

Rotary Club of Canterbury

Minutes of the Club's Business Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at the Kent and Canterbury Club

1. **Apologies for absence** had been received from Andrew Barchi who was in hospital, Malinin Karani and David Lewis.
2. **Almoner/Health Report** – In the absence of David Lewis Viv Prichard reported that he had recently seen John Hill. Jim Gascoyne continues unwell.
3. **Minutes of last Business Meeting held on 5th November** were approved.
 - a. Matters arising
 - i. John Bennett talk was very interesting.
 - ii. A Christmas Carol was a very atmospheric performance and Philip Abbott was asked to convey the Club's appreciation to the group.
4. **Secretary's Business**
 - a. December Club membership 44 Active, 1 Honorary member.
 - b. John Harris' Funeral will take place on 6th December at Barham Crematorium.
 - c. Christmas Dinner 10th December numbers and menu choices for 65 guests have been sent to the Cricket Club caterers.
 - d. Dining arrangements 2025. Today's meal at the Kent and Canterbury Club had been good. Following a recent meeting with the management of Howfield Manor it had been agreed that they will produce menus for future meals and in future the main course will be plated up and served.
5. **Presidents' Matters**
 - a. Club Council Minutes of meeting 18th November 2024 had been circulated.
 - b. The Point: Stephen Thompson reported that preparations are in hand for the unveiling of The Point on the 29th April 2025. Andrew Clague reported that the stone column has now been completed in preparation.
 - c. Cooperation with other clubs
 - i. Santa's Sleigh December 2024 – schedule published, thanks to those volunteering.
 - ii. Heritage Expo: There had been over 800 visitors to this event at which a number of Social and Service Clubs had been represented including Canterbury Inner Wheel. There have been 2 possible membership leads to follow up.
 - d. Cluster Meeting, 28th November: Maxine had attended and reported that work continues on proposals for Corporate Membership of Clubs.
6. **MGSE**
 - a. Martin reported that there was nothing further to report from the 2025 Hosting Committee

7. Pentangular Working Group Report & Presidents meeting:

Rosemary Doyle reported that Maxine, Raj, Graham and herself had attended the recent Pentangular Presidents meeting in Leuven which had been productive. A report on the previous Leuven JPP was received and Ludenshied outlined a possible JPP6 proposal for PTSD support in Poland for Ukrainians. Leuven hope to visit Canterbury on 21st January 2025 to talk about their proposals for the 2025 Pentangular.

Rosemary asked that members respond to the working group's paper on the future of Pentangular which had been circulated previously.

8. Treasurers' report:

- a. Tony reported that the November Financial Report had been circulated and showed all well.
- b. Spending Groups funds allocation had now been agreed as £5,000 for Community Service, £1,200 for Vocational and £3,500 for International, all subject to the usual protocols.

9. Updated Club Programme:

- a. Future events:
 - i. 10th December – Evening Christmas Dinner at Cricket Ground.
 - ii. 17th December – Canterbury Xmas Markets – 4.30pm at Café Nero.
 - iii. 19th December Club Pentangular Carols.
 - iv. 1st January – Presidents Drinks, Hatch Farm, Stelling Minnis.
 - v. 7th January – Business Meeting, Kent & Canterbury Club.

10. Updates from:

- a. Community Service Group: Richard reported that active funding support is now being given to The Thanington Resource Centre.
- b. Vocational Service Group: Mary and Alan reported that the invitations to Primary Schools for the writing competition had been sent out and contributions would be collected shortly for assessment.
- c. International Service Group: Raj reported that the Dhaka screening programme is going well as is Lend with Care. It is hoped to arrange a fish and chip supper with quiz in the Spring and another Taste of the East experience during Raj's Presidential year.

11. Membership:

- a. Robert reported that information meeting for 3 prospective new members are being held on the 18th December.

12. AOB:

- a. Poppy Collections had raised £2,491.38 for the Royal British Legion who had expressed their gratitude to the Club.
- b. Peter advised the Club that The Canterbury Festival has arranged a sound and light show to be in the grounds of St Augustine's Abbey in the lead up to Christmas.
- c. Maxine thanked members who had brought gifts for the Food Bank revers advent calendar.