

Rotary Club of Canterbury Minutes of the Community Service Committee 7 February 2017

Attendance: PPs David Barton (Chairman), Sidney Denham, John Hill, Rotarians Marjorie Lyle, David Lewis, Deborah Connolly, Gill Dixon, Andrew Barchi, Bob Anderson, Charles Evans, Colin McKone & Rosemary Morton

Apologies: Jo Nolan and Brian Wheeler

1. **Minutes.** The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2017 were agreed.
2. **Charitable Funds Available:** £3,684.50
3. **Kent Association for the Blind (KAB).** ML reported that she had been in contact with KAB and could confirm that the items requested were for use by the Canterbury Branch. The cost of the three items would be £327 and the Committee agreed to meet this cost. ML further stated that this would be her last action for the Committee – see paragraph 15 below.
4. **Parkinsons UK – Canterbury Branch.** A request had been received from the Canterbury Branch for assistance with the funding of additional physiotherapy/hydrotherapy for those sufferers who had exhausted their official hospital entitlement (6 weeks). CM proposed that we should donate £500 and this was agreed.
5. **Kids Out** GD confirmed the date for the winter outing as 22 February and stated that she would be assisted on the day by SD & CE. The opportunity to assess the children's suitability for the summer day out at Wingham Wild Life Park would be taken on 22 February.
6. **RYLA** JH confirmed that he, DC and DB would be interviewing two candidates on 14 March with a view to their attendance at the October RYLA event.
7. **Canterbury Home Start (CHS).** AB updated the Committee as follows:
 - 7.1 Informal discussion with District 1120 indicated that our request for a matching grant was likely to be favourably received and that JN was now fully versed in the procedures involved. The application forms (signed by the President and the Committee Chairman) would have to be submitted by the end of February.
 - 7.2 The Canterbury Sunrise Club was possibly interested in a joint venture and AB was supplying the necessary information for their consideration. Forest of Blean (FOB) confirmed that they could not join with us in this project.
8. **Catching Lives (CL).** DL reported on the recent visit to Catching Lives made by members of the Committee. Salient points arising from the visit were:
 - 8.1 There was an immediate need for funding to help with the purchase of sleeping bags, rucksacks, etc.

8.2 CL now providing a service 24/7 and that up to 15 homeless persons were sleeping there every night.

8.3 Some building work was needed, especially with the window frames and windows. In the longer term CL were hoping to purchase that part of the premises which they currently rent.

The visiting members were impressed with what they had seen and recommended an immediate donation of £200 to assist with the purchase of sleeping bags, etc. This was agreed by the Committee.

9. **Fundraising Supper** After an update by DC & GD on the limitations of the possible venue and the anticipated relatively small profit from the event, it was agreed to cancel it.

10. **St John Ambulance** The Chairman reported that he had received a letter of thanks for our recent £50 donation.

11. **Rotary Community Service Award** The presentation to Hannah Simmons would be made on 9 February at the School Assembly. The President accompanied by the Chairman, would make the presentation.

12. **Canterbury Headway** Following our donation to help with the running of their new minibus, we have been invited to send two members to a Black Tie Casino Evening on Saturday 18 March. The Chairman and AB agreed to attend the event.

13. **Annual Blood Pressure Day** GD reported that FOB were holding an event in April and it was agreed that rather than holding our own event, we should offer to assist FOB.

14. **Canterbury MS Society (CMS)** GD advised the Committee that CMS had additional premises and perhaps we should visit. She agreed to explore the possibility of a visit by Committee Members.

15. **Committee Changes** The Chairman reported that he had been advised by the following members that they wished to leave the Committee: ML with immediate effect; CM and GD at the end of the Rotary Year. Both ML and CM expressed their desire to stand back from committee work having enjoyed many years with the Community Service Committee. GD wished to experience one of the other service committees as since joining the club she has only served on Fund Raising & Dining & Entertainment Committees apart from CSC. The Chairman thanked the three members warmly for all they had done for the Committee and hoped that they would all attend the end of year party, which this year may be held at his house.

9. **Date of Next and Subsequent Meetings.** The next meeting would be held as scheduled on 14 March at 6.15 but thereafter meetings would be held on the first Tuesday of every month, commencing at 11.30.