

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING AT HIGHFIELD HOUSE ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

1. Attendance and apologies

Present: RKC (President), RB, HG, AF, JH, TP, RP, AS, ST Also present: Ian Johnson for Item 6 f)

Apologies: DB, MW, RY

2. Minutes of the meeting of 26 August 2009

These minutes were agreed. Rotn Caroline Lees was congratulated on the quality of the minutes, produced in the absence of the Assistant Secretary.

Measures were agreed to expedite the production of Council Minutes, so that they could be sent to Club Members in advance of the monthly business meeting.

3. Matters arising not otherwise covered in the agenda

a) Mini-Group Exchange: two nominees needed for next year: matter is on agenda of next International Service Committee meeting. **ACTION: ISC**

b) Tie design: competition for design is in hand. **ACTION: SECRETARY**

4. President's business

a) "Canterbury: coping with the Recession?" (Conference at Salvation Army HQ on 21 November 2009): 30 local organizations dealing with clients with a range of difficulties arising from the current recession have been invited to this Conference, which has the backing of Canterbury Council Services and will be opened by the Lord Mayor. Council endorsed the holding of the Conference under Rotary auspices.

ACTION: PRESIDENT

b) Interact: Council welcomed efforts to form an Interact at Canterbury High School and the offer of PP Philip Abbott to take matters further. The opportunities and limitations of the Millennium Fund should be made clear to students, in connection with their wish to support the building of a school in Kenya.

ACTION: PRESIDENT & PA

5. Financial Report

a) Accounts: at 1 September £7,547 in General Account; £8,608 in Charitable Account; £4,892 in Events Account. After audit by the Examiner, Club accounts to 30 June 2009 can be presented to the Club at a business meeting in November. **ACTION: TREASURER**

b) Overdue subscriptions report: All overdue subscriptions have now been paid.

6) Committee Reports

a) Club Service Report: September report not yet available

b) Community Service Committee: Report noted

Porchlight: Committee donated £500 to Porchlight for first of 16 computers. Publicity has been given to this action, so as to stimulate Rotary Clubs and others into contributing to the purchase of computers.

Kent Air Ambulance: Their collection at Canterbury Sainsburys (booked in January) for which Canterbury Rotarians had joined the Rota, was cancelled by Sainsburys, owing to double booking. Bookings need to be confirmed around two weeks before the event.

c) International Service Committee: Report noted

In relation to the item showing that a Shelterbox had been funded for use in the Philippines or Taiwan in August, Council agreed on the urgent need for Shelterbox provision in relation to current disasters in Sumatra and Western Samoa. **ACTION: ISC**

d) Fundraising Committee

New fundraising event: "Top Choir Kent" going forward, with Final at Shirley Hall on 27 March 2009. Radio Kent is the media partner, with CrimeFighter Alarms as the sponsor. Council welcomed this new project. **ACTION FRC**

£1,250 still owing on business ducks - ST will take action.

Council agreed that ST should as usual organize Rotary rota for selling poppies up to 11 November.

e) Public Relations Committee: has not met in September

f) Vocational Service Committee: Report noted

Life Education Centre:

IJ introduced this subject. Canterbury Rotary LEC (mobile classroom) is currently stored in Brett Barn, from which it will sooner or later have to be moved. VSC, in conjunction with other Rotary partners in Kent, considers that the LEC operation should be started afresh and become operational within 18 months. A prerequisite would be that the salary of the teacher should be taken over by KCC, with the operation working on business lines. If this is forthcoming, a £22,000 injection would be needed and at least four Rotarians from different Clubs should support the operation. Manhandling the vehicle could be done under contract.

Council agreed on the value for society of this project and requested the VSC to take matters forward, provided that satisfaction could be obtained from KCC. In this connection the package should be presented directly to Sarah Hohler, Chair of Schools for the KCC. The Canterbury Cluster Group of Clubs should be invited to play a full part. **ACTION VSC**

RKC invited IJ to take over his position on the overall Kent LEC Committee.

English Speaking Union request re Schools Public Speaking Competition:

IJ introduced this subject. ESU has venue on 3 February 2010 at the Canterbury Guildhall (provided by the Lord Mayor) for a competition, but is finding difficulty in getting schools to participate, with deadline of end September for participants. On the other hand Rotary runs a successful schools public speaking event at District level. Council agreed to Committee action in support of the project, bearing in mind time restraints in seeking more participants for the current event and the need to investigate similar activities with Rotary Clubs in District 1120. **ACTION: VSC**

7. **Secretary's Report**

Excused attendance: IW for 6 months; PH till end January; PA till 26 November; TA till 19 November; LS 20/27 October, 3- 17 November; MT 13 October – 1 December.

Low attenders: list of low attenders in July and August passed to President.

Resignation: Rotn David Lamper has resigned, due to pressure of work.

District Simplified Grants: Particularly CSC should look at possibility of getting grant of £500 for a local project.

House of Lords visit: number participating now over 60; more could be accepted.

8. **AOB**

Toys for vaccinated children: Council agreed to a small allocation from the weekly raffle money for buying cheap toys for children, for distribution by those going on the next Rotary visit to India for the Polio Plus campaign (SD and Evelyne, CL).

9. **Next meeting**

Wednesday 28 October 2009 at Highfield House