

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST
COUNCIL AND CLUB MEETING - 7.30 WEDNESDAY 7 APRIL 2021

ATTENDEES

30 in total, including the following for Council:

Bryan Rickett - President	Graham Hollier
Nigel Budd	Mike Koscian
Clive Collier	Gren Lamb-Hughes
Brian Davies	Jon Livingstone – Secretary
Sandy Dunn	Stewart Mitchell
Steve George	Roger Shepherd
Bill Gidley	

Apologies:
Nick Bellamy, Keith Cameron

1. INTRODUCTION

Bryan welcomed all Members of RCoRT, including newest member Charles Lacey. Charles knows RCORT as an active and dynamic Club and was very pleased to join.

Bryan thanked Clive and Cheryl for the Cheese evening and confirmed a contribution to the excellent speaker Jonathan was entirely appropriate.

2. COUNCIL REPORTS

Secretary

Jon/ I advised the Club AGM is next month, 5 May - to receive reports of the 2020/ 21 Rotary year and election of Committee Chairs for 2021/ 22. Further details to follow this month.

An internal Webinar called 'The COVID Recovery Programme' is being held, 12 or 14 April. The national conference 'Volunteer EXPO' is 7 & 8 May. Links for both are in the cover note.

I am running a 'Favourite Internet Moments' meeting Wednesday 28 April. If you have a clip you'd like to share please let me know. Amusing, profound, inspiring, uplifting or simply interesting or enjoyable; I should be delighted to hear from you. Thanks, Jon.

Club Treasurer

At the end of March, the Club had **£7,400** in its bank account. The account also held a positive balance of **£5,400** on members personal dinner accounts.

During the month individual members made donations totalling £810 to the Food Bank. Including gift aid this amounted to £1,012.

Trust Fund Treasurer

Graham circulated the accounts in advance and was delighted to receive compliments and no queries.

Club Service

In view of the hopeful lifting of Covid restrictions on 21 June the Town Hall and caterer have been provisionally booked for face-to-face meetings on:

- 23 June
- 7 July
- 4 August
- 18 August
- 1 September
- 15 September

The bookings are all subject to removal of Covid restrictions nationally, locally and by Rotary.

There was support for Roger to speak with Youth in Romsey for Breakfast meetings on the second Wednesday.

John Gould suggested this would be an opportunity for YIR to talk about their experiences of the lockdown, amongst the youngsters they support.

Communications

Keith had advised two internal aspects:

- As everyone will know, Shaun's radio work has taken off and he has had to step down from helping us. We therefore have a space for anyone who would be able to take over overseeing our Facebook page. (please give me [Keith] a call).
- Kerry (and Clive) Daley have retired from the Romsey Club. They are both very active and helpful in Romsey and I [Keith] very much hope they will be able to continue their active association with our Club. Kerry has very kindly offered to continue to edit and produce our Quarterly Newsletter and, as Friends of our Club, are keen to help out with any events we may have.

Membership & Recruitment

Bill advised nothing to report and that he will be concentrating on Walk the Test Way. Volunteers for the Membership and Recruitment role please contact Bryan or Roger.

Fundraising

Very positive report by Sandy regarding arrangements for Walk the Test Way on Sunday 26 September, in accordance with relaxation of the guidelines. This will be the traditional Walk with five distances.

Sandy shared the transition of roles; the walk committee has been refreshed this year and Bill Gidley and Mike Koscian are 'in training' to eventually take over the roles of Administrator and Registrar from Dave Healy and Steve Beasley and between the four of them, they have done a marvellous job of updating the walk website. The website can be viewed for information only at www.walkthetestway.org.uk

There is good progress on sponsorship; Specsavers have agreed to be the major sponsors again. Sandy is optimistic regarding the Audley Group and an introduction Ed Holmes has provided.

Sandy happy to talk regarding the Walk to newer members.

There will be a full briefing for all Marshalls and Volunteers Wednesday 22 September.

Community Service

Nothing to report, however Mike aware likely this will change as things begin to open up again.

Foundation

Stewart covered key aspects of his report, circulated before the meetings, including:

Growing support within Rotary for Environmental projects and initiatives.

Some Clubs have appointed 'Peace Officers'. Includes becoming better citizens and community work and other aspects.

Stewart mentioned Foundation Seminar in November and hopes to encourage other Committees, including International and Community to attend.

The excellent new venue at Jermyns House, Hillier Arboretum, now reserved for 27 October.

After approaches from Club Members, Stewart invited support for a £400 donation to the British Polio Fellowship, which supports cancer survivors in the UK. This follows Colin Powell's inspirational and moving talk last month. This was warmly supported by Peter Welsh, Roger Shepherd and others.

Proposed: Stewart Mitchell

Seconded: Bryan Rickett

All in favour, no abstentions or against.

International

Gren advised as his report, circulated ahead of the meeting.

Youth

Steve advised that Romsey School had had to cancel the Enterprise project planned for June. Jon Vowles at the school appreciated RCORT support and is happy to involve the Club early in planning the event next year. Very appreciative letter received from Jon Vowles at the school.

Sports & Social

Clive and Sports and Social Committee are looking into a F2F with Partners handover meeting on 30 June; and liaising with Bryan and Roger regarding the arrangements.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bryan advised Council had agreed to run the Mayor's Picnic, if at all possible within the guidelines. A date for 18 July has been set. Peter Hurst has now been in touch with Members to establish availability and will start to develop the approach.

Shaun O'Brien has resigned from RCORT. A sad though understandable loss, linked to Shaun's growing radio career.

Bryan shared that a group led by Roger is looking at RCORT future Club strategy. All options open. We shall hear more. Clive requested this includes venue, where we meet.

4. ALMONER

Ian indicated nothing to share at present. The role is a balance of staying in touch with people and respecting privacy.

Bryan is aware some members are not users of ZOOM. And it is incumbent on all of us to stay in touch and support fellow Members where we can.

5. NEXT MEETINGS

Wednesday 21 April: 'Power of Youth' Dmitrijs Meiksans; Member of Youth Parliament N.W. Hampshire

Wednesday 28 April: 'Favourite Internet Moments'; Jon Livingstone. Please let Jon know if you have a favourite contribution you would like to share.

APPROVAL OF TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE

The Trustees approved the following item of expenditure:

- British Polio Fellowship £400