



**Minutes of the District Council Meeting  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

**Best Western Rockingham Forest Hotel Corby**

**District Governor John Dehnel**

## **Rotary International District 1070 Council Meeting – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

District Governor (DG) John Dehnel chaired the meeting, which was held at the Best Western Rockingham Forest Hotel commencing at 7.30p.m.

There were 129 Rotarians present from 68 Clubs (Area AE 5; Area AW 9; Area B 11; Area C 10; Area D 11; Area E 11; Area F 11) plus one visitor.

### **C 16/17.01 Apologies and Welcome**

DG John welcomed everybody to the meeting and made special mention for those attending for the first time. He spoke of the now expanded district and welcomed the clubs joining as full members of the District Council. He also welcomed a visiting Rotary New Generations Exchange Student, Elyse Latimore (from Canada), who was being hosted by Peterborough Ortons. DG John mentioned that the Council was our own body for the governance of the district and as such was an important meeting; he also noted that each meeting was an opportunity to exchange ideas and to introduce new ones.

Apologies were received from:

**IPDG Margaret Taylor, PDGs Ken Mackellar, John Hocking, and Dan Connan; AG Trevor Davies, Rotarians Alastair Wood, David Ward, Joyce Boddy, Alan Waller, Ian Thomson, Janet Sinclair, Mike Renfret, David Brown and the Rotary Clubs of Uppingham, Kimbolton Castle and Towcester.**

### **C16/17.02 Act on Remembrance**

All those present stood in remembrance of those Rotarians who had passed to higher service since the previous Council Meeting and DG John read out the names:

**Paul Ashmore (Sleaford Kesteven), Brian Benford (Lutterworth Wycliffe), Phillip Brudenell (Oundle), Jim Buckby (Northampton (Honorary)) PDG John Butcher (Northampton West (Honorary)), Paul Dyer (Coalville) John Foster (Stamford Burghley), Ken Hammond (Northampton West), Sue Hampshire (Brackley) John Hill (Grantham), Brian Horsford (Stamford), PDG Norman Jones (Brackley) Trevor Parkes (Grantham), Howard Smith (Kempston) and Anne Wadking (Bourne St Peter)**

### **C16/17.03 Minutes of the Last District Council Meeting Held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016.**

There were no questions or comments. A motion to approve the minutes was carried unanimously.

**Proposed: AG Peter Berry (Grantham)  
Seconded: PDG Chris Chew (South Holland)**

### **C16/17.04 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes that would not be covered elsewhere in the agenda.

### **C16/17.05 DG Report**

DG John opened his report by stating that his comments would be based around his regular newsletter "Take-Off". He reiterated the theme for the year – "Rotary Serving Humanity" - which he felt was a theme all could engage with in order to give more service. He reminded Council

that the year marked the centenary of the Rotary Foundation and that the first priority was still the eradication of polio. He encouraged members to attend the Nottingham conference in September which would be a vehicle for spreading ideas across the clubs in D1070.

The DG then went on to describe and exercise conducted by the Executive to identify a venue near the geographic centre of the newly enlarged district to comply with a promise made at the last meeting of the Council. A second venue – Greetham Valley Golf Club – was used as a comparator with the existing venue Rockingham Forest. There was little difference in the hire cost of each location. A comparison of time and distance from an average club showed only a difference to each venue of a matter of a few miles and minutes. However, for clubs at the extremities of the district the difference was some 17 miles and 25 minutes with Greetham Valley favouring the clubs in the north east and Corby those in the south and west. At this point a question was raised about alternating meetings between the 2 venues but the Executive felt that this arrangement could be confusing.

At this point the DG allowed a written proposition to be made from the floor:

**“That the next meeting of this District Council be held at the Greetham Valley Golf Club, Wood Lane, Greetham, Oakham LE15 7SN.”**

**Proposed by: PDG Malcolm Webb (on Behalf of the Rotary Club of Lincoln)  
Seconded by: Rotarian Neville Thompson (Grantham)**

The proposer based the proposition on the road conditions for the clubs in the remote areas of Lincolnshire and that Greetham Valley was a well know venue for D1070 clubs. The seconder pointed out the ease of access via the A1. Others who spoke in favour pointed out the psychological aspect of travelling for over 2 hours each way to attend an evening meeting, the fact that clubs would vote with their feet if the venue was not right and that it would not know if the proposal would work unless it was tried.

