

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST

COUNCIL MEETING - 6.30 WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2020

ATTENDEES

Council:

- | | |
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| • Bryan Rickett - President | • Graham Hollier |
| • Nick Bellamy | • Nikki Jones |
| • Nigel Budd | • Jon Livingstone - Secretary |
| • Keith Cameron | • Stewart Mitchell |
| • Brian Davies | • Shaun O'Brien |
| • Bill Gidley | • Roger Shepherd |

Apologies: Clive Collier, Sandy Dunn, Steve George, Gren Lamb-Hughes,

AGENDA

Bryan introduced the agenda to cover:

- Paul Harris Fellow Awards process
- Speaker Arrangements
- Other Business

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARDS PROCESS

Bryan summarised the options he has circulated in advance of the meeting:

1. 'We stop all further PHF awards until the historic method of calling a quorate meeting and debating the merits of a candidate is possible i.e. after the virus rules allow such meetings? N.B. I am told that this method was proving impossible to organise a quorate meeting before we had a virus to contend with!'
2. 'We adopt the process used by John Burgess to try and assess a recent candidate (and could be used to assess others if they arise). Namely the chair, having received a valid nomination, phones each PHF and records their view of the suitability of the candidate. If a significant number support the candidate then the recommendation is put to council for ratification. N.B. We could limit the use of this process to the duration of the virus or adopt it fully?'
3. 'We stop all further awards until such time as we are prepared to change the entire process N.B. This could include bringing the whole process back to Council.'

Bryan and Graham summarised the purpose of these Awards; an honour to recognise significant service. Clubs can determine their own process for awards. This is on hold in RCORT at present, through the difficulties arranging a meeting, especially during the present pandemic.

Graham advised there was a recommended award pending and that we should go ahead now and review the process afterwards. Bill and Brian Davies agreed.

Brian clarified we should support Proposal 2. to make the award now; and whilst meetings cannot be held face-to-face. The Paul Harris Committee may re-consider possible changes to the process, once able to meet again face to face.

SPEAKER ARRANGEMENTS

Agreed external speakers may be paid £60. Nick advised this was the existing arrangement.

Stewart advised the fee should be made known in advance.

The existing policy was confirmed. External speakers may be paid £60 in recognition of their time and often very extensive preparation.

Also, confirmed to invite Mark Edgerley as speaker, 16 December.

OTHER BUSINESS

SGM

Jon advised that the SGM would be with the meeting next month, Wednesday 4 November. This is for election of the President, Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Club Treasurer, Trust Fund Treasurer and Secretary for 2021/22.

Also, for the Club to approve the latest set of Club and Trust Fund accounts.

Bryan invited Council to approve these accounts, which have been circulated to Council at this stage. Agreed.

Nick and Graham will circulate these accounts to all Club Members in advance of the SGM.

ROR

Nick advised this has had to be cancelled for March 2020 and will inform potential attendees at the start of December; the time invitations would normally be sent.

GOLFING DREAMS

Sandy's recommended £250 assistance towards relocation of Warren Clark Golfing Dreams venue was approved. This is on the basis the full sums are raised. Proposer: Sandy within Fundraising report; and Brian Seconded.

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST

COUNCIL AND CLUB MEETING - 7.30 WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2020

ATTENDEES

28 in total, including the following for Council:

- Bryan Rickett - President
- Nick Bellamy
- Nigel Budd
- Keith Cameron
- Brian Davies
- Bill Gidley
- Steve George
- Graham Hollier
- Nikki Jones
- Jon Livingstone - Secretary
- Stewart Mitchell
- Shaun O'Brien
- Roger Shepherd

1. INTRODUCTION

Bryan welcomed all Members to the meeting.

2. COUNCIL REPORTS

Secretary

Jon advised that the Special General Meeting (SGM) would be with the meeting next month, Wednesday 4 November. This is for election of the President, Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Club Treasurer, Trust Fund Treasurer and Secretary for 2021/22.

Also, for the Club to approve the latest set of Club and Trust Fund accounts. Nick and Graham will circulate these accounts to all Club Members in advance of the SGM.

Jon mentioned a series of Training and other meetings for Club Members being arranged by District. This starts with an 'InterXchange' Strategy and Membership session, this Saturday 10 October, 10.00 to 12.00. All Club members are welcome. I'll send detail of these forthcoming sessions out in a separate note, following these minutes.

Club Treasurer

Nick advised, at the end of September, with all bills paid, the Club had **£9,250** in its bank account. The account also held a positive balance of **£2,300** on members dinner accounts.

To avoid the Club funds building up further, whilst there is little expenditure, Nick recommended a holiday in taking the £10.00 monthly charges as from 1 January. No need for anyone to change standing orders! Simply that Nick will not make these withdrawals from Members' accounts for the time being.

Nick advised his understanding was Graham Lee would be issuing a note regarding the ongoing excellent support Members have shown towards Romsey Food Bank.

Nick advised why Reminiscences of Romsey next March has regrettably had to be cancelled.

Test Valley Borough Council has carried out a Covid19 risk assessment which now places severe conditions upon its use. Key issues for us would be:

- Only the main hall may be used
- Attendance is limited to 32 people
- The Kitchen, stage and projection equipment may not be used
- Each attendee should bring their own food and drink which must not be shared.

I've (Nick) recently checked with TVBC and they have no plans to relax these conditions.

I've (Nick) also ruled out alternative venues on size grounds. A virtual RoR via a Zoom type event would not work. Reminiscences of Romsey's success relies on a free tea, entertainment, singing, and social companionship. A virtual event could only provide the entertainment aspect.

