

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST
BUSINESS MEETING
7.30 WEDNESDAY 5 JANUARY 2022

1. **WELCOME & GRACE**

Roger welcomed 31 Members to the meeting. Jon advised Kerry Daley and Brian Davies were unable to attend.

2. **BUSINESS MEETING**

Secretary

Jon will share the thankyou letters received in respect of 'Giving in Lieu of Christmas Cards' provided by Graham Hollier; and Honey-pot donation, response to Clive Collier. These are attached with these minutes.

Club Treasurer

At the end of December, halfway through our financial year, the Club's had a positive balance of **£6,800** on the Club's account and a negative balance of **£2,700** on members dinner accounts. These combined gave a positive balance of **£4,100** at the bank.

At the half and full year we reconcile members dinner accounts collecting negative balances and refunding surpluses. Normally the overall balance on members dinner accounts is positive. This half year has been more expensive than usual and the overall balance is a negative one.

Trust Fund Treasurer

Graham circulated the positive financial position prior to the meeting and had received no queries.

Club Service

Nothing to report.

Communications

Nothing to add to Peter's report.

Membership

Nothing to report.

Fundraising

Nothing to report.

Community

As report, a great amount of activity. Nikki expressed thanks on behalf of the charities for the donations provided at the meeting prior to the end of the year.

Community Pantry and Baby Necessities have offered to talk about their activities in Romsey and the surrounding area.

The message of 'Rotary in the Community' is getting through, as demonstrated by the local company donating hampers through their positive awareness of Rotary.

Foundation

'Purple for Polio' at the Hilliers is going ahead in February. Half term is February 21st to 25th, the collecting period will probably be from Monday 21st Feb to 27th Feb.

Stewart has already received volunteers and is planning arrangements.

Keith Cameron queried if we should have a card reader for donations. Stewart advised we are likely to have the one Ed Holmes has access to.

John Gould advised sponsorship through 'Buy me a Coffee' could also be used successfully. Stewart liaising with John.

Need a new clean Rotary banner. Clive in touch with Stuart Wineberg.

Peace Jam is currently proposed to take place in March at Winchester University. Further details next month.

International

Nothing to report.

Youth

Steve gave an overview of the encouraging range of Youth activities:

Learn to Earn - Romsey School - January 25th

Romsey School have decided to go ahead with initiative and the contribution of £500 was thankfully received. The date for the initial training day is Tuesday January 25th. The event will be led by Young Enterprise with two sessions - one morning session 08.20 - 11.45 and an afternoon session 11.50 - 3.15pm - thus covering all their year 8 pupils.

Steve invited volunteers to help mentor during the morning or afternoon sessions.

Additional volunteers, please contact Steve.

Youth Speaks - January 25th - Romsey Town Hall

Romsey and Mountbatten teams plan to take part. Steve will check COVID arrangements and liaise with Steve Simmons-Jacobs regarding risk assessment. The event will be open to Rotarians and Partners.

David Pantling is coordinating a debate by three Rotarians, or Partners, in the interval, along the lines of '*This house believes life was much better before the invention of the mobile phone*'. Contact David or Steve if you would like to be part of this team!

Young Chef - January 27th - Wyvern St Edmunds School, Laverstock

There are 6 pupils from Mountbatten school completing applications to attend this 'first round proper' being run by Salisbury Rotary club. Steve will provide details and invite Rotary supporters if the event goes ahead.

Technology Tournament - March 16th 2022

Still planning for this date.

Sports and Social

The next Partners' evening is 30 March. Clive Collier and Committee are meeting to discuss plans for this date.

3. ALMONER

David Sutton advised members regarding Brian and Katie's health. Visitors are restricted for Brian at present. We send our best wishes to Katie and Brian.

4. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

ZOOM Mtgs

Roger advised meetings will be by ZOOM during January. Council will review before the end of January if the COVID situation is improving sufficiently to return to meeting face to face in February. Other Member's views also welcome.

Whilst we are unable have Breakfast Meetings at Youth in Romsey, Roger will donate to them the sum of £150 from the President's sum for charitable donations for those months the Club are unable to hold these meetings,

up to a maximum of 5 months when all the budgeted sum will be expended. Hopefully we will be back to face-to-face well before that!

Rotary Future

Roger introduced the Working Group proposals discussed last month and following the earlier survey. An email was sent to all Members on 18 December with proposals for the future of the Club. It was proposed that these would be voted on at the Business Meeting on 5 January. Members who would not be attending the meeting were requested to send their vote and comments, for or against the proposals to the Secretary before the meeting.

