

## ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST- COUNCIL MEETING

4 DECEMBER 2019

### Attendees

Bill Gidley - Chair  
Nick Bellamy  
Keith Cameron  
Clive Collier  
Brian Davies  
Sandy Dunn  
Steve George  
Graham Hollier  
Gren Lamb-Hughes  
Jon Livingstone - Secretary  
Bryan Rickett  
Roger Shepherd  
Iain Small  
Peter Stuckey  
Stuart Wineberg

### Apologies

Stewart Mitchell

### **1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL**

Signed by the Chair.

### **2. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

#### Meetings Format

Bill outlined the process to conduct the review:

- Establish a Steering Committee with recent and future Presidents, also Jim Purdie
- Survey in March or April once new caterer in place
- Open results for Club discussion
- Steering Committee will put proposal to members around May.

Agreed this will include Attendance data, available from John Gould.

#### Paul Harris Fellows (PHF)

Discussion on the status of PHF committee considerations:

- Sandy and agreed consensus view that it would be inappropriate to discuss potential awards, which might then not be made, in the Business Meeting
- Clive recommended that external awards are more appropriate when we are actively engaged with the recipient as on previous occasion
- Potential alternative of financial awards. Bill will discuss with John Gould and a proposal may follow - once the PHF aspect is resolved
- PHF award rules are within an previous out of date version of Club Standing Orders on the Members site, leading to duplication and possible confusion. Jon has advised David Sutton, Secretary of PHF committee
- Bill to be invited to attend the PHF committee meetings.

#### Speaker Time - Duration

Potential for lengthy speakers noted. Agreed helpful to guide speakers beforehand. Also where a longer talk is appropriate this can be communicated to Members in advance.

## **Crosfield Hall**

David Sutton able to book the Hall for 2021. Contact David.

### **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.

#### **3.2 TRUST FUND TREASURER**

Graham's proposal for a half-yearly review of Committee spends in the current year was agreed. Sandy recommended this includes phasing of likely timing for remaining expenditure. Graham and Committee Chairs will review for the January Council and Business meeting.

#### **3.3 CLUB SERVICE**

As report; parting with existing caterers on good terms.

The Palmerston Room at The White Horse is available for future Council meetings. Agreed in principle. Bryan will liaise with the hotel and advise.

#### **3.4 COMMUNICATIONS**

As attached report. More minute takers welcome.

#### **3.5 MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT**

As attached report.

#### **3.6 FUNDRAISING**

Sandy arranging £1k WTTW donation to Inner Wheel for their substantial contribution.

Brian has circulated the charity breakdown for this year. Total funds to date are just under £70k with c.£4k matching to come. Income to RCoRT £16k/ £17k once all funds received.

#### **3.7 COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

No items to report this month.

#### **3.8 FOUNDATION.**

As attached report.

#### **3.9 INTERNATIONAL**

Gren advised good progress with contact from Rotary Club of NE Katmandu (Rudyard Kipling's Rotary Club .... probably). Likely to have a proposal next month.

#### **3.10 YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES**

Youth Speaks progressing for January 16. Steve liaising with the schools.

#### **3.11 SPORTS & SOCIAL**

Christmas party next week.

#### **3.12 SECRETARY**

No additional items.

#### **4. AOB - 'THE BIG GIVE' PROPOSAL**

Sandy advised £2k of the IT development contingency to be released to the Trust Fund. and then outlined The Big Give proposal, which matches donations for registered charities.

Agreed to put to the Business Meeting to fund donations up to £3k (£6k with matching) to the following if they are registered with The Big Give:

- £400 (£800 with matching) to the top five fundraising charities in WTTW 2019
- £300 and £100 personal donation by John Jones to Ataxia (£800 with matching)
- £1,000 (£2,000 with matching) to Parkinson's bringing forward the Club's support for the Club's 2020 Flag Day collection.

Subsequent discussion of Sandy with Trust Fund Trustees agreed Just Giving is not applicable.

Sandy and John Jones will share a note with outlining how the donations will be made; fit with The Big Give terms and conditions; and conformity with the RCoRT Trust Fund deeds.

Signed as a True Record

Bill Gidley, President

Date

#### **APPROVAL OF TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE**

The Trustees approved to fund donations up to £3k (£6k with matching) to the following if they are registered with The Big Give:

- £400 (£800 with matching) to the top five fundraising charities in WTTW 2019
  - Action for ME
  - Autism Hampshire
  - Jane Scarth House
  - Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group
  - The Rainbow Centre
- £300 and £100 personal donation by John Jones to Ataxia (£800 with matching)
- £1,000 (£2,000 with matching) to Parkinson's bringing forward the Club's support for the Club's 2020 Flag Day collection.

