

Rotary Club of Canterbury Minutes of the Community Service Committee 8 November 2016

Attendance: PPs David Barton (Chairman), Sidney Denham, John Hill, Harry Cragg, Rotarians Marjorie Lyle, David Lewis, Deborah Connolly, Gill Dixon, Bob Anderson, Charles Evans, David Bailey, Brian Wheeler & Jo Nolan

Apologies: Rotarians Colin McKone, Rosemary Morton and Andrew Barchi

The meeting was preceded by presentations from Jane Pearman of “Hypo Hounds” and Gill Boorman of the Canterbury Women’s Refuge and subsequent discussions on both organisations are recorded in paragraphs 13 & 14 below. The Chairman then welcomed David Bailey to his first meeting of the Committee before continuing with the normal agenda as follows:

1.. Minutes. The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2016 were agreed subject to the inclusion of Bob Anderson in the list of those attending.

2. Charitable Funds Available: £4,505

3. Community Service Award. Following a recommendation from the club president, the Committee agreed that Hannah Simmons of Barton Court Grammar School should be presented with the club’s Community Service Certificate and JH agreed to prepare the certificate.

ACTION: Chairman has arranged a presentation at School assembly at Barton Court Grammar School on 9th February.

4. New Sports Wheelchair for a 16 year old boy. (See minutes of the June and September meetings). Having watched the recipient play rugby, CE was full of praise for the positive effect this was having on the youngster’s wellbeing. CE would continue to visit the club when he could.

ACTION: Follow up by Charles Evans.

5. Christians Together in Canterbury - Welcome Packs for Redbridge Families. RA proposed that the Committee should involve itself in this initiative and after discussion it was agreed that DL would take the matter forward with a budget of £500, DL being already involved through the Salvation Army.

ACTION: Delegated to David Lewis with budget of £500. Since the meeting the Sherriff of Canterbury has identified a need for garden tools.

6. Homeless Charities Initiative. DC & DL reported that they and MW had met with Laura McCourt of the City Council and they were impressed with the existing pro-active measures taken by the Council in co-ordinating the work of all the various agencies involved with helping Canterbury’s homeless, the city having the third highest homeless figure in the country. Ms McCourt had suggested that DL/DC should attend the Council’s Homeless Forum, the forum being the co-ordinating body for such matters.

ACTION: David Lewis & Deborah Connolly to review with the President.

7. **Website Request for Help in Purchasing a Mobility Scooter.** DC reported that she had advised the lady to approach her GP in the first instance as there appeared to be several medical issues that may impact on her ability to use a mobility scooter. ***ACTION: Review by Deborah Connolly.***

8. **Triangle Awards 2016.** The Chairman and GD would be attending the awards ceremony at the Ashford International Hotel on 20 November 2016. ***ACTION: Chairman & Gill Dixon have attended the ceremony.***

9. **Circle Housing.** A date is being arranged for the Club President to attend the photo opportunity in the New Year. ***ACTION: Chairman to arrange with the President.***

10. **Canterbury Foodbank** RA updated the meeting on the situation and reported that he had £271 remaining from the agreed budget of £500, which would be spent in due course. The Chairman thanked RA for his continued work with the Foodbank. ***ACTION: Bob Anderson.***

11. **CSC Budget** The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to the details outlined in the minutes of the last meeting and which were repeated in the agenda papers for this meeting. He sought the Committee's agreement that he should submit these to Club Council and this was agreed. ***ACTION: Chairman to present paper to Club Council.***

12. **Committee Fund Raising** The possibility of holding a committee fund raising event at the Fordwich Arms was suggested by DC & GD and it was agreed that they should pursue this possibility. JN offered to assist. ***ACTION: Gill Dixon to lead on this project.***

13. **Hypo Hounds.** Following the excellent presentation by the CEO, Jane Pearman, the Committee agreed to help with the funding of training of a dog for a Canterbury resident, allocating a donation of £500, which would provide 10 training sessions. ***ACTION: Thanks have been received for the donation.***

14. **Canterbury Women's Refuge** Gill Boorman had outlined proposals for the annual Christmas Party and for Activity Days, the next such day taking place in March 2016. She had agreed to provide more financial details on both to the Chairman and after some discussion the Committee decided it would prefer to help with the funding of an Activity Day, our contribution to be decided at a later meeting. ***ACTION: For consideration at next meeting.***

15. **Website Request – Autism Life Dogs** SD suggested that this London Based Organisation was not suitable for any funding help from us as, although its aims were undoubtedly laudable, it was not a registered charity and there was currently no Canterbury connection. The website request was clearly a "round robin" to all suitable organisations. ***ACTION: None.***

16. **Date of Next Meeting. Tuesday 13 December 2016**