PDG Barry Hasdell asked if the proposal had been circulated to all clubs before the meeting since he had not seen anything in his distribution. There had been no prior notification sent out. However, the DG decided to accept the proposition for discussion and decision at this meeting since it referred to just the Council meeting in November. The proposition was therefore put to the vote and was agreed by a significant majority. The decision would be reflected in Item 16/17.14

The DG concluded his report by noting that the MP for the Melton Mowbray area – Alan Duncan – had recently been appointed a Minister in the Foreign Office and that he would be writing to him to point out the success of the polio eradication campaign and the ask that the government continues to give support. He encouraged others to do the same, particularly where their MP has been given a brief in the new government allied to health, aid or the foreign office

### **C16/17.06 DGE Report**

DGE Chris Davies concentrated on one item – the previously circulated proposal to restructure the AG areas in order to reduce the number of clubs which would, if agreed, require 2 additional AGs to start on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. The DGE reiterated the background argument for the change and confirmed that the change could result in an increased expenditure of some £800 per annum. Discussion followed with some opposition from a Club affected by the boundary changes but there was also support for reducing the AG workload. In answer to a question about whether the membership number of each club was considered the DGE suggested that the AG worked with a club irrespective of the membership number and that each club needed attention.

The proposition proceeded to a vote and was carried by a sizeable majority with some 20 votes against and 14 abstentions.

#### **C16/17.07 Report by District Secretary**

In addition to his written report DS Roger McDermott asked that clubs to get in touch with him if they had ordered District Directories in addition to the standard 10 per club and had not yet received them.

Jewels of office were presented to AG Area D Les Aldrich and District Treasurer Eric Lennox.

Compliance Officer Louise Willis thanked the 51% of clubs who had submitted their compliance certificates for the current year and urged the remaining 49% to do so using the e-mail: [1070compliance@gmail.com](mailto:1070compliance@gmail.com).

#### **C16/17.08 Report by District Treasurer**

District Treasurer Eric apologised that he had not circulated a report in advance of the meeting citing a very busy period at work and the proximity of the end of the last Rotary year as mitigating factors. He indicated that for the past year most budget lines were underspent and that he estimated a small surplus for the year in the order of some £7K. He would circulate a complete report via the Secretary as soon as possible.

He was also writing a report for the former D1270 club showing where the budgeting differences were between the 2 districts to explain the different levels of capitation.

Eric concluded by thanking Assistant Treasurer Mike Warrington for his work in reconciling the actual membership numbers as shown on the different membership data bases.

#### **Additional Comment by DG**

Before moving on to the other reports DG John stressed to all that the request for reports to be submitted to the District Secretary by a cut-off date really was a cut off. The timely circulation of reports was necessary to help all Council attendees to prepare for the meetings and thus be able to ask questions based on the reports.

#### **C16/17.09 Assistant Governors' Reports**

Written reports had been circulated for each Area and following some general comments about the completion of club assemblies and area forums, specific comments were made as follows:

**Area AW.** The clubs in this area were congratulated by the Assistant Treasurer Mike Warrington for being the first area to have 100% completion of the membership database integration.

**Area B.** A membership event covering the Loughborough area would be held on 10<sup>th</sup> September.

**Area C.** **The president of the Rutland club was now Rotarian Bruce Strickland.**

**Area D.** Leicester De Montfort had had 17 visitors at an interest meeting.

#### **C16/17.10 Foundation**

The District Rotary Foundation Chairman Irvin Metcalf delivered a lengthy update on his report making the following points:

End Polio Now was still the Foundation's first priority and giving was still needed. He noted that polio contributions had been down by 75% in the previous year. He reminded the meeting that crocus bulbs were on sale again this year and could be ordered through Rotarian Barry Hackett (Ashby De La Zouch).

