

Rotary Club of Romsey Test
Council Pre-Meeting
6.30 p.m. 2 September 2020

Attendees

Bryan Rickett - Chair	Bill Gidley
Nigel Budd	Graham Hollier
Keith Cameron	Gren Lamb-Hughes
Brian Davies	Jon Livingstone - Secretary
Clive Collier	Stewart Mitchell
Sandy Dunn	Shaun O'Brien
Steve George	Roger Shepherd

Apologies:

Nick Bellamy
Nicki Jones

Bryan introduced three matters for discussion:

Paul Harris Fellow 'PHF' Awards

John Burgess, Chair of the PHF Committee, has developed a new proposed process for deciding upon PHF Awards. John has invited views from amongst existing holders of the recognition award, regarding the new process.

Council recommended the proposed process be made in writing, so it can be considered, next month. Bryan volunteered to work with John Burgess to document the recommended approach, including support from PHF members.

N.b. this relates to the Process for Awards, rather than Candidates, which should retain the element of surprise.

Walk the Test Way

Bryan enquired about the recruitment for Registrar and Chair of WTTW; and viability for the Walk in 2021.

Sandy, advised there is a small team looking to simplify the Registrar and Finance roles at present. A job description for the simplified Registrar role is being developed and the team hope to be in a position to provide a fuller update next month. Sandy advised that Crosfield Hall has already been booked for WTTW next year, the weekend of 25/26 September 2021.

The Registrar position is the most important. The WTTW Committee is an experienced team and can operate collectively without a nominated Chair through the year.

Sandy advised the Walk would not have taken place by this date in 2020. Therefore, we are in good time for next year; and will update next month.

Re-Commencing F2F Meetings

Roger expressed thanks to the small group he has led looking into this: Bryan, Roger, Nigel, Clive and Jon. Roger and Clive explained the present discussions with the Royal British Legion. This includes approval of the RBL internal risk assessment by their solicitors, which is reassuring. Agreed there is no downside to progressing a Risk Assessment ourselves. This will identify any issues that may arise, recommending F2F meetings.

Clive advised other Clubs had re-commenced meeting Face to Face. Clive, Roger, Steve Simmons-Jacobs (Club H&S Officer) and Bryan had attended a District Compliance/ COVID related Health & Safety ZOOM meeting in the previous week.

There was strong support for ZOOM access if possible. This will enable all Members to participate if unable or not comfortable attending in person. Shaun was able to report that the Legion has good COVID arrangement in place.

Agreed to progress the Risk Assessment and advise Members at the meeting following. The objective would be to provide a fuller report as to viability to Council and Members next month. Roger has subsequently requested Steve S-J to commence the RCORT Risk Assessment.

Also agreed after discussion, to send out an anonymised summary of the Questionnaire responses, with the minutes of the following meeting.

AOB

Agreed to invite the Lunchtime Club to our ZOOM speaker meetings. Also, invite widows of RCORT, to appropriate talks; Clive mentioned Sue Taylor joined the latest talk meeting.

Stewart having completed his splendid tram fundraiser for Youth In Romsey proposed the Club donates 10% additional on his Just Giving sums raised (equates to the 10% RCORT will receive on these). This amounts to a Club donation of just under £100, which takes the amount raised for YIR to £1,000. This was approved.

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST
COUNCIL AND CLUB MEETING - 7.30 WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2020

ATTENDEES

29 in total, including the following for Council:

- Bryan Rickett - President
- Nigel Budd
- Keith Cameron
- Clive Collier
- Brian Davies
- Sandy Dunn
- Graham Hollier
- Gren Lamb-Hughes
- Jon Livingstone - Secretary
- Stewart Mitchell
- Shaun O'Brien
- Roger Shepherd

Apologies: Nick Bellamy, Bill Gidley, Steve George, Nicki Jones

1. **INTRODUCTION**

Bryan welcomed all Members to the meeting.

2. **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Club Treasurer

Nick had previously advised: 'At the end of August, with all bills paid, the Club had **£9,300** in its bank account. The bank account also held a positive balance of **£800** on members dinner accounts.'

Trust Fund Treasurer

Graham circulated accounts as at 31 July 2020 ahead of the meeting. No queries received.

Graham advised that should the present year repeat itself with COVID, the Club could, if required, run for a second additional year, with the budget allocated already for next year, plus funds from 'Walk the Test **Another** Way' and present unallocated funds. Hopefully this will not be needed.

Club Service

Roger advised the responses to the Club Survey would be sent out with these minutes. Roger thanked the Committee he had established (Bryan, Roger, Nigel, Clive and Jon) and advised that based on this group's recommendation, Council have agreed to a Health & Safety Risk Assessment to consider re-commencing Face to Face meetings at the Royal British Legion. This will be progressed this month and Members kept fully informed with the outcome and any recommendations.

Franks shared that Inner Wheel had been invited to hold meetings of up to 30 at the Potters Heron.

Referring to capacity, Roger was aware that not everyone would wish or be able to attend meetings face to face; and will look into the ability to add ZOOM for everyone to be able to participate, in person or by the use of technology.

Steve Simmons-Jacobs, Club Health & Safety Officer, along with Clive, Roger and Bryan had attended a District Compliance Health & Safety event in the last week. Steve advised it was a useful event and Clive confirmed that other Clubs had recommenced Face to Face meetings. Roger and Steve have subsequently commenced the assessment for RCORT.