John Jones and Jon Livingstone have confirmed this is consistent with the trust deed.

Signed as a True Record

Bill Gidley, President

Date

## **REPORTS CIRCULATED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING**

### **CLUB TREASURER**

At the end of November, having made allowances for unpaid bills and advance payments the Club had in its account **£9,500**.

In addition the members had a positive balance of **£2,900** on their dinner accounts.

Nick

### **TRUST FUND TREASURER**

1. Accounts have been reconciled to 29th November and are in balance as per the current FMR circulated separately.
2. After 5 months of the current year have elapsed, committee spends are 15% of budgets leaving 85% to be spent over the following 7 months. That is of the original budgets of £19,257, we have a balance to spend of £16,436 and this excludes uncommitted funds of £2,928 after current budgets have been serviced. See FMR for details.
3. Any budgets not spent by June 30th 2020 will be carried over to the general 'pot' and not to individual budgets unless a proposal has been approved by the Trustees and Council.
4. There are 3 items shown on the November FMR; Committed Funds, where an update may be appropriate and they are:-
  1. £500 Chamber Music Concert.
  2. £1,000 Fitness & Wellbeing - Nikki Jones.
  3. £500 Balance of Stuart Wineberg's presidential giving 2018/19.
5. For 2020/21, donations from the Walk will be something in the order of £15k and for the current year, this was £20k. As we do have surplus funds at the moment, might it be an idea to carry some of these funds over to next year say £2,500 to the general pot to be adjusted if the final walk donation is substantially different? This would have no effect on our current committed funds but it would mean that we would have £17,500 to spend in both 2019/20 and 2020/21 and would remove the potential paralysis of "holding fire until we know how much will be available". The accounts are constructed in such a way that what we spend or wish to spend are conducted in real-time to enable us to be confident in what we spend or propose to spend without having to wait.
6. Would it not be sensible to have a half-year budget review ready for January's council meeting with input from committee chairs regarding confirmation or otherwise of the remaining funds shown in their budgets that they really require?
7. The alternative to this would be to carry out a distribution of surplus funds in May or June as has happened previously almost might I say I believe, without too much thought or discussion.
8. If we carry on with the way we are conducting the account at the moment are we happy with this?

Budget Monitor document showing spends against budget by committee cost centre for your consideration. [Up to date accounts sent to all members in advance.]

Graham

### **CLUB SERVICE - VICE PRESIDENT**

Our new caterer is sorting out payment details ready to start in mid January, our current suppliers have been informed of the change. We are parting on good terms as they understand that they messed up on one too many occasions. I hope to publish the future menu choices ahead of the start date. I do not want to set the start date up as a major event as there may well be teething troubles which could be exacerbated by adding high club expectations!

On other matters, we seem to have solutions to our search for junior vice and treasurer, we also have a viable mayors picnic for 2020. I hope that I am not speaking too soon!

Bryan

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

John Gould issued our Quarterly Newsletter helping to highlight the numerous activities the Club is involved with. We plan to send articles from this to District for their e-newsletter.

RIBI magazine had been distributed this month to local locations. We will need to start deciding if we wish to continue this for another year.

David Sutton has established a good relationship with the two local reporters and, in addition to having one article published this month, he was also contacted to provide input into the rail bridge incident. Referred to as the Man from the Rotary Club of Romsey Test!

We had an article in the District e-newsletter highlighting our preparation for our End Polio Now crocus blooming in February at Hillier's. A further press release has been prepared for local magazines in preparation for this event. With Neill Beasley's help we are designing two large banners for the entrance to the Gardens. These will be on display when the crocuses are in bloom.

There have been some good minute takes this month. Some reports were better than the real thing!

Please make a note of when you are covering this duty, as it is a valuable method of trying to keep everyone up to speed on what is going on in the Club. David Sutton has just issued a new events list with your duties shown.

Keith

## **MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT**

Ian Catley and Paul Howell have recently attended as interested persons. Ian has stated that he would like to visit us again in February.

Paul Barter, of Asante, has expressed an interest in attending a meeting in the new year.

An approach has been made to the new Manager of the TSB and she is considering attending a meeting.

Joe Billett has resigned from the Club.

Iain

## **FUNDRAISING**

Brian Davies will provide the latest update on the financial out turn from this year's walk.

We have now had our 'Wash-up' meeting to consider the feedback from marshals and walkers from this year's event and walk leaders on registration and logistics will implement agreed improvements in the lead up to September 2020.

No major changes to the walk formula but I'm pleased to report that Stuart Wineberg has agreed to lead a small team to review and make recommendations about our current marketing/media plan. The review will focus on reaching new audiences and with the objective to optimise the amount we raise for charities. I hope to be able to provide a preliminary report on this no later than the February council meeting.

