

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST- COUNCIL MEETING

6 NOVEMBER 2019

Attendees

Bill Gidley - Chair
Nick Bellamy
Clive Collier
Brian Davies
Jaime Garner
Steve George
Graham Hollier
Gren Lamb-Hughes
Jon Livingstone - Secretary
Stewart Mitchell
Bryan Rickett
Roger Shepherd
Peter Stuckey

Apologies

Keith Cameron
Sandy Dunn
Iain Small
Stuart Wineberg

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL

Signed by the Chair.

2. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bill agreed SGM to take place just after the meal and before the Business Meeting.

3. REPORTS AND UPDATES

All updates are as in the Reports which follow, circulated ahead of the meeting, except where noted below.

3.1 CLUB TREASURER

As attached report. Nick will re-run in lieu of Christmas cards donations.

3.2 TRUST FUND TREASURER

As attached report. Graham proposed the Club matching up to £1,000 for the Parkinson's collection. Deferred after a discussion; to be considered again once WTTW receipts and potential funds known.

Graham advised nine only donating monthly to Foundation; 31 are now annual.

3.3 CLUB SERVICE

Agreed to put to the Business Meeting to progress with Paul Bascombe from mid-January at £15.00 per head.

3.4 COMMUNICATIONS

As attached report.

3.5 MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

As attached report. Plus: Peter Stuckey will liaise with Joe Billett, who he knows has been very busy, regarding future intentions and engagement. He may become a Friend of Rotary.

Steve George to invite an ex-HSBC colleague to a future meeting. Bill also mentioned Ed Holmes from lunchtime Club considering evening meetings with RCoRT.

3.6 FUNDRAISING

As attached report. Brian Davies also provided updated figures. The total outcome is likely to be c.£70k, with £14k to £17k to RCoRT.

Discussion about potential paid for promotion of WTTW on Facebook as for the Romsey Rotary Relay Marathon. Brian and WTTW team will consider and may test next year.

3.7 COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Peter and Committee may re-focus the funding for the YIR Holiday proposal towards increasing support for the 'just about managing' families; with potential for increased numbers supported.

3.8 FOUNDATION.

Stewart summarised the report. Members will be invited to be at Hilliers during the crocus blooming; more details following the meeting with Hilliers 29 November.

The 2021 planned event is intended to be a wider than Rotary event.

The requested District Grant of £390 for Peace Jam has now been received.

Chamber of Commerce event 18 November, Bill may attend.

Rotary Future event 28 November deferred for the General Election. Stewart will find out more regarding the criteria for the proposed £5,000 community funding/ project.

3.9 INTERNATIONAL

As attached report.

3.10 YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

As attached report.

Clive will discuss our Organ Scholar sponsorship with Nick and once clarified may invite the scholar, believed to be Henry Roberts, to talk at a Club meeting.

3.11 SPORTS & SOCIAL

Positive feedback from the Bagpipes event. Burns night - Clive will seek appropriate day close to 25 January, Burns' birthday.

3.12 SECRETARY

SGM to follow in Business Meeting.

Signed as a True Record

Bill Gidley, President

Date

REPORTS CIRCULATED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING

CLUB TREASURER

At the end of October, having made allowances for unpaid bills, the Club had in its account **£9,800**. In addition the account held a **£1,800** positive balance on members dinner accounts.

Nick

TRUST FUND TREASURER

Attached is a document entitled RCoRT Trust Fund Status as at 31st October 2019. It contains the Financial Management report which you are all familiar with (I make this assumption on the basis that I never receive any queries), and also a Budget Monitor showing Committee spends vs Budget when we are 1/3rd of the way through the year. You will note that we are 33% throughout the year and have spent c13% of the budget.

Within the budgets, you will see several entries which whilst being an agreed element of spend, as yet have no specific allocation and these are:-

- Youth contingency £500
- Community Service £4,775 I am aware that Community Service is looking at specifics
- Foundation miscellaneous £350
- International Disaster Relief £550
- Club working contingency £1,000
- Presidents Giving (2019/20) £1,000

This is a total of £8,175

We also have uncommitted funds of £3,015 which makes a total as of 31st October of £11,190 not allocated for specifics at the moment.

There needs to be an appreciation of the fact that for 2019/20 the Walk generated £20k for the Trust Fund. Early guesstimates suggest that we will be something in the order of £3k to £5k less than this figure for 2020/2021 which will impact on budgets for next year. Would suggest that when the final amount is known, we raise awareness to make decisions to minimise the potential impact.

