

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on 25th August 2015

1. PRESENT: Peter Hermitage (President), Martin Ward (President Elect). Bob Anderson, Peter Hodge, Harry Cragg, Mark Rosen, Viv Prichard, Robert Boyd Howell, Sharon Jordan, Brian Dobinson,
2. APOLOGIES: Lewis Norris, David Barton, Alan Mepstead
3. MINUTES: The minutes of the last meeting held on 23rd July 2015 were approved
4. MATTERS ARISING: Item 5(e) - mini group exchange budget - BA raised the question of the amount that would be available - dealt with under President's Business
5. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS:
 - a. Awards Committee - BA had sent an email to the members of Council regarding the transparency of the committee's work. The Council had approved a procedure for the running of the committee set out at item 5(d)(i) of the minutes for 27th January 2015, and AS, its Chairman, had explained this to the Club at a subsequent business meeting. However, questions remained, and a number of members of the Council questioned the necessity of the Committee. HC pointed out that under the arrangements agreed in January, the advisory nature of the Committee was clear. The President was the final decision maker and was present to hear the Committee's deliberations. The President reminded Council that individual Club members could put forward nominees for awards. In the light of the discussions, he undertook to review what had been agreed in January and report to council at its next meeting
 - b. Foundation Committee - it was agreed that greater clarity was needed within our Club over the role of Foundation within Rotary and how the Club handled its contribution to Foundation. At the meeting of 23rd July, it had been agreed that the Club's contribution to Foundation would be funded by 10% of the profit on TCK , the Duck Race and the Christmas collection. It was felt more clarity was needed to set out what the committee was expected to do. PH pointed out that the Committee could not be part of Club Service and really could not do much except monitor and report on what was going on in the Foundation movement. The connection with Paul Harris fellowships was mentioned and the President undertook to discuss with AS how the Committee could be given clearer objectives,
 - c. Group Study Exchange: The President circulated a paper prepared by him showing the projected income and expenditure for GSE for the period up to 2018 (when it would be hosted by Canterbury) showing an accumulated surplus of about £2800 by that time and dealing with the point at 4 above. The President and PH had arranged to take the 2 Canterbury GSE students to St Quintin the previous week-end, but at the last moment one of them announced that she had lost her passport, and she did not go. She had been reminded of the necessity for the passport and had been asked to refund the eu150 cost paid by the Club.
 - d. Pentangular: An email had been received from Leuven about Pentangular and the President felt there was a danger that there could be a waning of interest (across all Clubs). This was not just to do with cost.¹ He proposed to speak to AS to see how our Club can maintain enthusiasm for Pentangular and to arrange regular contact between the various Pentangular officers

¹ President's footnote: The essence of Leuven's concerns are that we may need "to revive the Pentangular spirit within the minds and hearts of the Pentangular Rotarians to make sure that events and joint actions can go on."

e. Cluster group meeting: The President had met with the two ADG's and the presidents of other clubs including Canterbury Sunrise, FoB, Whitstable, Herne Bay, Faversham and Chestfield. It had been agreed that if the club were to work together, the presidents elect should be brought together to do so. The ADGn said District wanted to have in place a mechanism for knowing what Clubs were doing. This would enable better presentation of Rotary's work. Whilst the President felt that a performance management system with centralized reporting as envisaged in "Rotary Club Central" was unacceptable, he felt it reasonable that the service committees should think critically about the benefit of the schemes they put forward and produced a draft form titled "Doing the Business," which he had prepared, which was designed to be applied to schemes in order to provide an indicative cost/benefit analysis. It was agreed to try the form, with the addition of a "Fun" column, and the President undertook to circulate it. This could be used to produce a record of our work which in turn could be forwarded to District.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT: LN had prepared a financial summary that was circulated in his absence. Balances - General fund £3535, Pentangular £7332, Dining £6294, Charity £13564 Events £2746, Millennium £71808. All subs had been paid.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Club service had met. MW reported that a small minority of members were not using the web booking in system and SJ was to speak to them. There were 3 outstanding accounts from members but SJ felt those in question might have paid already. DL had said he did not always know when members were unwell and all members were to be urged to let him know.
- There had been no other committee meetings

8. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Requests for leave of absence from Wendy Jones for meetings 22 & 29 September and 6 October and from David Lewis for the whole of October – approved

9. DISTRICT MATTERS: None

10. AoB.

- a) Agreed that if Vocational Service proceeded with another innovation competition, the club would provide prize money of £400, should there be no sponsorship for this
- b) The President confirmed that his charity would be the Salvation Army and that there would be a special fundraising event for it, yet to be decided.
- c) Due to illness and holidays of RY it was not known what progress was being made with the wishing well project, but HC reported he had visited Keswick Cub which was making £5000pa from 2 brick-built wells
- d) in response to an enquiry from VP, the President confirmed that he was about to sign the Health and Safety statement

11. DONM: Tuesday 22nd September 2015 at 6.30pm at the K & C club