

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

Minutes of the meeting of Club Council held on 23rd February 2015

1. Present: Viv Pritchard (President), Peer LeFleming, Norris Lewis, Martin Ward, Harry Cragg, Peter hermitage, David Barton, Brian Dobinson
2. Apologies: Robert Yonge, Robert Boyd-Howell, Alan Mepstead, Geoff Goodban
3. Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on 27th January were approved.

4. Matters arising:

Minute 4 item:-

- 5c) Questionnaire - VP reported that 39 members had responded and the results had been placed on the website. VP identified 6 key areas which he had circulated prior to the meeting:

1. Club and the wider Rotary
There is some evidence of a lack of understanding and/or enthusiasm amongst some members of the role of the wider Rotary movement and the international dimension. The Club has declared its commitment to supporting Rotary Foundation. It is important for all members, and new members in particular, to understand what Foundation does and how it works.
2. Meetings
Concern expressed about time keeping at meetings, particularly lunch meetings. We need to consider whether we want to structure the meetings differently. Also, should we consider changing meal arrangements? There are conflicting views in the club on meals and degree of formality, so any changes may need more discussion with members.
3. Membership
Strong consensus for need for younger and more active members. Also, need to be less rigid on "rules" of membership.
I believe we are already on track to deal with the key issues here, but how far do we want to go with opening up membership? spouses? associate membership? friends of rotary? Do we need to formalise the new opportunities and lay to rest the "old rules"?
4. Communication
Generally members are satisfied on level of information provided, but there are a few areas of concern and ideas on how to improve - use of newsletter etc.
5. Fundraising
Many members believe we need more innovative ideas for fundraising. However, we need to be realistic about capability of current membership. New active members could help to inject new ideas.
6. The Future
Main challenge is membership. Strong views of need to adapt but likely resistance to radical changes or bureaucratic process. There is a need to review how we do things but it would be prudent to keep this low key. Identify some easy pickings for quick implementation.

Additional comments by Council:

Membership was a major concern and PH, RBH and MW were to attend a district seminar on the subject.

PH had canvassed opinions and all his respondents said Rotary must be fun. He will bear this in mind when planning his presidential year. MW suggested that pub evenings might be revived.

5d) PH was in discussion with AS and will meet the Awards Committee next week.

- 6 Payments to Foundation. LN made clear that all sums due to Foundation had always been paid promptly so far as he was concerned, and a further cheque for £900 was about to be sent, representing £15 per member. VP emphasised that the members needed to understand what Foundation was, and was arranging with RKC for an explanatory presentation, when it would be emphasised that Foundation monies were there to be bid for. LN said that the amount paid by clubs into Foundation varied considerably. DB felt there were not enough business meetings to keep members informed, but PLF felt more use should be made of the website to keep members and the public informed. PH had had a discussion with BA who felt the web should be used as a proactive way of informing people, and MW was to look into that.

Minute 5 item :-

- a) SLGS Interact club - VP had duly written to the school and had had a response, as a result of which he and BD were to meet the head teacher and chairman of the Governing Body.
- c) Millennium Fund - LS had confirmed the trustees would have minuted meetings. PLF was to attend a meeting with the trustees to establish a procedure for approving the Fund's accounts separately from those of the Club in general
- d) RIBI President 2017/8: Dennis Spiller had been elected

Minute 6 item :-

- a) Wishing well - no report in the absence of RY
- b) Website - LN reported that a payment was still outstanding. MW was not in a position to report further on upgrading the site.

Minute 10 item :-

- f) VP had produced notes of the business meeting which made clear it was not a Council record
- g) Publicity leaflets had been purchased and PH would look into making some available at TCK

5. President's business:

- a) Allocation of charitable funds: LN reported there was £4783 available and

IT WAS RESOLVED that £4000 be allocated immediately equally between International and Community Service Committees and that thereafter in principle the Treasurer would automatically clear the balances available for allocation 3 times a year, as monies became

available, by allocating equally to those 2 committees, reporting those allocations to the Council at its next meeting. The reserves would be maintained.

- b) District Council meeting 12th February: Summary notes had been circulated and were available on the website. VP reminded Council that the decision to reduce subs for partners and children (to encourage family membership) only applied to District subs, but this reduction would be passed on via the amount families paid to the Club.
- c) February Club business meeting: the report had been circulated and was on the website

6. Members' business:

- a) PH circulated a discussion paper on priorities for 2015/6 in which he highlighted working with youth and young people, and in particular whether this could be better co-ordinated.

IT WAS RESOLVED that PH get together representatives of the working committees to discuss how best to co-ordinate and expand such work

7. Financial Report:

LN produced a summary of funds at February 2015. General fund unallocated £2509. Allocations £181 website, £2354 Pentangular, £220 Mini group exchange, £128 fellowship. Dining £6479. Charity account - total funds £14694. Of that amount, and after taking into account the allocations referred to in 5a above, allocations were £3000 Emergency reserve, £700 Voc Serve, £1413 Foundation, £3575 Com Serve, £5222 International. Events account £2728 (to pump prime TCK).

Millennium Fund - total assets held £103,599, of which total income funds available were £2355.

The Millennium Fund had 2 outstanding conditional promises of assistance which, if the conditions were fulfilled, would be met from the available funds. LN was congratulated on the clarity of his report.

