

Rotary Club of Canterbury

Minutes of the Meeting of the Club Council held on Monday, 16th September at Rosemary's

1. President Maxine welcome members and thanked to Raj for chairing August meetings including the Business meeting and Club Council.
2. Apologies had been received from Tony Loughran.
3. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 19th August 2024 were approved.
 - a. Matters arising (not listed below). The Club is aware that John Hill had now returned home from hospital and is receiving palliative care at home. Those wishing to contact John or Joan are asked to do so via email.
4. Secretary's Business –
 - a. RGB&I database showing 44 members & 2 honorary member as of 8/8/2024. Maxine and Les Stephenson had visited Leonard Rea and presented him with a framed certificate of Honorary Membership of the Club. Leonard had expressed his gratitude to the Club.
 - b. Maxine reported that the Great Stour Riverfest launch event had been a good, happy and friendly occasion and 300 ducks had been sold. There would be a de-briefing by the City Council.
 - c. The last two buffet meals at The Kent and Canterbury Club had been good with catering provided by the Secret Garden. The arrangements for the remainder of 2024 and the first 6 months of 2025 would be reviewed.
 - d. The first meal at Howfield Manor will now be an early evening buffet on the 8th October following the visit to DIVA Steel. The cost will be £25 per capita for a hot buffet. Cancellation of these arrangements can only be done after two months of trial.
5. President's Business
 - a. The Point update (see September Business Meeting Minutes). A Budget Summary showing the list of anonymous donations had had a limited circulation but showed funds available to cover the cost as per the contract. Andrew reported that the Steelwork has been made and the deposit paid for the stonework. Payment as been made to the City Council regarding the Liability cover required.
 - b. Cooperation with Local Clubs
 - i. The Bat and Trap evening on 16th August had been successful and it is proposed to have a similar event in 2025.
 - ii. Duck Race – see below:
 - iii. Details of the Santa Sleigh programme for December 2024 are awaited.
 - c. Pentangular 2024
 - i. President's meeting confirmed as 30th November – possibly MB, RD, MD TL/GB attending. It is expected that a proposal from Ludenschied Club will be received for JPP 6. It was emphasised that any possibility of Global Grant funding should be raised and confirmed in writing by Rotary Foundation at an early stage. The proposal as originally made could be excluded by 'war zone' activity either by the USA or by British Foreign Office listing.

- ii. Pentangular Development Group is being co-ordinated by Rosemary who has prepared an initial list of points to be covered attached as an addendum to these Minutes. Members are invited to submit further discussion points to Rosemary. The initial findings of the group will be presented to members at the Business Meeting in January, and then discussed at a follow-up meeting in February.
 - d. Events and Fundraising update – 2024/5
 - i. Sunday 22nd September Duck Race. Viv Pritchard has circulated a list of duties and personnel covering them but this will be re-circulated. We are grateful for help from members of The Sunrise and Forest of Blean Clubs. The Lord Mayor will attend the Race.
 - ii. Andy McConnell’s ‘Banter with Bonkers’ talk at Prince of Wales Youth Club has now been re-scheduled for the 12th October as a fund raiser for the Prince of Wales Youth Club.
 - iii. Friday, 1st November, Amy Johson Project at Kingston Village Hall is kindly being organised by Stephen & Sue Thompson and the Project Director, Jane Delamere, will be presenting the project. (Expenses of £100 agreed).
 - iv. Tuesday, 18th March -Irish evening at Prince of Wales Youth Club is being organised by Peter Hermitage.
 - v. A Review of fundraising strategy is proposed early in 2025.
- 6. Mini Group Study Exchange 2024– Maxine
 - a. MGSE 2024 – Sun 18th August to Sun 25th August - Ludenscheid had comprised a very full programme and one of our participants had returned early.
 - b. MGSE 2025 in Canterbury. Martin is continuing to plan this with his working group with the intention of the programme being taken to the Pentangular Presidents’ meeting in November.
- 7. Treasurer’s Report - Tony
 - a. Finance reports as at the 9th September had been circulated and are satisfactory.
 - b. Group spending plans remain as previously reported pending the accrual of funds.
 - c. 2024/5 Subscription payments update. At the date of the meeting 3 members had not paid their subscriptions. 1 of these is in process of payment but the position needed clarification regarding the other 2 to ascertain whether they wish to remain in membership.
- 8. Duck race:
 - a. Ticket sales
 - i. Internal – Stephen Thompson advised the Club at the recent Business meeting that personal duck sales were proceeding and asked that members who had offered donations should now pay them to the Club.
 - ii. External Corporate duck sales had mad a slow start but were making steady progress now.
 - iii. Whitefriars – sign-up sheets had been circulated and there continue to be slots available for the collection on 21sy September.
 - b. Arrangements for 22nd Race Day had been circulated by Tony but would be re-issued.
- 9. Group’s Updates
 - a. Community Service Group – Richard reported that plans for activity continue but are hampered by not knowing which Club members are in the Group.
 - b. Vocational Service Group – Richard/Alan had nothing further to report.

- c. International Service Group – Raj reported that the Group has a balance of £500 available for a few projects but most of the previous members of the Group had not responded to a request for a meeting so arrangements had been cancelled.

The responsibilities of members regarding whichever Group they had been asked to serve on would be highlighted at the next Business Meeting.

10. Recruitment: – Maxine/Robert Yonge

- a. Resignations/leavers none known at this stage but item 7 © refers.
- b. Robert Yonge had reported that there are 2 Prospective New Members being followed up. Maxine is working with Robert about accessing major employer's Retirement Planning schemes to promote Rotary.

11. Rotary North Star Project: Nothing further to report.

12. RI – State of Membership Webinar. Maxine urged Council and Club members to listen to the RI Membership Webinar which shared much useful data on Rotary membership trends, both present and potentially future.

13. Club Programme Update – V14 attached would be circulated to Members shortly and Maxine would bring printed copies to the next meeting.

14. AOB

- a. It was agreed that EMS accounts could be opened for Friends and Supporters who asked enabling them to book directly for Club events they might wish to attend.
- b. District Council Request/Proposal – Maxine to check if this was accepted at DCM 14th September
'District 1120 will launch an appeal to raise £50,000 by Christmas to enable Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex (AAKSS) to purchase a replacement Rapid Response Vehicle (RRV). The cost of purchasing the car and equipping it with the wrapping, blue lights etc will be £50,000.' Proposed by DGN
Graham Forster.
- c. Club Website updating continues and a number of further amendments were noted.
- d. The possibility of creating a small, lightweight, Rotary table decoration to promote the Club and possibly our Pentangular partners was considered.