

Rotary Club of Canterbury

Minutes of the meeting of the Club Council to held on Monday, 18th March 2024 at Rosemary's home.

1. Present: Rosemary Doyle, Maxine Blades, Peter Hermitage, Jim Gascoyne, Brian Dobinson.
2. Apologies – Martin Ward, Tony Loughran & Neil Fraser.
3. Minutes of meeting held on 19th February had previously been approved by Council members.
 - a. Matters arising (not listed below)
 - i. Archive review – Jim noted that it may be possible to use St Mary Bredin to sort through the archive. Permanent storage to be at Brett's chapel. Date to be agreed April/May.
4. Correspondence
 - a. Maxine's List (to follow) – nothing urgent.
5. Secretary's Business –
 - a. RGB&I database showing 47 members & 1 honorary member as of end of February 2024
 - b. Great Stour Riverfest and Duck Race
 - i. Maxine noted that Tony and she had attended a meeting with CCC and other interested parties.
 - I. The Great Stour Riverfest is being held 14th – 22nd September. There will be an opening ceremony in a marquee on 14th in Westgate Gardens with tables for groups taking part, including Rotary.
 - II. The Duck Race will take place on Sunday, 22nd September as the finale to the Riverfest. Maxine will add this date to the Club's programme and has advised Sunrise & FOB and asked for help as last year. Tony has booked dates for Whitefriars Duck sales 4th, 7th, 14th & 21st September, and 14th at Westgate Gardens.
 - III. Application for the Duck race has been submitted to CCC.
 - c. Dining arrangements 2024/2025
 - i. Maxine noted that the Cricket Ground would not be used for 'ordinary' lunches and dinners from end of June as per Matt Kingsland email with price rise to £46 per head.
 - ii. Peter is working with Kent & Canterbury Club to arrange meals there. The use of the Rugby Club and the Abbotts Barton Hotel were also discussed and will be investigated for 2024/5 dining.
 - iii. Club's Xmas Dinner 2024 will still be at Cricket Club
 - iv. Jim asked for clarification on use of EMS in future/different venues. It was agreed that the use of EMS by members to book in and out for meals will be crucial as other venues don't have the flexibility for late bookings/no shows that the Cricket Ground currently offers.
 - v. President's Board & Chair will need storing and it is possible that they could be stored in Chapel at Bretts if nowhere else is available.
 - vi. Update website address –Maxine to check with Graham regarding any legal implications.

6. President's Business

- a. The Point update – Stephen reports that he is still having problems with Rotary Insurance.
- b. Cooperation with Local Clubs
 - i. Rosemary has received a formal letter of thanks from Sunrise for help with the 2023 Santa Sleigh.
 - ii. Inner Wheel – Quiz & Chip Night 6th April poster has been sent out to members.
 - iii. Forest of Blean 007 Night 23rd March poster has been sent out to members.
 - iv. Sunrise – Canterbury Show 20th-21st July – details TBA.
 - v. Chestfield 20th Birthday celebration, Rosemary and Maxine attending.
- c. Pentangular St Quentin Visit,
 - i. Application forms to be returned to Maxine by 26th March.
 - ii. Fourteen people have indicated that they are attending.
- d. Future of Pentangular – initial discussions
 - i. Jim's finance paper with details of expenditure on Pentangular had been circulated and was discussed.
 - ii. Martin has also circulated a background paper giving the history of Pentangular.
 - iii. Maxine looking at developing strategy to review the Pentangular relationship in the early part of 2024/5.
 - iv. After discussion Peter summarised the current situation:
 - I. Uncertainty in Club as to whether Pentangular in its current form is still valued, and seen as relevant to members.
 - II. The expectations of 'hosted' weekends and those when we visit the other Clubs remain the same, although many feel it's time for a different, less expensive pattern.
 - III. It's not at all clear how the Joint Pentangular Projects are administered and how the partner running the project is accountable.
 - IV. Access to club, district and global funding is important.
 - V. The affordability of all aspects of the relations is a concern.
 - VI. There is now a need to seek clarity on the proposed projects and the strategy of the five Clubs, in particular:
 - i) A debate on the future rationale of Pentangular.
 - ii) The role of Canterbury in the relationship – what do we want to get out of it, and what do we want to contribute?
 - iii) Can we develop international aspect of Pentangular with other potential partners and Rotary Clubs in the Canterbury area?
 - iv) Revisit the issue of the various costs and the impact on our budget/subscription costs.
 - v) It was agreed to set -up a review group – Rosemary, Peter, Maxine & volunteers to review the Club's strategy regarding the pentangular relationship.

7. Events and fundraising -TBA

8. Mini Group Study Exchange

- a. MGSE 2024 – Sun 18th August to Sun 25th August Ludenscheid recruitment of students
- b. MGSE 2025 – confirm dates 2025 (17th – 24th) & project team members to be organised.
- c. Letter to gazette & contacts with Christ Church.

9. President Elect Report – Maxine

- a. CS&V update – minutes circulated.
 - i. Brian noted potential NHS project looking at support for ‘lonely men’.
 - ii. It was also agreed that a grant of £500 would be given to the Leaf Team at Simon Langton School to help with the Team’s cost. (see C&VS Committee minutes).
 - iii. Brian – reported on SL Leaf Team success. They now progress to the world final and will be looking for funding donations via Rotary. Brian to follow this up with the school and potential donors.
- b. ISC update – minutes circulated.

10. Treasurer’s Report - Jim

- a. Finance reports – as at 12th March 2024 have been circulated to Council members. Council agreed to place the £460 raised by participating in RC Sunrise’s Santa Sleigh in the Events Activity Reserve Fund
- b. Draft Budget and Subscriptions – Jim to produce a draft budget for Club Council 22nd April to be agreed at Council meeting on 20th May and presented at Club Assembly on 4th June.

11. Club Regeneration Strategy/Plans update.

- a. Maxine reported that annual plan and calendar for 2024/5 are being worked on.

12. Recruitment tba.

- a. Resignations/leavers
- b. New Members

13. Club Programme Update February & March 2024

26th March Pub evening - Fellowship

April

2nd April lunch Business Mark Underwood Meeting venue – Kent & Canterbury Club

9th April evening meeting - MGSE Students at the Cricket Ground

16th April lunch – Lord Mayor of Canterbury at the Cricket Ground their year

23rd April - Pub Chloe Baxter

30th April Dinner –Amanda McKean from the Canterbury Festival at the Cricket Ground

May

7th May lunch Business Meeting & AGM

14th May Dinner – Farruhk Hypnotherapy

21st May lunch - The Dean of Canterbury at the Cricket Ground.

28th May Evening meeting – Tour of Foundry Brewery with beer tasting and talk and a buffet dinner.

June

4th Club lunch Assembly at the Cricket Ground

11th June evening – Marco Keir from Canterbury Christ University at Cricket Ground

18th June lunch – Peter Hermitage, Operation Pedestal – Relief of Malta at Cricket Ground

22nd June – Safari Supper.

25th June lunch Handover meeting venue at K&C or Rugby Club

14. AOB

- a. Peter reported that he has six volunteers for the Canterbury Voices Concert on 23rd March.
MB 20/3/2024