rural health in the area. I realise that it is hard when there are so many competing needs in the world, and particularly in Africa. Perhaps because of my visit, albeit 13 years ago, I feel a strong personal connection to Zambia.**