

Rotary Club of Romsey Test

Minutes of Council Meeting

held on Wednesday 5th September 2018 at 6.30 pm in Romsey Town Hall

Apologies were received from Sandy Dunn and Stuart Mitchell

Minutes of 1st August 2018

These were signed by the President. The Secretary was that a copy of the Minutes should also be sent to Brian Davies.

Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

Trust Fund Treasurer

Graham Hollier reported that everyone who should be a signatory on the Trust Fund accounts can now sign.

Club Treasurer

The Club holds approximately £9,500.00 of its own money and £3,500.00 of Members money due to be refunded. The accounts for last year have been approved. The cost of the Town Hall has gone down, and the accounts show an even spend compared to income. The club will approve the Minutes at the next available meeting.

Club Service

A complaint had been made about the slow service at the Club's last meeting upstairs. This is due to the fact that the kitchen is on the ground floor and the caterers have to bring food upstairs. The Walk briefing meeting will be held upstairs, but there will be a serve buffet. The Cromwell Arms has been booked for the next social meeting. The catering at the Town Hall there is no option apart from the Olive Tree.

Communications

John Gould has prepared the latest newsletter. Andrew Cowley will be reporting in the

Business Meeting later and upstairs with regard to social media.

Andrew Cowley reported that John updates the website but it does need to be tightened up.

There was insufficient time to do an article for the Discovering Magazine, a new magazine in Romsey. Communications would try and take this up in the spring or next summer.

Arrangements were being made for the Rotary Magazine to be available to the public and certain outlets.

Andrew Cowley reported that his cyber name is Paul Harris. He looks after Facebook which he shares with local groups – even a lost cats group. He would appreciate small articles with pictures even videos. It is very important to post items regularly.

Membership Committee

Following on from the Club's adoption of Associate Membership, it was confirmed that Rotary insurance covers Associate Members. This was checked after the Club's last meeting. We have posted our first notice about Associate Memberships. Postings will have to be made on Facebook a couple of times a week.

Contact will be made with Andrew Ford who was interested in the Club when he came to speak to the Club on the Fleet Air arm.

It was reported that Larry Bartell, the Head at Melchet Court had retired. He is a friend of Martin Radford who will be asked to see if Larry would be interested in becoming a full member. The Membership Committee will also contact Nicky Jones (of Academy Studios) Joe Billett and Ann Richards, all of whom have offered to help at Club events.

Fund raising Committee

Brian Davies reported for Sandy Dunn. The Walk Members now stood at 473 registered. The balance on the account was now £15,607.28. Audley Homes had provided £750.00 sponsorship for the finish.

Community Service Committee

The Community Service Committee Report was circulated and accepted. With regard to Kids Out, we were committed to pay £300.00 to District for Kids Out, but the Committee is considering reducing our commitment to the event.

Community Service had considered Clive Collier's suggestion that we contribute towards refurbishment of the Christmas lights in Romsey. Over the next three years the total cost would be £40,000.00, but it was felt this would not be a suitable project for the Club.

It was agreed that a £250.00 donation would be made towards Park Run which was being carried out at Mountbatten School.

A request from John Whitham for the Country Trust was made. This Trust takes children to Farms. John would be speaking about this at the meeting, but the Trust were looking for sponsorship. Council was not in favour.

The Club's commitment to Young Carers budget this year is £1,500.00 of which £1,000.00 was towards an expedition and £500.00 for the visit to the Panto. The Community Service Committee would be having a good look at this, this year.

Foundation Committee

Nothing to report.

International Committee

A number of appeals had been received for contributions to aid, especially for Guatemala, the Lonbok Disaster, and for South India flooding. It was suggested in fact that we pay £500.00 for another shelter box to replace those used for the Lonbok Disaster. It was observed that contributions to relief in South India would be providing funds to a nuclear power.

Youth Committee

Funding for dictionaries next year had been agreed. Some funds could be obtained from this from Aviva. There was to be a project in Romsey Abbey in the South Garth for large

scale gardening, and volunteers were sought for 22nd September.

Sports & Social

As per the report circulated a decision is awaited with regard to the Christmas event. Both the visit to the play at Linden House and the trip to the Isle of Wight had been successful.

President's remarks

The President thanked the Social Committee for the recent events.

Meeting closed at 7.35 p.m.

Signed **Dated**

Rotary Club of Romsey Test

Minutes of the Business Meeting held on

Wednesday 5th September 2018 in Romsey Town Hall at 8.40 pm

Apologies were made.

Club's Secretary

There was nothing to report.

Club Treasurer

The Treasurer reported that there was £9,500.00 unallocated in the account. A further £3,500.00 was due to members. Mike Hicks has agreed to examine the accounts. There is a reduction in subs. The Club is now paying less for the Town Hall. Overall the Club is spending exactly what it receives.