There was a positive and engaged discussion, including the following:

- : Clive Daley - essential to simplify the way in which new members can join Rotary. Club fees currently £10 a month would not be a barrier
- : John Gould asked Roger if the increase in Community projects would reduce focus elsewhere? Roger and Nikki did not believe this would be the case. More a case of additional people becoming involved with Rotary, through Community projects
- : Nikki: only sees positives as an opportunity for people wishing to support Community activities. By doing so, they have the opportunity to learn about other activities of Rotary and Nikki expects some will wish to join as full members
- : Nikki: already several individuals interested in Rotary in the Community. Keen to progress now, or people will join other organisations
- : Mike Thorne applauded the Community focus of the proposals
- : Discussion of when and how Rotary in the Community supporters may become full members of RCORT
- : Roger advised progress to full membership when encouraged to do so by members of Council or any Club members; and then appropriate steps as in the recommendations
- : Keith strongly supports the proposals. Community is an effective focus to attract possible new younger members. Keith's view is keep full membership special rather than immediately on joining the Community group
- : Peter Hirst also supports steps required for full membership. Clive Daley uncomfortable with 'vetting'
- : Bryan viewed the recommended approach as a unique opportunity, to seize quickly. Also, that a process was still required for full membership of Rotary, as applicants are then signing up to the wider RGBI and Rotary International membership, not only RCORT
- : Jon - fully supportive. If successful will ensure the future of Rotary in Romsey for years to come
- : David Sutton: this will help give people the opportunity to help with events such as WTTW. Roger agreed
- : Ed Holmes recommended 100% support for the proposals.

Roger thanked all contributors and recommended the proposals are adopted for a twelve months' trial as recommended. Roger called for a vote of the 30 Members at this point of the meeting, which was approved.

In favour of the recommendations:	23, plus one received in advance	24
Against:		3

5. **FORTHCOMING MEETING**

- Next week will be an evening ZOOM meeting.
- The evening will be a talk by Ade Summers, a neighbour of Tony Abbott's, who has successfully talked to the Club recently. Further details will follow.

ROTARY CLUB OF ROMSEY TEST
COUNCIL MINUTES - 6.30 WEDNESDAY 5 JANUARY 2022

ATTENDEES

Roger Shepherd - President	Nikki Jones
Nick Bellamy	Gren Lamb-Hughes
Nigel Budd	Jon Livingstone - Secretary
Clive Collier	Stewart Mitchell
Graham Hollier	Bryan Rickett
Ed Holmes	Peter Welsh

Apologies: Kerry Daley, Brian Davies, Steve George

1. **CLUB OFFICERS' REPORTS**

Circulated in advance of the meeting, plus as follows:

Secretary

Jon will circulate thank you letters for in lieu of Christmas Cards and Honeypot donations.

Club Treasurer

As report - funds being received in respect of end of year dinner accounts. Receipts will be visible next month.

Trust Fund Treasurer

Graham advised re Stuart Marchant £500; Stuart has been issued with confirmation of the award, though funds not required yet.

Club Service

Nothing to report.

Communications

Peter referred to Kerry's proposal for a feedback mechanism on the Members' website. Discussion re whether it should be anonymous, and who receives the postings. Graham queried why it was needed as people can communicate directly with the President or members of Council. Peter's view that anything that enhances communication is a good thing. Agreed to discuss again when Kerry is here.

Nigel supported what Peter is trying to do and happy to progress WhatsApp proposal. Roger will discuss with Peter following the meeting.

Membership

Nothing to report.

Fundraising

Nothing to report.

Community

As report, a great amount of activity.

Thanks expressed for donations of food items at end of the year.

Community Pantry and Baby Necessities are happy to talk about their activities.

The message of 'Rotary in the Community' is getting through, as demonstrated by the local company donating hampers though positive awareness of Rotary.

Foundation

Hilliers 'Purple for Polio' is progressing for February. Stewart has already received volunteers.

Roger is supportive and requested a Risk Assessment. Stewart will liaise with Steve Simmons-Jacobs re this.

International

Nothing to report this month.

Youth

Significant activity. Steve was able to update at the Business Meeting immediately following.

Sports & Social

Next Partners' evening is the end of March.

2. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

2.1 Covid - Zoom Meetings

Whilst we have ZOOM meetings during January, agreed Council should determine approach after this. Consensus was that Council as a body should meet circa one week before the end of January to determine if F2F or ZOOM meeting at the start of February. Roger will arrange a ZOOM meeting for Council to decide this before the end of January.

Jon queried if a simple version of ZOOM could be linked in with F2F meeting if/when we recommence F2F.

Nikki is holding a Community Service meeting during January. Roger will share with Nikki the present Rotary Guidance for meetings.

2.2 Youth In Romsey

In the absence of Breakfast Meetings Youth In Romsey will be missing an appreciable income. Roger happy to donate to them the sum of £150 from the President's sum for charitable donations for those months the Club are unable to hold these meetings, up to a maximum of 5 months. Hopefully we will be back to face-to-face well before that! Agreed.

2.3 RCORT Events

Roger will leave it to each Committee Chair to identify such events that they are responsible for and suggest whether these should proceed in the light of the latest situation. Risk Assessments will of course be an important consideration. A risk assessment is normally required, to be covered by Rotary GB&I insurance.

2.4 Rotary - The Future

Agreed the Rotary Future paper to be discussed and voted on at the Business Meeting immediately following Council.

Gren queried if any quorum. Jon advised there are none in RCORT Standing Orders.

Clear consensus to proceed to a vote at the Business Meeting.

3. AOB

Reminiscences of Romsey

Nick as organiser for this event recommends defer to May or June. Clubs which provide the majority of attendees are still not meeting, therefore nothing to be gained by trying to progress the existing date.

See also 2.3 above, the relevant Committee Chair or organiser to advise Council on the recommended approach. Nick will keep Council and Members updated regarding possible rearranged new date.

JRL : 7 January 2022