

Rotary Club of Canterbury

Minutes of the Community Service Committee held on 14th July 2015

Attendance: , Rtn Mark Rosen (Vice Chairman and Acting Secretary), PP Robin Vickers, PP Harry Cragg, Rtn Andrew Barchi, Rtn Marjorie Lyle, Rtn David Lewis, Rtn Deborah Connolly, Rtn Peer Le Fleming, Rtn Colin McKone, Rtn Michael Leadbeater

Apologies: PP David Barton (Chairman), PP John Hill, PP Sidney Denham, Rtn Gill Dixon

1. Minutes of meeting 9th June 2015 were approved.

2. Matters arising: None

3. Charitable Funds available: £4,565.02

4 Committee Party 2nd July 2015: The Committee thanked Andrew Barchi and his daughters for hosting the end of year Committee party.

5. Try Angle Awards 2015: Presentation Evening Monday 20th July at 6.30 at the Seasalter Christian Centre. MR and SD from our Club and 2 Rotarians from the Forest of Blean Club will be presenting on the night the awards for Personal Achievement in the Arts, Music, Sport and Young Carers.

6. Littlebourne Scouts: MR presented a cheque for £399 for camping equipment to Derek Whittaker from Littlebourne Scouts on Thursday 11th June. See attached letter of thanks from 1st Littlebourne Scout Group.

7. Demelza House Invitation: No one from the Committee was able to attend Rotary evenings on 23rd or 30th June.

8. Canterbury Food Bank: MR reported that the Food Bank has now a trolley dash team. MR is waiting for Morrisons Community Liaison officer to return from holiday to give a date for the trolley dash. Action: MR to report back next meeting with any progress.

9. Waymark Trust: Letter received from new Chairman of Trustees requesting help with several projects: *Further to our recent conversation, when you expressed sympathy for Waymark, I would like to advise you of several projects that are outstanding for us.*

1. We would like to set up a grant that more explicitly subsidises people with minimal means who cannot offer any significant contribution towards their counselling. Donations

currently received average around £20, the cost to us since reducing our management structure is around £35 a session. Although we have never turned anyone away for lack of funds, the viability of our service is threatened as the proportion of those of minimal means increase. Our funds fluctuate significantly from month to month in relation to this. If you were able to contribute to a grant to support such clients £400 would fund:

- around 20 sessions*
- two people for 3 months counselling*
- one person for 6 months counselling.*

2. We have a crucial need to invest in a new PC and would greatly benefit from an additional laptop. The anticipated costs of these are £450 each.

3. Our website is in great need of updating. We have received a quote for this of £500-£700, which though reasonable could not be our first priority at present. We are hoping to find someone who could volunteer support and if you are aware of anyone with appropriate skills we would greatly welcome an introduction.

Thank you again for your interest,

With all good wishes,

Louise

Dr M Louise Vogel

Chair of Trustees

Waymark Trust,

DC contacted Dr Vogel and reported to the Committee what the Trust does and what the Trust wants from the Committee. It was suggested by a majority of the committee that DC invited Dr Vogel to our next Committee meeting on 8th September to give a presentation on the Waymark Trust and so that Dr Vogel can give further clarification regarding how the needs of clients are assessed, and whether the GP is involved in the referral process. Do people self refer, and if so, what percentage? How does the Trust service differs from other counselling available, such as CRUSE etc? How does the Trust manage fund raising, and more details regarding present financial situation of the charity. Does the charity have a charitable number? The Committee wants more details about the management and organisation of the charity and how any donated money would be used.
Action: DC

10. Know your BP Day 26th September: GD has already reported:

“Regarding K Y B/ P event, I have spoken to the Stroke awareness organisation, and they are completely happy for us to go ahead taking our own Blood Pressures, with current or past Health Service workers used to taking Blood Pressures, on a future day, just signing a form that they will enclose with the usual paper work that gets sent to me. This will cover those doing the B/P's with the Stroke organisation's insurance. So all we have to do is find suitable and willing B/P takers and the Sphygmomanometers required and then plan a date. I hope this is helpful.”

GD was unable to be at this meeting to give a report and sends her apologies. This item will be recalled next meeting 8th September for further progress report.

11. JH reported at our last meeting that the request for help from the Greenhill Gymnastics Club to buy new training bars was still outstanding. At our last meeting the Committee asked JH to write back to the

Gymnastics Club and offer a £250 donation if they can raise funds as well. Also for JH to bring to their attention that there are 3 other Rotary clubs who can help them. Since our last meeting JH has replied back to the Greenhill Gymnastics Club that we would donate £250 if they fundraise themselves and that there are 3 other local Rotary Clubs who can help them. JH was unable to be at this meeting but has reported that the Greenhill Gymnastics Club has already bought the training bars and that £250 we promised has now gone to buying an airmat. JH had also received a Thank You letter from the Greenhill Gymnastics Club.