Stewart, Keith and I had a very positive meeting last week with Hilliers to agree the arrangements for fundraising during the crocus flowering season in February next year. As a consequence we believe we will be in a much better position to both raise the awareness of Foundation's End Polio Now campaign and most importantly, raise funding for the charity. As you will recall, Stewart recently asked members if they would be prepared to give some of their time at Hilliers for the purpose of collecting donations - they agreed. A rota will be prepared following the distribution of a commitment sheet by Stewart in due course.

Sandy

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

No developments from Community Service this month.

Peter

## FOUNDATION

Planning continues for our February Polio awareness and fund raising while the crocus are flowering at Hilliers. Keith Cameron Sandy Dunn and myself met with the Hillier's management. Very positive meeting. We will have presence at Hillier's during the flowering of the crocus which will be around first three weeks in February 2021. The main focus is on fund raising but with awareness of Polio and the work Rotary does. To that end we will have presence during the flowering with a display and collection boxes but will concentrate on having members of the club at Hillier's for the **week after half term** 10<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup> Feb. We would like to maintain a presence between 11am and 3pm for that period to maximise donations. We would ask for your help in this important project. Those attending will have a free pass to Hilliers for that day or days. Partners would be welcome.

I will be sending round a commitment sheet in the new year. But please put those dates in your diary.

More details will be forthcoming. Our project team look forward to your support.

Planning for Peace Continues and Tony has updated me on details. This forthcoming event next March will include both senior and Junior schools. Please consider attending there's no cost if you are a mentor. 3 or 4 of us from the club would be great. This is an opportunity to see the Peace jam concept in person. It's a very uplifting experience.

Romsey School expect to send up to 20 students. And the junior school group hope to send 20pupils. Funding is available to subsidise many of those attending.

It will be a one day event at Winchester University, 8-30 to 7-00 for the secondary students, 9-30 to 3-30 for the primary school ones. The guest speaker is Akala [ask your grandchildren!].

As members of the chamber we have been invited to a Romsey Future event on 28<sup>th</sup> November presentation. Due to Election this was put back till New year. Might be interesting to attend.

There's is chance to get £5000 for a community project. Any ideas on this from any committees?

It needs to be a local community based project. Does not need to be fully documented proposal just a good idea to be put forward to the organising committee. But needs to be in by February.

Stewart

## INTERNATIONAL

Nothing to report this month from an International perspective.

Gren

## YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Verbal report at the meeting.

**SPORTS & SOCIAL**

Nothing to report this month.

Clive

**SECRETARY**

No additional items for Council.

## **ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST- BUSINESS MEETING**

**4 DECEMBER 2019**

### **WELCOME AND GRACE**

Bill welcomed members and Ian Bullivant provided grace.

### **TOASTS**

Bill delivered the Loyal Toast.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

#### **CLUB TREASURER**

At the end of November, having made allowances for unpaid bills and advance payments the Club had in its account £9,500.

In addition the members had a positive balance of £2,900 on their dinner accounts.

#### **TRUST FUND TREASURER**

Graham advised a further £2,000 is being released from WTTW, providing total unallocated funds of circa £5,000.

Graham's proposal for a half-yearly review of Committee spending in the current year was agreed. This will include phasing of likely timing for forecast expenditure for the remainder of the Rotary year. Graham and Committee Chairs will review for the January meetings.

### **CLUB SERVICE**

Our new caterers are scheduled to start in mid January; the current caterers have been informed.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Keith shared:

John Gould has issued our Quarterly Newsletter helping to highlight the numerous activities the Club is involved with. We plan to send articles from this to District for their e-newsletter.

RIBI magazine had been distributed this month to local locations. We will need to start deciding if we wish to continue this for another year.

David Sutton has established a good relationship with the two local reporters and, in addition to having one article published this month, he was also contacted to provide input into the rail bridge incident. Referred to as the Man from the Rotary Club of Romsey Test!

We had an article in the District e-newsletter highlighting our preparation for our End Polio Now crocus blooming in February at Hillier's. A further press release has been prepared for local magazines in preparation for this event.

There have been some good minute takes this month. Some reports were better than the real thing!

New volunteers for minute taking of the non-business meetings are invited. Please contact David Sutton or Keith to volunteer.

### **MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT**



Iain shared that Joe Billett has resigned. This is due to fully understandable family and business commitments. We wish Joe well and the door is always open.

## **FUNDRAISING**

Brian Davies advised total funds from WTTW to date are just under £70k, with c.£4k matching income still to come. Income to RCoRT will be £16k/ £17k once all funds received.

Sandy advised a £1,000 donation to be made shortly to Inner Wheel for their substantial contribution to WTTW.

