

VOCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held Tuesday 14th April 2015 at the Cricket Club.

Present: - Les Stephenson, Alan Mepstead, Peter Hodges, Tim Brett, Mike Talbot, Rosemarie Morton.

Apologies: -. Roddy Tyndale –Biscoe, Ian Wright, Nan Miller, John Beckett, Brian Dobinson

1. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th February 2015 were approved. The following matter arose.
 - AM has spoken again to Noel Ensoll of the ESU as to the whereabouts of the Brett Cup .NE is still chasing this up, the cup being certainly at Dover College. He has sent a strongly worded e-mail to them. Peter Hodge knows a Governor there and he will talk to him about this.
- 2 **Innovation competition.** In the absence of Brian Dobinson, there was little to report. However there are at least a dozen or more entries and we certainly have a worthwhile competition. The closing date has been extended by two weeks as there had been a glitch on the rotary web site which had meant that competitors could not submit their entries in the manner requested
- 3 **Photographic competition 2015.** AM reported that a meeting was being arranged with Sunrise and Forest of Blean to discuss the competition feedback forms received from schools. Those that he had received showed that while schools were generally in favour, they all had differing comments as to how it should be run. Perhaps we should look to join with Herne Bay who run a similar competition.
- 4 **Events programme for 2015**
 - **Royal British Legion Industries** at Aylesford. In the absence of NM there was no update on this but there had been a good response. A donation of £100 from the VSC budget was approved at the last Council meeting.
 - **Visit to Chatham Dockyard** as previously noted AM has contacted re guided tour to see three warships. HMS Cavalier (1944 Destroyer) HMS Gannet (1878 Frigate) and HM Submarine Ocelot (1962). Lunch on HMS Cavalier – Fish and Chips. Cost to include lunch about £22. Date for this is now fixed for 5th June. AM will visit in the next couple of weeks to firm up arrangements
 - **Tower Bridge.** As noted and aim for Late August. AM has contacted. (As previous minute a visit to Tower Bridge to see the engine room and the new glass walk over the Thames. The cost of this will be in the region of £5.65 per person plus £56 for the tour guide. The visit takes about one and a half hours and it is thought that rather than add something else, members would be free if they wish to go on to the Tower of London or possibly HMS Belfast.)
 - **Visit to Quex House** at Birchington. as already noted and aim for October, Pointed out that this was done some years ago as part of the 2006(?) Pentangular.

- A visit to Paul Mansfield and Co, apple growers, was suggested. Tim Brett agreed to investigate. Probably in the picking season.
 - **Police Visit.** Nothing further to report. Awaiting on Peter Wales to organise a speaker
- 5 Country walks.** Bird watching walk scheduled for 1st May. Unfortunately the board for this has been lost but about a dozen people expected and more for lunch. LS will contact BD to see if he has managed to advance "the fungi walk". If not he will organise a walk in the countryside. Nothing further to report.
- 6 Contact with schools.** A general discussion. It was felt that there was not a lot of up to date expertise within the club which made it difficult to connect with young students. The whole concept is very laudable, but we need to ask the President Elect exactly what he is aiming for.
- 7** Agreed that there was not a great need for an hour long monthly meeting, but we will continue with them pro tem but starting at 6.30pm Next meeting 12th May 2015.