8. Committee reports:

- a) Community service - minutes of February meeting circulated and on website
- b) International - PLF read out main items of the February meeting and the minutes would be put on website
- c) Club service - no February meeting
- d) Foundation - no meeting and PH would speak to RKC about holding one
- e) Fundraising - minutes of meeting on 22nd January circulated and to be place on website
- f) Publicity - no meeting but MW reported good Gazette coverage for TCK. There had been a good number of Twitter hits and LN wondered if it was possible to incorporate on the Twitter feed a reference number so that we could trace where enquiries for eg TCK were coming from. MW agreed to look into that.
- g) Vocational Service - minutes circulated and on website. Innovation competition - no entries had been received, but in the previous year there had been none until the last day (31st March)

9. Secretary's report:

- a) JB had written advising that due to pressure of work she had been unable to attend

RESOLVED that Jacquie Bartlett be granted 3 months leave of absence until April and PLF to notify her.

- b) PLF had circulated for noting only RIBI Annual Report and resolutions for Conference, Pilot Clubs report, Regional Assembly in London 14th March 2015, Report on Giving and Grants. Reports noted without discussion

10. A O B

- a) MW - i) February District Newsletter had a good report on TCK

ii) There was to be a profile of the Club on District website

- b) PH appealed for volunteers to contact potential TCK advertisers

- c) VP reported a communication from the President of Inner Wheel in which she had informed him of their 90th anniversary celebrations. He reminded members that IW had presented a cake to the Club when it celebrated its 90th at a lunch presided over by HC.

IT WAS RESOLVED that a suitable cake be bought at an approximate cost of £120 and presented to IW.

(In view of their wives involvement with the Inner Wheel, VP and HC declared an interest and abstained from voting)

11. DONM:

Tuesday 24th March 2015, 6.00pm at K & C Club

ACTION PLAN

Item	Action	Action by
4.4.5c	Agree plan for taking forward conclusions of survey	ALL
4.4.5c	Attend Membership seminar	PH, RY, MW
4.4.5d	Discuss future role with Awards Committee	PH
4.4.6	Arrange presentation to members on Foundation	VP, RK-C
4.5a	Meet SLGS re Interact	VP, BD
4.5b	Fix meeting of Millennium Scholarship Trustees	VP, PLF, LS
5a	Inform chairs of committees on timing of allocation of funds in future	VP, DB, TP
6a	Planning for next presidential year	PH
8d	Find out about Foundation Committee meeting	PH, RK-C
9a	Review leave of absence for JB in April	Council
10c	Award cheque for up to £120 to IW to buy 90 th Anniversary cake	LN

NOTES OF BUSINESS MEETING – 3RD FEBRUARY 2015

The following notes are for information and are not Council resolutions

1. Rotary International certificate presented to David Naumann to mark his 50 years in Rotary
2. Pentangular – Alastair Scott reminded members of the weekend in Leuven 22nd-24th May. Some registration forms have already been received. Need to pass final list to the Leuven club at the end of February.
3. Special Business Meeting – 3rd March. The theme will be “What is Rotary” and will be aimed at potential new members. Peter Hermitage will put together a programme to explain the Rotary movement and this club. It is hoped that some Members will bring along friends or colleagues to the meeting.
4. President of RIBI. – Denis Spiller, who has been active in the SE District and is well known to some members, has been confirmed as president for next year.
5. Public Speaking Competition – Alan Mepstead announced that the competition for schools, jointly organised by the ESU, was to take place on 4th February and it would be appreciated if Rotarians would attend to provide an audience.
6. Top Choir Kent – Peter Hermitage outlined the programme for this year’s event on 28th March. It will be a concert of with different choirs rather than a competition this year. The theme will be Help to coincide with the release of the famous Beatles song. It is very important for all members to assist with selling tickets by encouraging their friends to come. Tickets will be £15 each but a champagne reception will be available for an additional £10 aimed at corporate guests, but anyone welcome.
7. The President gave a presentation of the results of the questionnaire survey – see separate report. A number of interesting comments were received and these could give a good indication of potential problems and some improvements that could be made. This will be progressed in the coming months and a further open discussion will be helpful.

...Financials follow

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - February 2015

	Income	Expenditure	Funds Allocated	Total
GENERAL FUND	5198.5	2689.2		
Members Debentures (Ringfenced)	1900		1900	
100 Club	1184	250	934	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	8282.5	2939.2	2834	5343.3
GENERAL FUNDS AVAILABLE				2509.3
WEBSITE	3300	3119		181
PENTANGULAR	2927	572.4	2354.6	2354.6
MINI GROUP EXCHANGE	915	695	220	220
FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES	4708.46	4580.23	128.23	128.23
TOTAL CLUB FUNDS				8227.13
DINING ACCOUNT	9809.69	3330.2		6479.49
CHARITY ACCOUNT				
Emergency Reserve			3000	
Vocational Service			700	
Foundation	2313	900	1413	
CHARITY ACCOUNT BALANCE	11383	6600	5113	9896
TOTAL AVAILABLE				4783
COMMUNITY SERVICE	6145.84	4569.92		1575.92
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE	5853	2630.71		3222.29
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS				14694.21
EVENTS ACCOUNT	9420	6861.09		
Sailor Ted	170			
TOTAL	9590	6861.09		2728.91
MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP FUND				
Investments (at end June)				61962
CCLA Bank Account	7152.55			7152.55
Natwest Bank Account	4105.53			4105.53
Cheque to Charlotte Wyeth		1000		-1000
Cheque to Matthew Gwyn		750		-750
Total Funds Available				2355.53
TOTAL MILLENNIUM FUND				71470.08
TOTAL ASSETS HELD				103599.82