There have been a couple of additions to the finances in October with £390 received as a District Grant to Support the Young Carers Xmas event organised by Peter Stuckey and this has been added to the CS Budget and £500 from HSBC as a donation for the time that Jon Livingstone spent working for the club through the past year as part of HSBC's support for Community & Volunteering. This amount has been added to the Uncommitted Fund balance.

Any questions or queries? It would be helpful to receive these before 6th November to enable a considered response from me and also, to save time on the night.

Graham

CLUB SERVICE - VICE PRESIDENT

The committee for reviewing our catering arrangements has been formed, met and engaged in email debate. Multiple ideas for alternatives have been received, many thanks to the club members who have contributed.

As a committee we have prioritised the following

1. investigate alternative caterers
2. review new venues in town
3. review venues out of town

It was decided that this committee would not address alternative meeting formats (including returning to the once a week meal routine), as this is a much bigger question than just the catering.

As a result of this work we have now found an alternative caterer, Paul Bascombe. He has served us before as a club and has been recommended. His menu options look good and he is happy to work within the Town Hall kitchen set up, which he knows. We are discussing a start date in mid January and a notice period clause for him leaving us. We have not agreed the details and all is subject to club approval but we could be looking at extra costs that might include £1.50 for a coffee after the meal, more expensive visitor night menus, £1.50 towards a tip (to be paid after the event subject to no complaints of substance).

We have not discussed our plans with the Olive Tree but if the club approves this direction of travel tonight my plan will be to sort out the details with Paul, seek final club approval, perhaps via email and then place the Olive tree on notice, aiming for a mid January hand over.

Bryan

COMMUNICATIONS

Paul has made good progress with our new website. Please have a look at it and be ready for a short quiz on this and all Club things Romsey Test at our next breakfast meeting (13th November).

David Sutton has had two interviews with the Romsey Advertiser with our activities being printed covering Romsey in Purple, as part of the end polio campaign and the presentation of Dictionaries4Life. We also provided an article on 'Rotary Focus on Youth', covering activities which we hope will help the reporters understand some of the youth projects undertaken by the Club in the community.

We hope there might be a good photo opportunity with the Christmas shoe boxes. After that our next focus will be publicity for the End Polio Now campaign, when the crocuses appear at Hillier's. This should be in early February - subject to global warming!

We have sent two articles to the editor of the District Newsletter and are also asking if they will help market the 'Crocuses at Hillier's' event.

Keith

MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

Firstly, my apologies for not being with you on Wednesday; we are away.

Not really a formal report but 2 points of interest.

Jon Livingstone has kindly agreed, in my absence, to speak with Jaime Garner who is attending the Business Meeting, to address the matter of her Associate Membership and future status within the Club.

Ian Catley has expressed an interest in the Club and will be at our 6th November meeting, please make him welcome. I have no background on him; he approached us via the Club Secretary route.

Iain

FUNDRAISING

Still on holiday whilst writing this. A quiet time for most of the walk committee apart from the finance team and our walk registrar who are busy collecting sponsorship money. Brian will provide you all with a full update on the financials at the meeting. We have a Wash-up meeting already planned for later this month to set the wheels in motion again for 2020. The date is already on the club events list (last Sunday in September) and our target next year is to raise whatever gap we have after this year's funds have been counted between our total funds raised for charities from the walk to date and £1m.

A planning meeting has been arranged later this month in preparation for the Foundation End Polio Now fund-raising event at Hilliers during the crocus flowering season in Jan/Feb 2020 (dates to be confirmed). This will involve the support of members who have already agreed to their involvement. I've no doubt Stewart will remind everyone at Wednesday's business meeting.

Further to the agreement by the club members to provide support during a flag day to raise money for Parkinson's UK, a date has been agreed for the end of May 2020 and permission granted by Romsey Town Hall staff and a licence obtained. I don't have my diary to hand here on the beach but I think the day is the last Saturday in May 2020. Neil Duncan can confirm and Graham Hollier has very kindly agreed to establish a commitment sheet and rota for members to be on duty for no more than 2 hours at a stretch. Graham will also be coordinating the banking arrangement for funds collected on the day.

I'm sorry I am unable to attend on Wednesday but I will be back with you all for the next club meeting (hopefully).

Sandy

Update on the Walk

Walkers - 495

Charities - 137, Rotary Club had 49 walkers

Just Giving - £54,514; Sponsor forms - £4,930; Gift Aid £654; Registration £6,309

Total as of 4th Nov £66,407.

