

## Rotary Club of Canterbury

### Minutes of the Club Council meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 18:00 Hours

Present: S. Thompson (ST), M. Ward (MW), P. Hermitage (PH), M. Blades (MB), K. Maunick (KM), A. Loughran (AL), R. Anderson (RA)

In Attendance: C. Lees (CL) Taking Minutes

Apologies: A. Mepstead (AM)

Minutes of the meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> June: Approved

#### 1. Matters Arising

First hybrid meeting utilising video conferencing took place on 20<sup>th</sup> June. ST thanked MW on his successful management of the system.

Conference booking system created on Google Drive. Will be due for launch shortly.

#### 2. President's Business

A discussion was held on arrangements for members with underlying health issues attending face to face meetings. Council agreed that in principle a carer can attend all meetings. This will be discussed at the next Business meeting.

ST is very concerned that Vice President vacancy is not filled. This will be raised at the Business meeting.

#### 3. President Elect Report

AL reported on the work of International, Community Service and Vocational committees. A summary of this can be found in Appendix 1 of this document.

ST thanked RA for offer to purchase of 4000 Crocus corms for distribution to schools, surgeries and parishes.

Viv Pritchard will arrange payment of remaining funds to Juba via Salisbury Diocese.

Community Service will focus efforts on St Nicholas school, RYLA and The Prince of Wales Club.

#### 4. Vice President Report

Details of the report submitted by AM (acting Vice President) can be found in Appendix 2 of this document. ST thanked AM for the report.

AM confirmed that he has written to the Masonic Lodge to thank them for their donation and to list the projects where their money was spent.

#### 5. Financial Report

KM presented the accounts.

##### Dining

ST will work with KM and Roger Power in finalising outstanding refunds from the dining account for the year prior to July 2021.

MB and Raj Dasan will remind members to increase standing order amounts to reflect the increase in price of meals.

##### Subscriptions

MB and KM are chasing up subscription payments. At the time of the meeting 13 payments were outstanding.

### Internet Banking

ST wants to move to Internet Banking, minimising the use of cheques and manual payments, where possible. KM and AL to report back on process and authorisation required to facilitate this.

### Gift Aid

Richard Kemball-Cook is now recognised as the Club representative to reclaim Gift aid.

PH thanked KM for his work on the accounts.

## **6. Recruitment**

ST and MW working on plans to recruit new members. This will include

- I. Friends Address Book containing contact details of people who have expressed and interest in joining.
- II. Presentation about Rotary at other events such as Round Table dinners
- III. Canterbury BID team

## **7. Business Meeting Agenda Items**

The following subjects will be included at the next meeting

- Summary of key points of Club Council Meeting
- Attendance of Carers at Rotary meetings
- Increase in standing order payments for Dining account
- Crocuses
- Vice President Vacancy
- Zoom Booking System
- Rotary Work Club

## **8. Club Programme**

Programme of events is available on the club website and newsletter. ST would like to invite widows to some of the social events. MB will extend invites to these ladies on behalf of the club.

## **9. Any Other Business**

A discussion was held around the subject of a Rotary work club. The function of this club would be to provide job seekers with help in completing Job applications and interview skills. This will be raised at the next Business meeting.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 18:00 via Zoom**

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### Appendix 1

**President Elect Report – Prepared by Tony Loughran for Council Meeting, July 26<sup>th</sup> 2021**

#### **International**

- a) Crocuses. Brief recap on last year's crocus distribution. We bought 8000 and raised £1400 for Polio +. Bob Anderson was the Polio Champion selling 250 packets and his enthusiasm for the project was appreciated. 2021 distribution discussed at the July International meeting. They wish to widen the message to schools in particular and Bob has proposed that more units should be purchased. Bob will pay for one batch of 4000 for schools, surgeries, parishes. Taking the Polio story to schools with corm donations for the children to plant out. He will also personally commit to selling 200 bags of 25 bulbs (5000).

Council action. We need to place an order directly this year and I recommend that we do this as soon as possible. I would suggest we go for 16000 corms, 8000 of each colour. £175 per bag of 4000. This does increase the onus on more sales from members (7000- excluding Bob's sales) but this is clearly within our ability to manage

- b) Viv Pritchard (Chairperson) has held the first meeting of the year. The responsibilities of the Committee are as follow:

Pentangular Projects – Graham Bough  
Juba – Margaret Griffin  
RC Dhaka – Julie Reza  
Tools for Self-Reliance – Bob Anderson and Caroline Lees  
PolioPlus – Bob Anderson  
Lend with Care -Richard Kemball-Cook

- C) Items to raise:

Pentangular Projects

- JPP4 (St Quentin) awaiting receipt of global grant.
- JPP5 (Leiden) two-year project in Suriname in early stages.