Stuart Wineberg has agreed to lead a small team to review and make recommendations about our current WTTW marketing/media plan. Jon Livingstone to support the WTTW team as WTTW Health & Safety Officer.

Very positive meeting last week with Hilliers to agree the arrangements for fundraising during the crocus flowering season in February next year. A rota will be prepared for members to give some of their time at Hilliers for the purpose collecting donations at this time.

Graham will also be inviting volunteers and drawing up a rota for the Parkinson's Flag Day 30 May 2020.

### **'The Big Give' Proposal**

Sandy then outlined The Big Give proposal, which matches donations for registered charities. From the unallocated of £5k (as Trust Fund Treasurer's report) the proposal is to fund donations up to £3k (£6k with matching) to the following if they are registered with The Big Give:

- £400 (£800 with matching) to the top five fundraising charities in WTTW 2019
  - Action for ME
  - Autism Hampshire
  - Jane Scarth House
  - Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group
  - The Rainbow Centre
- £300 and £100 personal donation by John Jones to Ataxia (£800 with matching)
- £1,000 (£2,000 with matching) to Parkinson's bringing forward the Club's support for the Club's 2020 Flag Day collection.

David Sutton expressed support as this encourages a proactive approach in future years by rewarding the most active charities who participate in WTTW. John Gould reiterated this as support for our leading charities. Iain Small queried if we should reach beyond the top five if these were not registered and eligible; not adopted in view of the time restrictions. Tony Trowsdale sought and was given confirmation this was not a precedent for future years.

Peter Stuckey seconded. Vote was carried with all in favour.

Sandy and John Jones are preparing a note for the Trustees recording how payments will be made and consistency with the trust deed.

## **FOUNDATION**

Keith gave a synopsis of Stewart's report:

'Planning continues for our February Polio awareness and fund raising while the crocus are flowering at Hilliers. Keith Cameron Sandy Dunn and myself (Stewart) met with the Hillier's management. Very positive meeting. We will have presence at Hillier's during the flowering of the crocus which will be around first three weeks in February 2021, with members of the Club at Hillier's for the **week after half term** 10<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup>

Feb. We would like to maintain a presence between 11am and 3pm for that period to maximise donations. Will be asking for volunteers to help. Those attending will have a free pass to Hilliers for that day or days. Partners would be welcome. Stewart will be sending round a commitment sheet in the new year. Please put these dates in your diary.

Planning for Peace event next March will include both senior and junior schools. Please consider attending. There's no cost if you are a mentor. 3 or 4 of us from the club would be great. This is an opportunity to see the Peace Jam concept in person. It's a very uplifting experience. Romsey School expect to send up to 20 students. And the junior school group hope to send 20 pupils. Funding is available to subsidise many of those attending. It will be a one day event at Winchester University, 8-30 to 7-00 for the secondary students, 9-30 to 3-30 for the primary school ones. The guest speaker is Akala [ask your grandchildren!].

As members of the chamber we have been invited to a Romsey Future event on 28<sup>th</sup> November presentation. Due to Election this was put back till New Year. Might be interesting to attend. There is chance to get £5000 for a community project. Any ideas on this from any committees/ Members? It needs to be a local community based project. Does not need to be fully documented proposal just a good idea to be put forward to the organising committee. Submission by February.'

### **YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES**

Youth Speaks progressing for January 16. Steve liaising with the schools. Steve will also welcome assistance from experienced Members regarding the organisation; traffic lights, certificates etc. Contact Steve if you can help.

### **SPORTS & SOCIAL**

Clive confirmed the Christmas event next Wednesday as 7.00 for 7.30. Note time.

### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Bill outlined the process to conduct the Meetings Format Review:

- Establish a Steering Committee with recent and future Presidents, also Jim Purdie
- Survey in March or April once new caterer in place
- Open results for Club discussion
- Steering Committee will put proposal to members around May.

Agreed this will include Attendance data, which John Gould is happy to provide.

Bill also advised David Sutton now able to book Crosfield Hall for 2021. Contact David.

### **AOB**

Jon Livingstone advised Wessex Cancer are facing financial difficulties. Having earlier confirmed with Paul Grainger Jon advised Jane Scarth House, Romsey Cancer Support Centre is entirely unaffected. John Burgess reminded Members of the previous links.

Bill advised that Nigel Budd has agreed to stand as Junior Vice-President. Nigel was warmly welcomed and congratulated.

Tony Trowsdale drew attention to the splendid thank you and Christmas card from Romsey Family Support Group children and staff.

**RAFFLE**

The weekly draw was conducted by Shaun; with a bumper Christmas selection of choice wines on offer to lucky ticket holders.

**NEXT WEEK**

Christmas event with partners.

**FINAL TOAST**

Rotary Peace and Fellowship the World Over.

Signed as a True Record

Bill Gidley, President

Date