

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

Minutes of a meeting of Club Council Held on 24th September 2013

1. **Present:** Geoff Goodban (President), Sharon Jordan, John Hill, Robert Boyd Howell, Alastair Scott, David Barton, Tony Pomeroy, Brian Dobinson, Martin Ward (from item 6 plus held-over items). GG and AS left the meeting at item 7, when the chair was taken by RBH
2. **Apologies:** Peer LeFleming, Viv Pritchard, Robert Yonge
3. **Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting held on 27th August 2013 were approved subject to the amendment of item 5d to include RY in the sub-committee discussing MW's paper on information to be given to prospective members.
4. **Matters arising:** nothing not included in Agenda items save as referred to in 5c
5. **President's business:**
 - 5a. GG and VP had attended District Council meeting on 19th September 2013. Nominations for DG were being sought and GG was to ask RKC if he was interested. It appeared that members were not interested in the other posts. A questionnaire had been received concerning attendance at District Conference and PLF was to be asked to circulate this to Members with view ,to collating and submitting their responses
 - 5b: Attendance at District Conference, 25th - 27th October, Eastbourne:
Concern was expressed that few members were interested in attending, especially as RKC is to make an address. GG and VP were attending.
AS said the problem was the cost of hotel rooms, and that he would be attending for one day only, which he urged others to do.
 - 5c: Arrangements for the Club to consider the criteria for granting honorary membership to former members and matters arising from item 5d of the minutes of the previous meeting: this item was held over for MW to attend. GG restated his view that the hon. memberships should be for life. JH felt this could lead to pages of hon. members, and suggested as an alternative a fresh designation such as "member emeritus", but DB felt it might be dangerous to create a new category of member whose activities might not be covered by Rotary insurance. JH said he would look into that. All present were content with the criteria for honorary membership set out in item 5d of the Council minutes of May 2013 and agreed that the membership committee should consider adopting them with a designation such as "Hon Life Member". Once that was done, the matter could be considered by the Club as a whole with view to adoption. Item 5d of the previous meeting MW had received observations on his paper concerning information about their responsibilities to be given to prospective members from PLF and RY but had not had time to collate. DB was concerned that people would be frightened off and JH felt too that having it all written down would be intimidating but MW said this was laid down by District. HC (Chair of membership) had only just been shown the paper, and MW undertook to include his views in its final form which was to be brought back to Council in due course. DB commented that some new members (and old ones) just attended social events.

MW felt this problem might be due to lack of mentoring for the new members - a role that had been assumed by the late BR, and that the creation of an over-arching mentor role should be considered by membership committee.

5d Members had suffered an atrocious meal at Howfield Manor Hotel that day and it appeared the staff there had been quite insouciant about complaints. It was agreed that, as that was by no means the first such occurrence, Dining & Entertainment Committee should seek a new venue, seeking the approval to it of Club Service.

6. Financial Report:

AS produced a summary of the Club finances at 24th September 2013. All subs had been paid. Club funds at Nat West (excluding Dining accounts) were £8297, of which £1930 represented members' debentures.

AS considered the debentures might be repaid (to be decided at a future meeting). Dining accounts funds were £ 4015 which was no more than reasonably required to pay the weekly cost. Charitable funds amounted to £27054 including £5400 allocated to the joint Pentangular project (he had a further £1800, equal to 2000eu, for the current year), £6598 to Com Serv, (reduced to £5400 by recent expenditure) £6183 to International, £179 Foundation, £1750 an unknown amount from Canterbury City Council, £1306 Emergency, £5200 Prudent reserve. Available to allocate was £493, after allowing for an expenditure of £55 on TCK. The Pentangular mini group study had cost £2500 (plus some £350 paid by GG personally, for which he was not seeking repayment). Each club in the group was to pay 100Eu per candidate put forward by them and payment was outstanding From Leiden and Leuven. Once received, the net cost to Canterbury would be £1800.

7. Committee Reports:

- a) **Club Service:** Minutes circulated. Draft Terms of Reference for Dining & Entertainment Committee were circulated and generally agreed save paragraph 5, which was deleted. The Terms were to be taken back to the committee by DB. The Committee was to consider further the question of payment rbywidows of past members but RBH felt that in principle they were able to pay and should do so, though perhaps with a small gift.
- b) **Community Service:** Minutes circulated. Nothing further had been heard about the proposal to buy a vehicle for the Canterbury Food Bank, but in principle the Club was committed to assist.
- c) **International:** Minutes circulated. TP had received 52 pages of the Leuven Pentangular project (for Orthotics and Prosthetic Educational Facilities in the Congo) and was completing the forms. Once the amended project details were completed, all clubs would have to apply for District Designated Funds (of 4000eu). TP explained that there were 3 types of District funds available - District Designated, District Grant (applied for by Canterbury in relation to its own Apprentice Training project in Liwola, S Sudan, and Global grants of £35000 for which the Club was not applying. To clarify the schemes in Congo in which the Club is, or may be involved, these are the Apprentice training scheme (as above), the Leuven scheme, the proposed scheme for Boys' and Girls' bursaries (to be discussed at the Pentangular meeting in November - Canterbury originated but to be perhaps taken up by Pentangular) and a Canterbury-only scheme for 4 classrooms at Juba - see 5b of the Council minutes of May 2013.
- d) **Fund raising** - email received from RY of the committee meeting on 3rd September.

e) **Public Communications & Relations** - no report

f) **Vocational Service** - minutes circulated

8. Secretary's report:

a) Leave of absence granted to MT 1st & 10th Oct and 15th Oct - 10th Dec.

b) Leave of absence granted to PLF 17th - 124th Sept

c) No nominations for District posts had been received, but forms are available.

9. District Matters:

PLF to circulate the questionnaire on Assembly as above

10. AoB:

There had not been a good response from the Club for assistance with the Forthcoming St Quentin weekend, but SJ had received 2/3 hosting offers. 11 were coming from France.

11. DoNM: Tuesday 22nd October 2013 6.0pm at the K & C Club