

## Rotary Club of Canterbury

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Club Council held on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October at Rosemary Doyle's

1. President Maxine welcomed PE Raj, PP Rosemary, Rtns Andrew C, Neil, Richard & Robin.
2. Apologies for absence had been received from Tony Loughran.
3. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 were agreed.
4. Secretary's Business –
  - a. RGB&I database showing 44 members & 2 honorary member as of 8/8/2024
  - b. Kent & Canterbury Club – Meals for August & September Meetings had been better and we will wait to see how winter catering goes. It was agreed to continue the bookings at present.
  - c. Howfield Manor arrangements had been good for 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October meetings but possible questions regarding food quality need to be raised. The staff are friendly but the frequent intervention of a staff member during the Speaker's presentation was distracting.
5. President's Business
  - a. The Point. Andrew reported that a slight alteration to the design means work will not now start until after Christmas but anticipated completion is by 31<sup>st</sup> March. Discussion ensued on site protection during construction. Tony reported that expenditure to date is £20,250 and the available balance is £80,346.
  - b. Cooperation with Local Clubs:
    - i. Bat and Trap proposal for 2025 – Raj had spoken to the pub landlord who had not yet agreed his diary for 2025 so could not confirm whether it would be possible to change to a Tuesday to better accommodate the MGSE visitors. Raj will speak to Martin.
    - ii. Canterbury Society Heritage Expo – 9<sup>th</sup> November Westgate Hall, Stall booked And F of Blean and Sunrise Clubs will also attend. Maxine is co-ordinating. A possible display of artifacts from the Club and details of Polio Plus may be included. Raj will notify Inner Wheel of the event and invite their involvement.
    - iii. Santa Sleigh – December 2024 – Sunrise Club are putting together their programme for Santa's Sleigh for the first 2 weeks in December and are making modifications to the route to simplify. They are donating their share of the proceeds to the District Air Ambulance Response Vehicle project.
  - c. Pentangular 2024
    - i. President's meeting confirmed as 30<sup>th</sup> November – to confirm attendees Maxine, Rosemary, Raj and Graham – travel arrangements were in hand.
    - ii. Pentangular Development Group – Rosemary is hoping that the Group would meet shortly to consider the previously circulated (and augmented) paper. The intention is to maintain the previously planned Club meetings for discussion.
  - d. Events and Fundraising update – 2024/5
    - i. Andy McConnell at Prince of Wales Youth Club – Maxine reported that the (rescheduled) to 12<sup>th</sup> October event had been an entertaining evening and the proceeds for the POWYC were £1,058.
    - ii. Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, Amy Johson Project at Kingston Village Hall kindly organised by Stephen & Sue Thompson EMS says mid 50's booked at present so likely that 60 maximum will be achieved. Raffle prizes are needed.

- iii. Club Xmas Dinner, New date 10<sup>th</sup> December will be in The Harris Suite at the Kent Cricket Ground. Maxine is agreeing the arrangements with the caterers who are likely to provide a carvery.
- iv. Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March -Irish evening at Prince of Wales Youth Club is being arranged by Peter Hermitage.
  
- v. Review of fundraising strategy will be held early in 2025. Diminishing Club membership numbers means that fundraising endeavours need to be more focussed.

6. Mini Group Study Exchange 2024– Maxine

- a. MGSE 2025 in Canterbury – detailed programme still awaited but Maxine had asked that the programme should not be overloaded.

7. Treasurer’s Report – written report from Tony in his absence:

- a. The Club accounts are all in good order and thanks expressed to Graham for his excellent control of these.
- b. Approval by Club Council of Annual Accounts – Year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The Accounts as circulated in advance were approved and adopted nem con. The review by our Examiners is in progress.
- c. Group spending plans: There is £4,069 in the Trust Fund account plus Duck Race funds. International have £547 unspent in the Trust account.
- d. 2024/5 Subscription payments update – 2 members have yet to pay their subscriptions and thus indicate their continuing Membership of the Club. Maxine has spoken to one and will now write to them. Rosemary will speak to the other.

8. Duck race – Tony written report in his absence:

- a. Financial report: The Duck fund account at present is £3,865 with a further £1,075 to be collected from Corporate Duck sponsors. The £3,865 is a net figure after transferring £1,850 to JPP.
- b. Donation to RC Sunrise – in view of the considerable assistance of members of the Sunrise Club it was agreed to offer a donation of £150 to that Club’s Zambia project.
- c. RNLI – The Club is very grateful to the lifeguards who attend every year as volunteers. The lifesavers club to which we have previously donated has now been disbanded but one of the volunteers had suggested we might make a donation to the RNLI and this was agreed in the sum of £30.
- d. Date for 2025 – Raj and Tony will discuss the date for 2025 Duck Race with the City Council and in the light of their feedback on the Riverfest.

9. Group’s Updates

- a. Community Service Group – Richard reported that the Group continues to have members embedded 4 local organisations and the Group is awaiting the confirmation and release of funds as requested.
- b. Vocational Service Group – Richard/Alan – the notes of the Group meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated.
- c. International Service Group – Raj reported that he had been unable to agree a date for a meeting with the Group members but hoped to be able to meet with the small core group of members shortly.

- d. Group Membership – It was agreed that Club Members need reminding of their responsibilities regarding Group membership and the need to contribute positively to this prime Club involvement. It was noted that the listing of Members of groups in the Club Directory will be reinstated for the year 2025/26.

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#### 10. Recruitment – Maxine/Robert Yonge

- a. Prospective New Members
  - i. 7 Day notice for Malini had been sent to Club members.
  - ii. Discussion ensued on the varying new categories of membership and ways in which the Club might attract younger new members and whether there is any way in which membership could be less costly.
- b. District Appeal for support vehicle for K&S Air Ambulance – It was noted that District appeared to be wanting to oversee Club fundraising and distribution in the District. In this latest request District had not declared what funds they had available already and previous requests for District accounts had not been responded to positively. Whilst it is recognised that this is a very worthy cause the shortened timetable to raise the funds pays no respect to existing Club budgets. It was agreed that District would be advised that the Club will invite members to make their individual donations to District International Bank account: Sort Code 40-43-44 Account number 21555650 or to suggest to Club members who are existing supporters of the Air Ambulance to make an additional gift to them should they so choose.

11. Club Programme Update – V17 attached (added – Inner Wheel 100 events)

12. AOB Thanks were expressed to Rosemary for her hospitality.

Addendum to minutes

Subsequent to the meeting, Club Council members approved a donation of £150 rather than that of £30 to the RNLI in lieu of the donation to the Lifesavers as per discussion of item 8d.

Maxine Blades, Secretary 28/20/2024