He estimated that there would be a balance of some £4K remaining in the District grants allocation and he asked for any new bids to be made as soon as possible.

There were projects in hand under the 'Peace' banner and the first Bill Huntley Memorial Peace Fellow had been selected. Candidates for the programme were always needed.

In a statement he said that the failure of all but 2 of the RIBI districts to participate in a centenary Global Grant bid had resulted in RFUK not being willing to flex the normal Global Grant Rules for the remaining projects which would have to be treated as normal club applications. Questions were raised by the Rotary Club of Ramsey about the status of their bid in this context. The DG suggested that both he and the DRFC would discuss the specifics of their bids outside the meeting.

### **C16/17/11 Project Team Reports**

**Youth Service.** Following success of a candidate in the Young Photographer completion and the experience in the Youth finals day at Leicester, Ramsey has extended their participation into other youth competitions.

**Know Your Rotary.** DGN Tim provided information on the 4 Know Your Rotary events for the balance of the year; there would be 2 before Christmas and 2 after as follows:

*19<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - The Warning Zone, Leicester*  
*14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 - Milton Golf Club, Peterborough*  
*9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 - Overstone Golf Club, Northampton*  
*21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 - Sleaford Golf Club, Sleaford*

Further details would be sent to clubs in the near future. PDG Margaret Morley would be acting as the primary point of contact for event information.

**Rotaract.** In answering a question raised, Alan Jukes stated that the Rotaract in Kettering would be in 'hibernation' until the autumn.

**Community.** The vacant Sailability post on the committee had been filled by Rotarian Alan Wilson (Northampton West).

Competition salvers and shield winners for last year were Corby Phoenix for Environment and Oadby for Community projects; both clubs were presented with their trophies.

**International.** The International projects database was being extended to include the names of Rotarians who were experienced and willing to be 'project facilitators'. The scheme would be launched at the Nottingham conference.

### **C15/17.12 Support Team Reports**

**Communications.** Updating work was continuing on the website and on-line training for district officers and team leaders would commence shortly which would enable them to edit their specific area of responsibility.

**Vocational.** Nothing added to the submitted report.

**Leadership Development and Training.** No report and nothing added.

**Membership Services.** Minor sports applications forms had already been distributed and further copies were in the baskets. Clubs were reminded that the closing date for entries is 31<sup>st</sup> July.

**New Club Formation.** Nothing added to the report.

**C16/17.13 Conferences**

**Nottingham.** Conference manager Bill Hill reported that planning for the Nottingham conference was virtually complete although registrations were not flowing in the usual pattern. This was a cause of concern for planning purposes for the registration officer who would not be readily available for a period in August. In answer to specific questions Bill stated that there were 124 paid delegates registered plus 16 visitor delegates, with 128 booked for the gala dinner. The contracted minimum for the dinner was 200. Planned expenditure was constantly under review and some savings had already been taken to limit the financial exposure of the district. However, there was still the potential for a small loss if registrations do not increase before the cut-off date of **26<sup>th</sup> August**. The DG urged those planning to attend and who had yet to register to do so as soon as possible.

**Llandudno.** Plans for this conference were firming up and a venue visit had been made. The tourist board have offered to run a centralised hotel booking service. A budget and registration proposal would be presented to the next meeting for agreement.

**C16/17.14 To confirm the venue and date of the next District Council meeting.**

In accordance with the decision taken at Item C16/17.05 the next meeting would be held at the  
**Greetham Valley Golf Club, Wood Lane, Greetham, Oakham LE15 7SN**  
**On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 commencing at 7.30pm**

**C16/17/15 Any Other Business**

DG John had been asked if he intended to continue to offer clubs a 5 minute slot for clubs to promote projects and he replied in the affirmative. Indeed there followed a short presentation by the Rotary Club of Lindum Lincoln on their 'Slam Jam' project – which combined performance art and creative writing for individuals or small groups in 3 age ranges starting from the age of 11. The club would be happy to visit other clubs to talk about the project; the contact is PDG Simon Kalson of the Lindum Lincoln club.

With that DG John closed the meeting and thanked those attending for their participation.

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District Governor

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Date