Letters have gone today to all walkers that we have not received money from, this is already having a positive response as I have received replies confirming money will now be sent.

Brian

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Covered in the minutes of Council and Business meetings.

FOUNDATION

Planning continues for our February Polio awareness and fund raising while the crocus are flowering at Hilliers. We are meeting with Hilliers management on 29th of this month to discuss details.

We are also already beginning to plan for our February 2021 fund raising event at Hilliers which will be an evening event on the run up to the flowering. It will be held in their restaurant.

Ive now been given good news that we have been given the District Grant to support Peace Jam in March 2020 . They will pay £390 into our club trust fund. This will be matched by same from club via my budget.

I circulated an invitation by Chamber of commerce to attend a networking event at Basepoint in Romsey on 18th November. I ve not had any feedback on this.

As members of the chamber we have been invited to a Romsey Future event on 28th November presentation. Should we send a small delegation ?

Need to know by 8th November. Not had any feed back on this, but I'm hopefully going as its partially about Whitenap.

Theres is chance to get £5000 for a community project.

Stewart

INTERNATIONAL

School in Nepal

1. I have established that the school has a number of areas where further support is needed as follows:

a. The completion of the ceiling work which is part of the construction. It is estimated to cost about 1600 USD (or 1280 pounds sterling). This has been calculated on the basis of 1270 sq ft @ 130 Nepalese Rupees per sq ft for materials, transportation and installation which is approx 165000 NR or 1600 USD.

b. The creation of a well equipped audio visual room. This is estimated to be 4000 USD (or 3200 pounds sterling).

c. The funding of regular working staff: one person is estimated to cost about 200 USD per month. This is about 160 pounds sterling per month or £1920 per annum.

2. I have explained that, from the Rotary Club of Romsey Test standpoint, our view would be that, 'a' and 'b' are capital expenditure whilst 'c' is operating expenditure and, unfortunately providing funds for operating expenditure is not a route that the Club likes to undertake, principally because we cannot guarantee that we will have funds available to continue to pay, in this case, the salaries of the staff in the future. As our funds available are generally identified on annual basis, it is much easier and financially secure for the recipient, to say that we have £xxx that we can contribute to a particular capital project in a particular year.

3. I have also been in contact with the Rotary Club of North East Kathmandu who have agreed that funds could be transferred to them and they would transfer funds to the "school" appropriately to pay for the work which Romsey Test wished to support.

4. I have also explained to the Rotary Club of NE Kathmandu that confirmation by them of the school's estimation of the funds needed for the activities would be necessary before funds could be transferred and I am awaiting their response.

Shoeboxes

5. The planned date for sorting and packing shoeboxes will Sat 16 Nov at Martin Radford's house and I will be seeking, at the Business meeting, volunteers to assist in this task.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

We are pleased to say that the 2019 Dictionaries for life have been distributed and well received by 8 primary schools in our local area. Led by Tony Trowsdale over the last 3 years, he will be handing over to Stuart Wineberg for distribution next year. The youth committee would formally like to thank Tony for his organisation of this key initiative over the last 3 years.

Little progress is being made with Youth Speaks. The Oasis Academy in Sholing have decided not to participate and our contact Chris Nixon believes the other Southampton schools approached will not enter either.

We have not heard from either Romsey, Mountbatten or Embley schools.

£500 has been paid to complete a three year agreement We had with the Abbey in respect of an Organ Scholarship plan agreed with George Richford.

Nothing further to report.

Steve

SPORTS & SOCIAL

Nothing new to report on the S & S front this month.

Clive

Many thanks, Jon

Jon Livingstone, Secretary

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST- BUSINESS MEETING AND SGM

6 NOVEMBER 2019

WELCOME AND GRACE

Bill welcomed members and Mike Thorne provided an election rhyming grace.

TOASTS

Bill delivered the Loyal Toast and toast to our guest, prospective, Ian Catley.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A brief SGM was held:

- Audited Club and Trust Fund accounts for the year ended 30 June 2019 were approved
- Voting delegates at the 2020 RIBI Conference, should they attend, are Bill Gidley, Bryan Rickett and Jon Livingstone
- Nominations for 2020/ 2021 posts were confirmed:
 - : President - Bryan Rickett
 - : Vice-President - Roger Shepherd
 - : Secretary - Jon Livingstone
 - : Club Treasurer - Nick Bellamy
 - : Trust Fund Treasurer - Nigel Budd
 - : Junior Vice-President - remains open. Candidates are encouraged.

Congratulations and thanks to all above named.

