

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

Minutes of the Community Service Committee Meeting held on 11th June 2013

Attendance and Apologies

Present:

PP D Barton
PP J Hill
PP D Naumann
Rtn A Barchi
Rtn S Denham
Rtn G Dixon
Rtn P Le Fleming
Rtn C McKone
Rtn M Lyle
Rtn M Rosen

Apologies:

PP S Roe
PP R Vickers
Rtn E Abbott
Rtn G Dussart
Rtn L Norris

1. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th May 2013

Approved.

2. Matters Arising

Item 14.2

DN reported that the Rotarians from the Princes Risborough Club had visited Canterbury Cathedral on 9th June 2013 when they were able to visit the Tomb of the Black Prince and were provided with a full tour of the Cathedral. Thereafter GG took the visiting Rotarians to "The Parrot" for refreshments. The visiting Rotarians were raising funds for a community centre in Princes Risborough and were very pleased with the help and hospitality provided by our Club.

3. Funds Available

The Committee noted that there were presently funds available of £1,933 after provision of £95 for the Kids Out Trip to the Wingham Wildlife Park. Of the funds available, the Committee has previously resolved to earmark £500 for the Canterbury Food Bank and £500 for equipment at Demelza House. Both projects are presently ongoing before the funds will be formally pledged. The Committee noted that further charity funds will be available for allocation by Club Council in July.

4. Matters of Report

The matters of report were taken as read, with the following additional comments:

- (c) **Steppingstones**
DB reported that he had received a letter from Steppingstones who do not wish to apply the previously pledged funds towards a smaller project. Steppingstones are awaiting approval from OFSTED which, if obtained, may enable them to proceed with the major project they have in mind. The Committee resolved to continue to keep the £500 previously pledged towards the project available for up to 12 months – i.e. to June 2014 when the matter will be further reviewed.
- (d) **EKIDS**
DB circulated a letter of thanks received from EKIDS.
- (e) The Committee recorded its thanks to DB for his hospitality at the End of Year Party at his home on 4th June 2013.

5. Kids Out Day

Gill D and ML reported on the Kids Out Day which they had attended together with DB. The day had been organised by Gill D and ran well. Only eight children (with various levels of disability and handicap) from St Nicholas School attended accompanied by nine carers. DN had organised packed lunches provided by the King's School which were much appreciated. On this occasion, in light of the young age of the children from St Nicholas and their level of disability, a decision had been taken that five of the pupils from the King's School who might otherwise have accompanied the outing should not do so as it was felt that too many volunteers would be overwhelming for the children. Nevertheless, the Committee noted that pupils from the King's School might well be able to accompany the outing next year depending on the needs of the children. Surplus food at the end of the outing (sandwiches, chocolates and bottled water) were taken to Catching Lives. It was considered that the day was a very worthwhile day and that the Wingham Wildlife Park is a lovely venue for the outing. Julie (teacher from St Nicholas) expressed the wish to meet the Rotarians at the Club to express her thanks on behalf of the children.

6. Demelza House

- (a) DB reported that he had received a certificate from Demelza House on behalf of the Club recording that the Club has donated a cumulative total of £2,426 to Demelza House since 1996. The certificate will be shown to the Club and then kept with the Club archives.
- (b) Gill D reported that Demelza House no longer require a syringe driver (see previous wish list) but do now require two Otter Bath Chairs for a total of £862 including VAT but that the Bath Chairs would be located at the hospice in Eltham. The Committee confirmed its willingness to continue to support Demelza House but wished to support a project specifically at the Sittingbourne Hospice. Gill D will make further enquiries to ascertain what is required at the Sittingbourne Hospice.

MR will speak to John Morgan at the Canterbury Sunrise Club to see whether the Sunrise Club would be willing to contribute £500 to a joint project thus making a £1,000 available to purchase an item of equipment for the Sittingbourne Hospice.

7. Food Bank

MR agreed to research the availability of a District matched funding grant for the Club's proposed grant of £500 to the Food Bank towards the acquisition of a suitable second hand motor vehicle. MR will advise the Food Bank that it is the Committee's intention to provide some assistance but without making any specific pledge of funds at this stage until the availability of a District match grant has been investigated.

8. Greenbanks

JH reported positively on his visit to Greenbanks.

In summary, Greenbanks was set up 25 years ago and provides a home and employment opportunities for 25 people with learning difficulties. The parents/families of the residents initially paid in £30,000 to acquire shares in the two companies which own the premises. (The current contribution for new residents is £49,000). The residents' maintenance charges are paid for by Kent County Council. The companies operate in association with a charity "Fifth Trust" which provides the facilities for the homes including education, vocational training and work related opportunities and recreational opportunities at two day centres – both for residents of Greenbanks and others in the family investment homes properties as well as non-residents in the local area.

Greenbanks had initially contacted the Club for support in building a dining room extension to the property which has now been completed. Currently Greenbanks do not require funds.

The Committee was sympathetic to providing support for the Fifth Trust as necessary in the future. JH to contact Greenbanks/Fifth Trust to express the Committee's views.

The Committee also suggested that the Vocational Service Committee might consider an outing to the Elham Valley Vineyard (operated by the Fifth Trust).

9. Dropped Kerb Project

The Committee noted an exchange of emails between DB and Pauline McEwan. In view of the change of circumstances, the dropped kerb is no longer required to benefit the intended beneficiary. The Committee agreed that it would no longer be appropriate to pay the sum of £100 previously pledged towards the Dropped Kerb Project. DB to advise Pauline McEwan.

10. Any Other Business

- (a) DN reported that Ms Polby of RIBI (with responsibilities for dementia services) had visited the Canterbury Sunrise Rotary Club and had lectured at Canterbury NADFASS. When visiting the Sunrise Club,

Ms Polby had spoken with Jarle Tatt who is now Chair of the District Community Service Committee and who was impressed with the need and provision for dementia services such as the Memory Cafe run by EKIDS supported by the Club

- (b) Gill D reported that Ben Eddy a consultant urologist, who had spoken to the Club about Prostate Cancer, had expressed an interest in linking with the Club's Prostate Cancer Awareness Day. Gill D/JH to make further enquiries of Ben Eddy as to how he could be involved with the Prostate Cancer Awareness Day. The Committee noted Ben Eddy's intention to display the robot surgery equipment used in the treatment of prostate cancer in Canterbury Whitefriars in June.

11. Date of Next Meeting

To be advised in the Rotary Club Programme 2013/14. Provisionally noted for 9th July 2013 at 6.00pm