

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

MINUTES OF THE CLUB COUNCIL MEETING

On Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 18.00 at Kent Cricket Club

Present: Chair: President Elect Alan Mepstead (AM), Immediate Past President Margaret Griffin (MG), R Anderson (RA), S Thompson (ST), P Hermitage (PH), M McGeary (MM), L Norris (LN), V Pritchard

Apologies: N Fraser (NF), T Loughran (TL), D Barton (DB), M Ward (MW), D Connolly (DC)

Minutes of the meeting of 22nd October 2019 were approved

1. Matters arising:

- a. RA sought information on pentangular projects, in particular, clarification on the agreed duration of funding for each project – 2 or 3 years. He pointed out that he could find no record on the website of meetings of the presidents where this had been agreed. The view was that funding covered a period of 3 years, but attempts would be made by the **President and President Elect to make available the minutes of the presidents meeting over the past few years. These should be posted on the website.**
- b. ST pointed out the high cost of expenses of the pentangular presidents meeting – **attendance at the presidents meetings will need to be budgeted for in future years.**

2. Checklist for Incoming Presidents. The checklist had been produced by Robert Yonge over the past few months, with input from a few past presidents. The document was intended to provide guidance, and should be particularly helpful for those with limited experience of Rotary. The majority of those attending the meeting had not seen the document. **It was agreed to defer further discussion until the next meeting and copies will be circulated to all Council members.**

3. President's Business: Note the president was absent due to illness

- a. District IT Training – no discussion – matter held over to next meeting
- b. Satellite Club meeting 18th February – there were conflicting views on the need to establish a new club to encourage younger members into Rotary. Despite a general lack of enthusiasm for the proposal, it was agreed that AM and ST will attend the special meeting.
- c. Pentangular Club Contacts - only limited information available, but view expressed by some other pentangular clubs that there should be closer links to exchange ideas and develop relationships. It is evident that the nominated club contacts are unclear of their role. Defer discussion to next meeting for further information from the president.

- d. Leuven visit 18th February – the luncheon meeting will be re-established to receive a briefing to all members on plans for the pentangular weekend at Leuven in May.
Agreed that the Secretary should email all members to inform them.

4. Financial Report

ST distributed and discussed the latest summary of club and charity funds

MGSE – MW absent – so item deferred to next meeting

JPP4 – 2 payments of 2000Eu passed on the St Quentin club, anticipate final instalment of 2000 Eu to be paid in September 2020.

JPP3 – first instalment of Year 4 payment of \$3,000 sent to Juba. MG will be visiting Juba again in March and it was **agreed that a payment of £150 should be offered to Dick Beath to undertake a financial report on the project to confirm that all payments are fully accounted for.**

The Dining Account appears healthy and it was **agreed to recommend to members that anticipated £1,000 of the surplus should be allocated to the Centenary celebration account.**

ST to check that outstanding payments to Extra Digital are covered.

It was agreed that the Events contingency should be increased by £300 to £550.

Charity Account - Following final receipt of Duck Race sponsorship, gift aid claims etc there is a total of £2250 currently available for distribution to the spending committees. **It was agreed that the distribution would be as follows: Vocational - £150, International - £1050. Community Service - £1050.**

Additional income will be forthcoming from the proceeds of the recent Quiz Night.

Finally, ST reminded Club Council of the urgent need to find a new Treasurer for the start of next year. A number of members had been approached but without success. ST suggested that it might be necessary for him to formally resign to bring the matter to a head. **Matter to be discussed further at the next meeting.**

5. Issues raised by VP

- a. Survival Boxes – RC Sandwich have approached the club to say that they wish to contact local schools to promote their initiative to provide survival boxes in disaster areas. This club is committed to supporting Shelterbox and Aqua Box but there was a view that there could be benefits in linking with RC Sandwich in their discussions with schools, to publicise the range of Rotary activities. **VP to liaise with NF, MM and Brian Dobinson to agree a formal response to RC Sandwich.**
- b. Victims of Australian Bush Fires – VP alerted to campaign by the Freshwater Club in Western Australia to help the victims. As International committee's remit is to help developing countries, he felt that it was a matter for the whole club to decide whether it wished to make a donation. Various views were discussed and **the matter was deferred to find out whether there is wider Rotary initiative at the cluster clubs or district.**

6. Issues raised by RA

- a. 6 months review of objectives – RA reminded the Council that a number of specific objectives had been set at the start of the Rotary year. He felt that it is important always to review progress and consider actions if required. There was a wide ranging discussion on the issues of new membership, and active involvement of existing members. **It was agreed to recommend to the President that the next meeting should focus on Regeneration of the club; the discussion should be facilitated.**
- b. Honey Bears Nursery - RA gave an update on the Community Services project to support the Nursery. He has secured funding from a number of external sources and there is a clear plan to complete the project. However, he is awaiting technical input into the proposal to improve the external play area. He is also planning an event in Littlebourne on 18th June to raise money for this project.
- c. Engagement with other Rotary Clubs – RA was concerned to hear that that an approach is being made to other clubs in the cluster group to support a project for the Rising Sun Women's Refuge. At the same time, he is in discussion with the same clubs for support with the Honey Bears Nursery. RA wants to establish whether there is, or should be, a protocol for approaching other clubs to ensure that requests are coordinated.

7. Lip Reading Classes – as DB was absent, discussion on this item was deferred.

8. Matters arising from other committees – none

9. Secretary's announcements

- a. Leave of absence – agreed for John Harris, Michael Leadbeater and Deborah Connolly

10. Any Other Business

- a. Permanent sponsors – there was some confusion over the terms agreed with potential permanent sponsors eg duration of sponsorship agreement, exclusivity clauses. It was agreed that copies of the current agreements should be circulated for discussion at a future meeting.
- b. Items for Business Meeting – Leuven visit on 18th February, Funding for centenary celebrations.

11. Next meeting – Tuesday 25th February at 6.00pm

Post Meeting notes:

Item 1

The President (2019-2020) has previously unloaded all relevant information onto the website for his year. This includes:

- Draft JPP4 Global Grant application
- A description of the JPP4 project
- Minutes of the 16.11.19 Presidents Meeting, which is still in a draft format, and awaiting confirmation from the other Pentangular Clubs. These draft minutes have been previously circulated to Club Council on 21.11.19

Item 6

The President is happy to make a brief presentation to the Club at the next Business meeting on 4.2.20 if Club Council so wishes. He was unaware of this requirement, and is unable to locate interim reviews from previous years.