BUSINESS MEETING

CLUB TREASURER

At the end of October, having made allowances for unpaid bills, the Club had in its account **£9,800**. In addition the account held a **£1,800** positive balance on members dinner accounts.

Nick will re-run in lieu of Christmas cards donations.

TRUST FUND TREASURER

Graham previously circulated up to date accounts, with a healthy position. The accounts include £3,015 uncommitted funds; also £8,175 of funds allocated to Committees without a specific purpose at present.

Graham was pleased with progress from monthly to annual donations to Foundation; only nine members donating remaining on monthly at present. This helps with the monthly accounts.

CLUB SERVICE

Bryan provided an update on the committee formed to review the Club's catering arrangements, following which it was approved by the Club to engage Paul Bascombe as from mid-January at £15.00 per head.

[Proposer: Bryan Rickett. Seconded: Bill Gidley]

Bryan will liaise with the existing caterers.

COMMUNICATIONS

John Gould in Keith's absence shared good coverage had been received in the Romsey Advertiser for both Dictionaries for Life and Purple for Polio. Shaun has been active on Facebook. The next Club newsletter is imminent. Paul Grainger has launched the new Club website - more on this at the breakfast meeting next week.

MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

Bill welcomed guest Ian Catley.

FUNDRAISING

Brian Davies provided an update on WTTW. 495 walkers and 137 charities! Likely total £66k to £70k. Of this c. £16k for RCoRT - too early to confirm this.

WTTW 2020 is 27 September 2020.

The Parkinson's flag day date has been confirmed for 30 May 2020.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Peter and Committee may re-focus the funding for the YIR Holiday proposal towards increasing support for the 'just about managing' families; with potential for increased numbers supported.

FOUNDATION

Members will be invited to be at Hilliers during the crocus blooming period; more details following the meeting with Hilliers 29 November.

The 2021 planned event with Hilliers is intended to be a wider than Rotary event.

The requested District Grant of £390 for Peace Jam has now been received.

INTERNATIONAL

Gren requested helpers for the Shoe Box collation at Martin Radford's house, Saturday 16 November.

Gren also invited any members to join him at the District International Seminar at Crosfield Hall, this Thursday 14 November at 6.30 - contact Gren if interested in attending.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Steve expressed particular thanks for Tony Trowsdale for managing Dictionaries for life over the last three years; handing over to Stuart Wineberg for distribution next year. Thanks and appreciation expressed to Tony.

Steve updated the Club regarding our Organ Scholar sponsorship; the conclusion of a three year sponsorship has been reached. We may invite the recipient student to a future meeting.

Youth Speaks is proving difficult. The Oasis Academy in Sholing have decided not to participate and our contact Chris Nixon believes the other Southampton schools approached will not enter either. We have not heard from either Romsey, Mountbatten or Embley schools. Steve will keep members advised.

Plans progressing well for the Technology Tournament 4 March 2020.

SPORTS & SOCIAL

Clive was pleased the latest Social 'piper' evening had been enjoyed with good feedback received.

ALMONER

Mike Hicks reflected on the funeral of sadly missed Michael Baker on Monday, in particular the very fine eulogies by family members; also the excellent words from Greg Hall concerning Michael's time as a founder member of Rotary Club of Romsey Test.

CLUBS VISITED

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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

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AOB

Jim Purdie thanked buyers of the Christmas puddings and advised two or three more are available.

Peter Hurst informed that the date of Mayor's Picnic was 5 July 2020. Also, members welcome to the Memorial Service this Sunday and following, as his guest for refreshments at the British Legion.

David Sutton asked if it was time to review the Club's meeting pattern; as we now had 'twice a month members'? Had the changes achieved what had been intended? What statistics were available on attendance at meetings and new members? Would there be a review?

Brian Davies reflected that the new arrangements had been in place a year or more and therefore it was appropriate to hold a review.

Members voted for a review by 19 votes to 15.

[Proposer: David Sutton. Seconded: Brian Davies]

Bill referred to the amount of time the previous review had occupied and will reflect how to progress.

Members may be interested in District Council Saturday 16 November. Also 'Volunteer EXPO' 1-3 May 2020; this is the new outward looking RIBI National Conference. It would be good if one or two members attend perhaps for one day, to understand and share the new format.

RAFFLE

Enthusiastically conducted by Shaun.

NEXT WEEK

Breakfast meeting, Cromwells - update on 'Communications'.

FINAL TOAST

Rotary Peace and Fellowship the World Over.

Signed as a True Record

Bill Gidley, President

Date