Nick has now come to the conclusion that we will not be able to run ROR and will advise intended attendees at the start of December; the time invitations would normally be sent.

Trust Fund Treasurer

Graham has received no queries to accounts. Expenditure is low and uncommitted funds held, as the report.

Club Service

The guidance from RIBI was explicit that face-to-face meetings could not recommence. Bryan thanked the group Roger set up to review the possibility of re-starting these meetings and Steve Simmons-Jacobs for his initial assessment as Club Health and Safety Officer.

Communications

3Q Joint Rotary in Romsey Newsletter

Congratulations to Kerry for producing and completing our first joint Newsletter sent to just under 400 readers. Despite lockdown there is still a lot going on especially in the local community. We are now collecting material for the 4Q issue. This has now been sent to all RCORT Members.

'Rotary in Romsey' Website

Neill and Paul are close to finalising the front cover for the opening page.

Media

One success this month with a very good article and photo from Graham Lee.

Facebook and Instagram

The easiest way to see this if you are not a Facebook follower is to open it via our website. It's a good way to see the latest news and information on the Club.

Future Club activities

Now that we are planning regular Zoom talks David Sutton is once again updating our events page. Please check it for future dates and check that to see if you are on any associated duties. Members and partners from both Clubs are also invited to these talks.

Membership & Recruitment & Almoner

Ian Bullivant is liaising with Martin Harman and Sarah on behalf of the Club.

Fundraising

Sandy circulated the Fundraising Report before the meeting. Brian Davies welcomed Mike Koscian and Bill Gidley, as new members of the WTTW Committee as Registrars. Great news.

Brian shared that close to £25k has been raised through Walk the Test Another Way. This is an excellent outcome for all, with a little under £4k for RCORT funds.

Brian supported Sandy's recommended £250 assistance towards relocation of Warren Clark Golfing Dreams venue, on the basis the full sums are raised. This was approved.

Tony Trowsdale invited Members to donate themselves towards the balance required of £1,000. Tony advised he would match the Club's £250. Bill and others also wish to assist. Graham agreed these donations may be made via the Trust Account, to benefit from Gift Aid.

Community Service

Nikki is liaising with the Romsey Opportunity Group, located behind Romsey Library, and other groups to fund seating, for £500, within their open-air wooden structure. Proposed by Nikki, seconded by Shaun and Graham. Agreed.

Brian Davies also supports and suggested Nikki may speak to Ron Bowater of Men's Shed to assist with construction or possible help.

Nikki also liaising with North Baddesley Primary School who have heard good things about The Ark at Abbey School, to help with high levels of anxiety amongst children and parents. In discussion with the School for facility for a quiet space. Agreed worth pursuing and within RCORT scope.

Foundation

Stewart advised Peace Jam in 2021 may be virtual; and queried if the Club should do an audit of future events and how these may be held. Similar suggestion raised under 'Other Business' also below.

International

Gren's report:

In the International Budget this year, £750 (£550 for a dental chair, £200 for an associated outreach programme in Uganda) was included for Dentaaid, but, given the potential impacts of Covid-19, without a specified timescale.

However recent discussion with Jacqueline James of Dentaaid has indicated that donating the funds now would help with the production of the chair and also ensure dental outreach can continue in Uganda as soon as possible.

The International Committee has therefore agreed to make the donation now and the Trust Fund Treasurer has transferred the funds to Dentaaid accordingly.

Youth

Steve advised that sadly the Technology Tournament had been cancelled, also Youth Speaks.

Good news is that Dictionaries for Life - 320 this year - have been issued by Stuart Wineberg. Thanks to Tony Trowsdale for the garage storage space. One extra school this year, Kings Somborne Primary.

Sports & Social and Speakers

Bryan confirmed that David Sutton is coordinating Speakers. These are as on the Events List for October and November. The meeting in December will also take place on the third Wednesday, date 16 December. David Sutton is arranging for Mark Edgerley, present Town Hall Manager, to speak on this date.

3. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Bryan was pleased to thank Graham Lee and others for supporting Salisbury Hospice Charity fundraising in Walk the Test Another Way; they actually walked the route! After some discussion with Brian Davies, agreed not to refund the RCORT 10% portion to this group, to maintain equal treatment for all participating charities.

Paul Harris Fellow Awards process

Bryan provided an update on behalf of John Burgess (Chair of the Paul Harris Fellows Committee) regarding how these awards, to recognise significant service, may be determined. This has been on hold in RCORT at present, through the difficulties arranging a meeting, especially in the present pandemic.

Council had been asked to review this and had agreed any awards should go ahead now, with John as Chair telephoning Paul Harris Fellows to assess recommendations for this award, whilst meetings cannot be held face-to-face. The Paul Harris Committee may re-consider possible changes to the process, once able to meet again face to face.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

John Gould recommended, in the present pandemic, we should not be tied to existing events. Instead, as Nikki has demonstrated, seek to help address needs now, rather than how they may link to events we have usually run in the past. Bryan advised District will be asking Clubs to carry out a Strategic Review, which could involve this. To be continued.

5. NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be a speaker meeting Wednesday 21 October. Speaker Claire Sutton: 'Discovering Mrs. Pitt'. I/Jon had a discussion with David Sutton yesterday and understand this may be of interest to wives and partners, who are also welcome to these ZOOM talks.

APPROVAL OF TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE

The Trustees approved the following items of expenditure:

- Golfing Dreams £250
- Romsey Opportunity Group £500