Club Trust Fund Treasurer

Report circulated - £23,000.00 is in the Trust account of which £16,900.00 is uncommitted. There are committed funds for Dent Aid with a further £3,000.00 for Community Service and £500.00 for Youth. £10,000.00 has been donated to Charity so far this year.

Club Service

The Senior Vice President had spoken to the Olive Tree about the quantity of portions. The lift in the Town Hall delayed food at the last meeting upstairs. The next meeting upstairs will be a buffet. All socials until Christmas have been booked for the Cromwell Arms. The Senior Vice President said he would get future menus from the Olive Tree.

Communications

Keith Cameron reported it had been a quiet month. He said that John Gould had issued the Club Newsletter. The Club website is being updated, and David and Paul are dealing with it. Paul is also updating the members' area. Keith referred to the distribution of Rotary Magazine to outlets in the Town. Andrew Cowley is working on Facebook, and is calling himself "Paul Harris". We are to give him any information or news which we have and accept

Paul Harris as a friend. Items on Facebook have a very short life, and they can be shared with various local groups.

Membership

It was reported that Associate Members are covered by the Rotary insurance, and this has been confirmed by R.I.B.I. Associate status can now be held. This is going to be put on Facebook. Members were asked to recommend Associate Membership to people they knew. Nicky Jones and Duncan Ford would be approached. Unfortunately it is not possible to move from a full Member to become an Associate.

Fund raising/Walk the Testway

Brian Davies reported there was 473 walkers registered. Audley Homes were sponsoring the finish for £750.00. The Walk account has £15,600.00 in it, £1,600.00 was for this year. There will be a briefing meeting on 10th October upstairs in the Town Hall.

Community Service

Arrangements were being made for Kids Out for next year. This year Red Lodge wanted to take two years – 100 pupils. The Club is committed to pay £300.00 each year to Rotary District. The Community Service were looking again at the whole question of Kids Out, as they felt there was not now a special relationship with the School. It could be possible to cut some funds from the Community Service Budget.

Park Run is being set up at Mountbatten School, £5,000.00 is the total cost, and the Local Authority is contributing half towards it, but it was recommended the Club contribute £250.00. Peter Stuckey proposed and John Livingstone seconded it. It was unanimously agreed that the club would contribute £250.00. It was noted that Councillor Mark Cooper had offered £500.00 from his Giving Account.

Community Service was reviewing a contribution made towards Young Carers. Last year £1,000.00 was paid with £500.00 for the Panto.

Last year the Club also paid £500.00 to take children to a Farm, this year they are asking for £750.00, but these are mainly schools where you would expect children to be familiar with farm animals.

Romsey Council is looking for contributions towards Christmas lights but the Community Service Committee didn't think that our contribution would be significant.

Over the next three years it was going to cost something in the region of £40,000.00; this year it was going to cost £16,000.00, as the lights had to be overhauled. Christmas lights were enjoyed by the whole community. Clive Collier argued that it didn't need to come out of charitable account, but could be paid out of the general fund. The Town Council has applied to Test Valley Borough Council for £8,000.00 from a separate fund. Clive Collier proposed that we pay £250.00 towards the Christmas lights, seconded by Chris Kelly, voting was 24 in favour and 8 against. It was agreed that if the refurbishment of the lights did not go ahead then the Club would not be paying the money.

Foundation Committee

Nothing to report.

International Committee

Shoe boxes would start soon. We are continuing with the sale of Christmas puddings for Charity, which Brian Rickett would be organising. There were two requests for Charitable donations for the Indonesian earthquake and the Indian flooding. It was proposed that the Club buys a further shelter box for £500.00 out of the contingency fund in support of the Indonesian earthquake. This was carried unanimously.

Youth Committee

Dictionaries for life. Help would be needed to visit Schools. Help for the flower beds in the South Garth were being sought, a gardening party was being organised for 22nd September. Volunteers were requested.

Sports & Social

Tony Abbott reported that on 31st October there would be a visit to Salisbury Playhouse, 33 members and guests would be going. If anyone was still interested would they please contact Norman Oldmeadow.

For Christmas dinner there were three possibilities, the Cromwell Arms, Romsey Golf Club (on the Tuesday or Thursday) and he was waiting to hear from Ampfield Golf Club.

Club Almoner

Nothing to report.

Clive Collier reported that Penelope Bonnor Moris was now in a Rest Home in Chiswick.

President's remarks

He thanked Sports & Social for organising the visit to the play in Norman Oldmeadow's garden and the trip to the Isle of Wight.

Any other business

John Whitham asked Community Service to reconsider the withdrawal of support for the farm visit. Peter Hurst reported he was running the bee tent in Romsey Show where there would be free honey for members.

The draw was won by Mike Kelly, Mike Thorne, Clive Collier and Peter Welsh.

Next week's meeting would be a social at the Cromwell Arms.

Meeting ended 9.30 p.m.

Signed **Dated**