Communications

Keith advised there is a lot happening, including good liaison with the Lunchtime Club regarding 'Rotary in Romsey'. This includes a new Rotary in Romsey webpage, thanks to the work of Paul, Shaun, John Gould and Kerry Daley, of Romsey Rotary Club. Neill Beasley has offered to help enhance the visual appearance of the front page and it is hoped that this will be completed by the next meeting.

There is now one Facebook page 'Rotary in Romsey'. Shaun runs this with Kerry supporting. Information from both clubs will be posted. We now have 426 followers which we hope will rise over the coming months.

Kerry plans to work closer with businesses.

Terry Proctor is working on the newsletter; next issue currently planned for October will appear under the heading 'Rotary in Romsey', with subsequent issues each quarter.

David Sutton and Kerry are coordinating press articles for the two Clubs. There was a discussion about The Romsey Advertiser, journalism and readership numbers, including the growth of newspaper's digital presence.

Kerry advised that Romsey Rotary members would be interested in joining our ZOOM talks. Council recommended they are invited to future speaker talks, which was agreed.

Clearly a lot going on!

Membership & Recruitment

Shaun advised nothing to report until Face to Face meetings re-commence. Bryan mentioned that the District message this year was to 'Grow Rotary'. Likely to be a challenge for the immediate future.

Fundraising

Sandy advised that 'Walk the Test *Another* Way' the present year activity was nearing completion. Sandy congratulated the Club and thanked all involved and said Members should be proud of this achievement; we did something we didn't need to do this year, which has enabled our virtual walkers to raise substantial sums for charity.

In 2021, the Walk will revert to the more traditional basis. We have an excellent product which is well supported. Sandy advised that Crosfield Hall has already been booked for WTTW next year, the weekend of 25/26 September 2021.

There is a small team looking at ways to simplify the Registrar and Finance roles. The Registrar role carried out by Steve Beasley for a number of years is a key role. This is being simplified and rationalised over the new two to three weeks. Steve Beasley will continue to work alongside the new Registrar for WTTW 2021.

Volunteers are invited for Members with the skills and time to carry out the Registrar role. Sandy advised PC skills equivalent to basic Powerpoint would be sufficient. Volunteers please approach Sandy.

Sandy also shared that he and other golfers had had an enjoyable golfing break in Padstow. As part of this, he was able to present Jill Stein with medals in respect of the team the restaurant group entered into 'Walk the Test **Another** Way' and their excellent fundraising for the St. Petrock's homeless charity. A great effort and a super relationship. Shaun will be posting photos on social media.

Brian Davies updated Members on the latest amounts raised for charity; over £23k which is a fabulous achievement. John Gould asked about the overall total of sums raised and how close to £1m? Sandy advised about £30k still to go, to achieve this figure. We'll get there with WTTW 2021.

Bryan congratulated all involved and on the great effort from the Walk team.

Jon shared that Steve Beasley, Graham Lee and Peter Stuckey had made special arrangements for walkers for Salisbury Hospice who are doing a physical walk along the Test Way on the original date. This includes providing transport for the six walkers on the day. I am aware this has been particularly appreciated by the charity.

Sandy expressed on behalf of everyone our best wishes and that we are thinking of Martin Harman, who was on the call. 'Any support, just ask'. Mike Thorne volunteered to hold the boards for the WTTW tokens in future and will collect these from Martin.

Community Service

Bryan is keen to continue our support for the Community at the present time and will liaise with Nicki.

Foundation

Stewart shared the good news that Africa has been officially declared polio free by the World Health Organisation. Good news, though still more to do to complete the full eradication.

Stewart will be contacting Hilliers soon in connection with the Purple for Polio activity in February. Frank mentioned the need for fertiliser to improve the display.

Stewart thanked everyone who had supported his splendid tram fundraiser for Youth in Romsey and proposed the Club donate 10% additional on his sums raised (equates to the 10% RCORT will receive on these). This amounts to a Club donation of approximately £100, to take the amount raised for YIR to £1,000.

➤ Proposed by Stewart, seconded by Sandy. This was approved.

As in the report, Stewart has established a contact with Chis Cox, Assistant Head at Mountbatten School, to improve contact with the school.

International

Gren advised that DentaId charity, having been shut down are now re-opening.

Youth

Nothing additional to report over previous months.

Sports & Social

Clive advised S&S Committee yet to meet.

General agreement to pay for Speakers during lockdown. Suggestion to revert to Committee Chairs organising Speakers for allocated dates; tba. Jon mentioned existing organisations we are in contact with. For example, speakers from the following regarding how they have managed during lockdown:

- Food bank
- Hilliers
- Youth in Romsey.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bryan thanked Stewart for Youth in Romsey tram fundraiser event and had attended the publicity event with YIR and others. Stewart also mentioned David Sutton's fundraising efforts on behalf of the Scouts.

Bryan updated the Club regarding the process for agreeing Paul Harris Fellow recognition awards. John Burgess; Chair of the Paul Harris Fellows committee, has proposed a new process for awards which Bryan and he will document for Council next month

John Burgess recommended it was important to retain the aspect of surprise for awards, which all agreed. John is of course invited to Council to propose the new process.

Noted that we have a sum in the accounts for an award to Stuart Marchant of Mountbatten School for his role in promoting music in Romsey. This is not yet communicated with Stuart Marchant. The presentation is likely to be after Face to Face meetings recommence. Or, possibly invite Stuart as a speaker. Bryan will liaise with Bill Gidley and advise further.

4. AOB

Our next meeting will be a speaker meeting Wednesday 16 September. Speaker tba.

APPROVAL OF TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE

The Trustees approved the following item of expenditure:

- 10% of Stuart Mitchell's Just Giving sponsorship, to take the total funds raised for Youth in Romsey to £1,000.