

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

Community Service Committee
Tuesday 14th. January 2014

Present

PP David Barton (Chairman), PP J Hill, PP D Naumann, PP S Denham, PP R Vickers, Rtn A Barchi, Rtn G Dixon, Rtn L Norris, Rtn D Lewis, Rtn C McKone

Apologies

Rtn M Rosen, Rtn M Lyle

- 1. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10th. December 2013**
Correction to List of attendees- add Rtn L Norris. Subject thereto the minutes were approved.
- 2. Matters Arising** –Dealt with in the Agenda
- 3. Uncommitted Funds Available** - £2573 (plus £750 pledged to Stepping Stones Nursery and Chartham Youth Club)
- 4. RYLA course 4th to 6th April-** Written update received from MR. He is in correspondence with one potential mother on behalf of her son. MR replied with a question as to why the boy wished to attend the course. MR hoping to receive other replies from the other schools and Scout groups that he had written to. Awaiting further entries before reporting to next Committee meeting.
- 5. Know your BP/Prostate Awareness Day 5th. April 2014.** – The Lord Mayor will be attending. Gill Dixon reported that Boots had agreed to provide facilities inside the store. GD will be contacting the local Prostate Cancer charity requesting leaflets and other information. She will contact Whitefriars and will be sending a board round to members nearer the time to obtain volunteers for the days. Other matters in hand.
- 6. Food Bank Update from Mark Rosen-** *“Food Bank- Chrissie Bar attended our luncheon meeting on the 17th. December. At that meeting she accepted a cheque for £1000 from the Club towards a new van. She also collected food donations given by the club members and also items purchased by the club”* It was noted by members that an excellent report about the Food Bank appeared in the local paper which mentioned the Rotary Club of Canterbury’s contribution.
- 7. Catching Lives** – Robin Vickers had reviewed the recent accounts and said that they showed a remarkable turnaround since 2012 when they were facing difficulties. They even showed an operating surplus which was encouraging. He felt that they were now more stable. Members felt that it would be useful to invite the Chairman/Manager to speak to members at a lunch meeting. They had not requested any financial assistance from the club and no decisions were needed at this meeting. David Lewis volunteered to visit Catching Lives and will report back to the next meeting. Sidney Denham had volunteered but stood down in favour of David Lewis who volunteered after the meeting.
- 8. Request from three final year law students at University of Kent for sponsorship to attend the International Law School Mediation Competition meeting in March in Chicago.**
Members felt that this was outside of the Committee’s remit and not eligible for support. Peer Le Fleming felt that it was not particularly important for their Law studies. It was agreed to pass the request to the Vocational Committee in case they may be interested.
- 9. Donation of two children’s bicycles by Jenny Anderson-** DN said that the Sunrise club have a project/system for collecting old bicycles and sending them to a charity for refurbishment and onward transmission to developing countries. It was agreed to consult Jenny Anderson to see if this home for the bicycles would meet with her approval.
- 10. Thanks received from Aurora Mears for Hockey Sponsorship-** She has obtained the helmet and wishes to pass it the club for fixing a Rotary logo badge to it. DN said that he had already given a logo to her which was suitable. JH said that he had a small stock of logos if another was needed.
- 11. Orchard Project- Simon Langton Grammar School for Girls-** Members felt that this request falls outside our guidelines. A comment from Viv Pritchard (?) drew attention to the Head Teacher’s ruling that any fundraising by the Interact girls should be for her chosen charities. It

was felt that we could not pass this over to the Interact club as the project might well be outside their priorities. Grant not approved.

- 12. Request for Tennis Sponsorship-** This application from the mother of an extremely talented 12 yr old girl who came top of the under 18yr old tennis championship in Canterbury was greeted sympathetically by the members but raised questions on the Committee's policy on funding individuals for sport training including, 'Should this type of application be handled by the vocational committee?' RV said that if we were to have guidelines it should include only young people with exceptional talent, having attained achievements to a level that identified them as players that may ultimately reach professional levels. It should take account of other support for the player such as sport association grants and possibly family ability to finance the training. Further grants would be on a once only principle. Other members felt that it was difficult to assess family ability to pay for the training without means testing which was inappropriate. CM suggested that as the committee had already helped several young people with financial support for sports training, we should continue supporting them within some guidelines and within financial limits. For example this could be a maximum total annual sum of say £1500 with individual grants limit of say £500 per application or some similar ratios. Firm guidelines will be discussed at the next meeting, in the meantime JH will investigate the application and will report at the February meeting.
- 13. AOB-** John Hill reported on his attendance at the "Cutting the Turf" ceremony for the new Multiple Sclerosis Centre at Nackington. He mentioned the outstanding role played by Tony Meire in raising £1.7m for the development.
- 14. DONM** – 11th February 2014.

CEM