Lend with Care

Original Rotary fund of £2,025 has been reused. Total of £6,133 and only 5 loans written off. Committee agreed to raise standard loan to £25 from £15.

RC Dhaka

£2000 raised so far which includes £500 raised by Julie. This £500 is currently in transit and subject to delay by the Bank. 585 covid tests completed and 537 negative which has allowed cancer treatment to proceed

Juba-

Juba Bursary Project – JPP3 The bursary project is now completed with 27 of the bursary students having sat their final school certificate examination in March. Due to Covid, the start of new school year was delayed and the headmaster has confirmed that the induction of new students is currently underway.

Club Council and the pentangular presidents have agreed that any surplus funds on completion of the JPP project will be made available to the Salisbury Diocese to fund future bursaries. The surplus is likely to be of the order of £1,000.

Three of the original bursary students who, for various reasons, had to defer a year, will be completing their Year 4 studies this year. The additional fees for these students will be covered by the District Grant Project.

AM has also been in contact with the Salisbury Diocese who have confirmed receipt of further £300 donation from the club. AM will agree with them how this money is to be spent at the school.

Juba District Grant Project - The project is based largely on continued bursaries, primarily for those students impacted by Covid. Of the total £1100 project cost, £350 will fund purchase of scientific textbooks for the school library and £750 will fund 5 bursaries to allow poor students to complete their final year studies. The textbooks have been purchased and bursaries have been awarded. However, there has been a very frustrating delay with the bank in transferring some of the money to Juba. Council Action re monies in transfer. Viv Pritchard asked if we know the current status of the fund transfer.

## **Vocational**

I attended the first meeting of the year. Focus of the committee remains on the excellent work they have been undertaking with Competitions, Innovation Competition and Writing competitions.

Prizes for this year have been personally distributed to winners. Viv and Mary visited QE Grammar School Faversham. Team Eclipse (F1) have been successful to reach the national finals!

Brian Dobinson has met with James Bennett (STEM) at Christchurch College to discuss plans for the Innovation competition and Senior Writing competitions. Looking to widen scope and generate additional interest from more schools.

Support of Rotarians for mock interviews very much appreciated.

### **Community Service**

No report received as yet.

TL 24-7-21

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### **Appendix 2**

**Vice Presidents Report prepared by AM for the Council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

#### **VICE PRESIDENTS GROUP**

**The group has not met formally, but have all been asked to report and these are either summarised or in full for council's information as follows. The only problem is as usual signing in for meals etc. Numerous e-mails etc are not always acted upon. The group will sort this.**

#### **AWARDS – Tim Brett**

Well on with forming new committee. Will make recommendations re Honorary membership and 50-year certificates by end of August.

#### **Dining Club – Raj Dasan**

Many members are NOT using the EMS for booking or apologising. Too many take it for granted. Those booked in and not attending will be charged. He is sending an e-mail and wants to know that he has the support of Council.

#### **Dining Club Accounts- Roger Power**

The first Club meeting for this Rotary year at the Cricket Ground on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July found 34 members booked in on the Events Management system but only 25 members actually attended. Very unhelpful to Raj who needs to know numbers and give advance notice of numbers attending to the caterers.

I have pointed out that there are several members on the Events list who never attend and should be excluded.

A meal price of £17 has been quoted on messages circulated to members but the Events page quotes £19 and the members' signing sheet shows £16. The signing sheet is out of date with a number of former members listed. A bit of tidying up is needed but I am not certain who in the Club does this.

No news on the earlier Members' Dining accounts which I last updated from information from the Treasurer up to December 2020. An offer was made by me to bring it up to date in April but nothing further has been received. A number of members were in credit and if an updated list can be produced members can then decide if they want a refund or wish to carry any balance forward to this half year.

I will produce a schedule of members dining and event costs as at the end of 2021 providing, I can receive all necessary information. Raj will send copies of the Event Management pages and members' signing in sheet to me for every meeting and event.

**100 Club. Graham Bough.** Graham cannot provide an update until he gets July receipts from Kailash. One member is not continuing.

#### **Fund raising. Dee Mepstead.**

Arrangements are complete for Race Night. The flyers have gone out with a request for a volunteer to run the Sweepstake on the night. Plans for the Duck Race are in progress and running to timetable.

**Registrar. John Hill.** Obviously, no numbers re Zoom meetings. Raj will send him dining club details and he will liaise with Martin re Zoom attendance.

**Membership** Martin to report Direct to Council on any issues.

**Speakers Secretary. Rosemary Doyle.** Not a lot to report as President has organised many speakers in line with his food and production theme. She is planning to prepare something if any speaker should have to drop out and would be pleased to hear from any members who could give a talk at short notice.

**No report from Almoner, Book Club. Archivist.**