

ROTARY CLUB OF CANTERBURY

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 27TH MARCH

1. PRESENT: Sharon Jordan (President), Robert Boyd Howell, Wendy Jones, Neil Fraser, Geoff Goodban, Margaret Griffin, Martin Ward, Alan Mepstead, Bob Anderson, Lewis Norris, David Barton, Brian Dobinson. Robert Yonge in attendance in connection with procedure on applications for membership for spouses and partners (see under Secretary's report).

2. APOLOGIES: None

3. MINUTES: The minutes of the last meeting held on 23rd January 2018 were approved. The meeting which was to have been held on 27th February 2018 had been cancelled due to severe weather.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

- a) BA pointed out that there had been no report from Foundation Committee for years and that it had become a non- functioning committee. It was agreed that this was so, but no course of action to deal with the situation was agreed.
- b) BA also pointed out that it was not clear from item 7 whether the sums raised on the Wishing Well and Christmas Collections or only the gift aid on them was to be put into the Juba account but it was agreed the matter be dealt with under the Financial report.
- c) Centennial Year (item 5) - HC had contacted all parties who had registered their interest and had suggested 3 dates in April for a meeting.
- d) Juba. A meeting had taken place that day. RBH said that progress was being made with the Global grant. Meantime, following an approach by TP to Marcus Hoffmeister, Ludenscheid had agreed that, if additional funds were required, they would put in sums of €2,000 in years 2 and 3 in addition to similar sums already promised by them in those years (and thus would pay €4,000 in each of those years.)
- e) Millennium Fund.
 - i) Progress had been made with candidates and £750 had been agreed for each of 2 young women.
 - ii) The default trustees under the Trust Deed were the President, Secretary and Treasurer but other members could be appointed trustee by the membership. It was proposed that the President Elect, Immediate Past President and one ordinary member elected by the membership be appointed additional trustees and the membership was being circulated by email and asked to vote on that proposal.
 - iii) The Trust Deed laid down the objects of the Trust in 2 paragraphs. Under the first, the object was to advance the education of young people in Canterbury and (disjunctively) to inculcate principles of good citizenship by providing opportunities to undertake voluntary work, in particular by assisting charities working abroad. Under the second paragraph the object was any charitable purpose chosen by the club as a whole. MW had been conducting research on reduced demand for voluntary work in gap years, which has reduced radically following the increase of university tuition fees. He has been discussing the matter with Stefan Wathan, the CEO of the Year Out Group – the umbrella organization of the Gap Year industry – who admits the nature of Gap Years has changed and that many smaller providers have found it difficult to survive. The age of volunteering was not over but it is significantly different to what it was 20 years ago. MW has prepared a paper and will make a presentation at the next Business Meeting.

5 PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS: A letter of resignation has been received from John Beckett, see attached copy. Pauline intends to remain a member of Inner Wheel. John has been a member for over 30 years and was secretary at one time. Both John and Pauline would like to keep in touch and where possible attend events. The President raised the question whether he should be offered a year's honorary membership, as had been done with Derek Crabtree and Vic Banks. MW drew attention to Rotary rules preventing a current member being made an Honorary Member. As John Becket, having paid his subs, was still technically a member until the end of the year, he suggested the decision be deferred until the next Rotary Year.

6.FINANCIAL REPORT: LN circulated a summary of funds showing total Club funds at £3,951. The Dining account stood at £4,203, with further sums from standing orders about to be received. He proposed transferring £1,000 from this account to a reserve for the centennial celebrations and to make a further transfer to website, given much of the use of website was connected with dining. His proposals were to be circulated to the Club for decision in May. All current liabilities for the website had been met. Charity - the Wishing Well had raised a total of £1,559 to date. Part of that was due to Tesco - for the first 2 months or so, on the basis of a third to Tesco and for the rest on a 50/50 basis. From the Club's share, he had moved £500 to the JPP sterling account to act as a reserve in case further money was required from the Club for the Juba project. Millennium Scholarship fund - funds available (in terms of accrued income) amounted to £9,773, including £368 moved back from the Mini Group Exchange as unused. £1,500 had been paid out in grants and allowing for that, the total value of trees Fund stood at £82,516. The JPP dollar account for Juba stood at \$2,929.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Club service: MG reported a meeting had taken place and the minutes were about to be put on the website. Attendance in February was down at 52.2% from 55% and there was discussion about the attendance statistics compiled by KB but never acted on. MG would like KB to continue to compile the statistics but to make a report about them to a Business meeting. In the meantime, MG would ask membership consider what, if any, action should be taken with regard to persistently non-attending members. Concern was expressed about support for new members and ways to mentor them and get them further involved were to be considered. A F was taking over the role of Speakers' Secretary at the end of the Rotary year and was to be understudied by KM with view to his taking over. On succession planning, all committee chairmen for the next year were to appoint vice chairmen. Dress code - a survey of members found a majority wanted no formal statement, being content to "go with the flow of current society standards"
- b) Community service: Minutes on website. At the instigation of TB, 2 events were planned with Prince of Wales Youth Club:
 - A . Thursday 19th April at 4.45pm at the Youth Club (off Military Road) a reception for Rotary to see the activities of the Club
 - B. Friday 25th May, also at the Club, a fundraising boxing match, organised jointly with RotarySecretary to ensure these events are advertised on the website and all members circulated with details.
- c) International: Minutes on website.
- d) Vocational service: Minutes on website
- e) Foundation: no report

Attention was drawn to the gross inequality in size of membership of the committees and it was agreed all members would support the President in trying to achieve greater equality.

8. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- a) MG reported she had potential chairmen for all committees, LN was prepared to serve one more year as treasurer, but thereafter a replacement would be needed.
- b) RY had prepared a paper on procedure for applications for membership by spouses and partners of members. After discussion it was agreed they should be treated in the same way as any other members and that no special procedure should be laid down

9. PENTANGULAR - LEIDEN 8th - 10th JUNE: It was reported approximately 20 members and partners were attending.

10. AOB

- a) Charity funds raised to date in the year were £15,700
- b) Crocus planting - some members were interested in taking some bulbs, but it was not thought the Club are involved as a whole - NF to enquire.
- c) The Club archives were to be moved to storage at K & C Club by 1st May. Move will be carried out by AF, GG and MR. AF had spoken of the removers, but GG said he had a suitable van, so there was no need for them. An annual rent to K&C would be £50. Moving would require a skip to remove rubbish already on the K&C site, but GG felt K&C might pay the cost.
- d) DB raised the effect of a new Data Protection Act on the Club. NF said he was due to attend a training day and would advise the Club.
- e) BD reported that UKC was to hold its "bOing" event at Canterbury campus on 25th and 26th August. He had acted as marshall at the event in 2017. It is a family event with numerous shows and sideshows, many being free. It was attended by hundreds of people who all seemed to enjoy it enormously. He had again volunteered, but had also asked the organisers (the University) if it would be possible for Rotary to man a stall with a view to interesting younger people with families in us, perhaps publicising the duck Race and providing help and additional publicity through our website for bOing . Their response is awaited, but it was thought a potential win/win

11. AGENDA FOR NEXT BUSINESS MEETING ON 3RD APRIL

- a) Buddy system for jobs
- b) Crocus bulbs - NF
- c) Millennium Fund - reasons for decline in applications - paper by MW
- d) Minute taking for Business meeting

12. DONM: Tuesday 24th April 6.00pm at K&C Club