12. GD reported at our last meeting that the kids day out from St. Nicholas school was a success due to the help from DC and SD and that another day out sponsored by our Club should be investigated. GD was unable to be at this meeting to give a report and sends her apologies. DC reported that she went to the Wyevale Nursery at Chartham to enquire about soft play area there. The Nursery are happy for about 10 children from the school to use the play area there with supervision. Costs are £1.50 per child for 1 hour. A kids lunch is approx £5 in cafe next door. The Committee agreed to another kids day out during the winter. This item will be recalled next meeting 8th September for further progress report.

13. Young Epilepsy: PP Vivian Pritchard has passed on a request from Natalie Sjosvard the Regional Fundraiser for Young Epilepsy, Lingfield, Surrey for £250 to help with the cost of building a new school on their Surrey campus. The Committee rejected the request.

14. Contact form request from the Canterbury Rotary Website: On

07/07/15 Manjit Sohal wrote: Dear Martin Ward, we are working on behalf of East Kent Hospital NHS Trust to put together a series of meetings for members of the public to have an input to the future changes that will have to take place. Would you please send me a contact name, tel no. and email so that I can keep your club informed of the latest developments. Kind regards, Manjit Sohal

On 07/07/15 Martin Ward wrote: Dear Manjit, Many thanks for contacting the Rotary Club of Canterbury via its website. Please direct all information about future meetings via the same contact form on the website you have used this time. That way it will go to the most appropriate club member. Once again, many thanks for getting in touch Best regards, Martin Ward.

Noted by the Committee.

15. Contact form request from the Canterbury Rotary Website: On

07/07/15 Emmeline Powell wrote: Dear Martin Ward, I am writing to you as the Bereavement Lead Midwife for QEQM hospital in Margate. As you may be aware East Kent Hospitals are working exceedingly hard to improve services and patient experience; within maternity our biggest let down is our lack of bereavement facilities. Our families who have suffered a loss of their child are often cared for on our main labour ward and this is unacceptable! These parents who are going through one of the most difficult and emotional times of their lives have to deliver their lost baby whilst listening to other mothers deliver

healthy crying babies. Bereaved parents have informed us that arriving and leaving via the main ward has caused them further distress as they watch happy parents carrying their new healthy baby out of the unit in their car seats. As a team of midwives we feel this situation is unacceptable and also causes us distress as we are unable to help these women have a better experience due to lack of facilities. That is why we need your help. We have had plans approved to have a new Bereavement Suite situated adjacent to but not on labour ward, allowing parents to have the privacy they need but in easy reach of emergency assistance if required. Furthermore, with its own separate entrance, parents will be saved from the trauma of the long walk through labour ward past the other families. This suite will offer the comfortable, home from home, relaxing environment that these parents need to ensure their experience is as good as it can be during their difficult time, with a double bed allowing partners to stay, en-suite bathroom and kitchenette facilities. As you can appreciate, the new Bereavement Suite is going to come at a cost. We are writing to ask if there is any contribution, however small, that you can make towards its building and development. Any contribution will be greatly appreciated, not only by the future families this suite will be provided for, but the staff as well. We are approaching as many groups and organisations as we can to raise our required total of £70,000. I sincerely hope you will be able to help us reach our goal. Please contact either myself or Labour Ward Matron Kerri Eilertsen-Feeney on the below contact information. Emmeline Powell, Bereavement Lead Midwife, Labour Ward, Maternity, St. Peters Road, QEOM Hospital, Kent

On 07/07/15 Martin Ward wrote: Dear Emmeline, many thanks for contacting the Rotary Club of Canterbury via its website. I will pass your request on to the chairman of our Community Service Committee who will reply to you directly. Once again, many thanks for getting in touch. Best regards, Martin Ward

The Committee asked MR to contact Emmeline Powell to report on the progress of fundraising for their new Bereavement Suite and to bring this item back to the Committee at our next meeting 8th September.

Action: MR

16. Any Other Business.

16a. MJ asked the Committee to sponsor visits to the elderly. The Committee agreed that visits are a good idea but that Age Concern UK already provided this service. Action: MJ to investigate the need for visits and report back at our next meeting 8th September.

16b. Bob Anderson sent a request to the Committee from Keith Dimond for help from a local charity called The Young Lives Foundation. This organisation provides support for young people and vulnerable adults when they are being interviewed in Police Stations; in addition they work with young people who have had very challenging lives – abuse, bullying, deprivation etc. They run a range of activities:-

Weekly group – this is for youngsters who, because of their backgrounds have very low social skills – so they can't join cubs, scouts etc. This group provides activities for them to build their confidence. To support this would cost £25 per person per week.

Day trips – youngsters coming from a deprived background who have never been away before. Examples might be day trips to a theme park etc. To support this would cost £125 per person per trip.

Residential Trips 2 nights – extend the confidence building for youngsters who haven't been away from home before. Participants undertake relevant activities during their time away. To support this would cost £350 per person.

The Committee asked MR to invite Keith Dimond at our October meeting to give a presentation of The Young Lives Foundation. Action: MR

17. Date of next meeting: 8th September 2015