

Rotary Club of Canterbury
Minutes of Community Service Committee March 2014

Present: David Barton (Chair), Andrew Barchi, Sidney Denham, David Naumann, Marjorie Lyle, Robin Vickers, Gill Dixon, John Hill, Colin McKone and Mark Rosen.

Apologies: Peer Le Fleming, David Lewis, and Lewis Norris.

Prior to the meeting **our candidate for the RYLA**, Hamish Stewart aged 15 was interviewed by a small sub-committee. His application was approved and he will attend the RYLA Course from 4th to 6th. April. He will be sponsored for £170.

1.Minutes of the Meeting 11th. February. Approved

2. Matters Arising: See items 4 a,b,and c below

3. Uncommitted Funds available- £2767 (plus £250 pledged to Chartham Youth Club) following further allocation of £2500 from February Council Meeting.

4. Matters of Report to be minuted: a)Colin McKone reported that the cheque for £500 was sent to Caroline Potts of the **Worthgate Scout Group**. She wrote “ Many thanks for your help and support, Excellent news and I will keep you updated on the progress of the new windows.” Latest information is that suitable windows are being priced up and CM will take photographs as soon as they have been fitted.

b) **Greenhill Gymnastic Club-** John Hill reported that our grant of £350 will buy 5 sets of new leotards for one of their competition teams We have supported them before and they will pass the old kit to one of the lower teams. There will be an item on the website about the presentation.

c) **Catching Lives** -Sidney Denham reported that the cheque had been handed over and Catching Lives are putting our £500 towards the cost of an industrial washing machine, which will be used for everything, including sleeping bags. They will let us know when the machine has been purchased so that we can have a photo op.

5. RYLA up date: Mark Rosen reported on the interview with Hamish Stewart see first item above.

6. Know your BP/Prostate Awareness day. Gill Dixon confirmed the date 6th. April and that it would be held at Boots with support from Chaucer nurses. She was arranging for suitable handouts to be available and all necessary inputs had been agreed except the finalisation of the Rotary Volunteers that will be in attendance. A board is being circulated.

7. Selection of local charity for the 2014 Sainsbury's collection. The front runners were Catching Lives, Worthgate Scout Group and the Food Bank. Marjorie Lyle made a strong case for assistance for Riders for the Disabled. Sidney Denham supported this proposal. It was agreed that further information on the exact costing for a wheelchair frame to help mounting and dismounting should be obtained and the matter raised at the next meeting.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Food Bank could apply for further assistance if needed during the year. David Naumann said that he and other supporters of the Worthgate Scout Group would be prepared to transfer their allegiance to Catching Lives if members agreed to consider support for The Worthgate Scout Group, Food Bank and RDA at a later meeting this year. The Chairman proposed that Catching Lives be nominated for the Sainsbury Collection and that the

needs of the other contenders be prioritised at future meetings. Members voted unanimously for Catching Lives.

8. Request for Tennis Sponsorship for Tigan Aitkin – following an update by John Hill on the 12 yr old young girl's need for assistance for entering competitions and specialist coaching. He stated that she showed great promise as a rising young player, it was agreed to make a grant of £500.

9. Mustard Seed Singers- Members noted that the choir was continuing to provide great support for those affected with mental health problems. It is a well organised form of therapy and they will be giving a concert at St. Peters Church on May 15th. They have requested £480 assistance to pay for the services of a piano accompanist. The pianist costs £18 a week for the next 6 months. A grant of £480 was approved.

10. Tryangle Awards – update by David Naumann. David is making further enquiries with other supporting clubs but it takes time to find the responsible person. The item will stay on the agenda for the next meeting and he will report on progress.

11. Age UK has requested £400 for singing sessions for people with dementia. David said that the question of financial support for singing sessions requires more examination. Volunteer choir organisers are widely used and he recommended that we wait and see what Adrian Bawtry from the Cathedral has to say on the organisation of singing classes. The Chairman suggested that we invite the Age UK representative to lunch so that she can hear Adrian's view of the volunteer/paid organisational approach. David will invite her to the lunchtime talk by Adrian Bawtry and he suggested that this subject be put on the agenda for the April meeting.

Bob Anderson has drawn attention to the need for Top Choir to use some of its funds raised for the support of singing in the community, and he feels that publicity should be presented at Top Choir 2014 to demonstrate to the Audience and others of how the money raised, helps to further singing in the community. Our support for Mustard Seed and possibly other choirs (Age UK) would fit the bill.

12 Riding for the Disabled- already discussed under item 7 and deferred until April meeting when Marjorie will have further information on costs of the wheelchair apparatus.

13. Stepping Stones Nursery- Marjorie has received a cheque for £500 from our Treasurer but it was made out to the wrong name. She will ask Alastair for a new cheque with the correct payee's bank account name and present it to the SSN.

14. AOB

1.

A Trolley dash suggested by Bob Anderson to be organised by the CSC for the Food Bank which offers-

- a) Getting some food for the Food Bank
- b) Getting some publicity for our club in the local press and in the food bank newsletter
- c) Giving a local Supermarket some publicity

Outline of the event

Agree with a local supermarket that a representative from the food bank can have a stop watched 5 minutes (or more or less time) dash to fill a trolley with items needed by the Food Bank. Exclude wine spirits, and perhaps limit picking to no more than two of any one item (or whatever you think is appropriate). Rotary would pick up the bill, and maybe we can negotiate with the supermarket for them to make a contribution at the till in return for the publicity. Tell the Gazette what is going on,

have a Rotary photographer on hand, and get our Club people to produce some copy for the local press and our District Rotary magazine.

2. Financial donation request *from Labrador Rescue Kent* which is a registered charity run by volunteers and funded by donations and fund raising. The LRK need money for kenneling charges and veterinary charges which on average amount to somewhere between £800 to £1000 per month. They have currently two dogs in care who need medical attention and will probably need on-going help with veterinary bills after they have placed them in their homes and they also have dogs in foster homes that need help with the cost of on-going veterinary care. The Chairman asked members their views on this request but the overall opinion was that it is outside out guidelines for service to the community.

15. DONM 8th. April 2014

At its meeting on 11th March the Community Service Committee voted unanimously to nominate Catching Lives as the local charity for the Rotary Club Christmas Collection at Sainsbury's this year. If necessary, the committee will assist Catching Lives to produce eye-catching publicity material for the occasion.

CEM