



Minutes of the District Council meeting

Wednesday, 7th July 2010

**The Buckingham Suite,
Holiday Inn – Peterborough West**

District Governor Roger McDermott

District Council Meeting, Wednesday 7th July 2010

The District Governor, Rtn. Roger McDermott chaired the meeting, which was held at the Holiday Inn, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough on Wednesday, 7th July 2010 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

There were 157 Rotarians present from 74 Clubs. (Area A 12; B 8; C 11; D 12; E 11; F 7 and G13, clubs represented).

C. 10/11. 01 Welcome and Apologies:

The District Governor welcomed all who were present, in particular the PDGs, all those Rotarians attending their first Council meeting and members of the Youth Exchange team: all named were invited to stand and be recognised.

Apologies were received from:

PDGs: Ronald Watson, Dan Connan, John Butcher, Peter Moreton, Eric Cobby & Paul Buyers

Officers: Carolyn Metzler (Development & Training), David Brown (Protection), Janet Sinclair (Rotaract), Lesley Hammond (International) & Andy Roberts (Conference Manager)

Rotary Clubs: Kempston, Bedford Park (President Mark Willis), Shepshed

Rotarians: David Ward, Joyce Boddy (Sec), Geoff Blurton, Stuart Mucklejohn (Sec), Robin Stubbings (Sec)

C. 10/11. 02 Act of Remembrance:

All present stood as a formal act of remembrance of all Rotarians who had passed to higher service since the previous Council meeting.

C.10/11. 03 Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

PDG Roger May proposed the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday, the 20th April 2010, should be agreed as a true record. Seconded by PDG Neville Hackett and unanimously approved. The minutes were signed by the District Governor.

C. 10/11. 04 Matters Arising:

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Rtn. Jim Wiggins (Grantham Kesteven) queried the statement made that “grants could only be awarded to those attending District Assembly”.

Rtn John Dehnel replied that award of grants is dependent on Foundation Chairmen attending a training session (primarily intended to be District Assembly). Alternative training opportunities have since been made available. It was agreed this should be reflected as an addition to the minutes.

C. 10/11. 05 District Governor’s Report:

The District Governor reported on a very successful District Handover at the Greetham Valley Golf Club.

He had also attended, accompanied by IPDG Dick Parsley, the RIBI Handover in Glasgow.

He had already made a number of visits to clubs.

He presented regalia to those not able to attend the handover lunch.

District Treasurer – Rtn Steve Bellamy

Assistant Governor Area C – Rtn Geoff Richardson

The District Governor was pleased to welcome at the meeting 3 outgoing members of the Youth Exchange team and presented them (Jack Weatheritt: Taiwan bicycle tour, Sarah Mason: short term exchange to California, Annie Davies: Turkey for history) with banners and goodie bags. He thanked them for taking part and wished them well in their forthcoming trips.

C. 10/11. 06 Presentation of awards

IPDG Dick Parsley presented awards relating to the previous Rotary year:

RI Award for Significant Achievement to the Rotary Club of Grantham

IPDG Dick Parsley gave detail of an outstanding performance by the Rotary Club of Grantham. He read out the criteria for the RI Significant Achievement Award and outlined how their Swim Marathon had satisfied those requirements for 21 years. The event had raised over £40,000 and benefitted around 40 local organisations. He also recognised the efforts of the Grantham Kesteven Inner Wheel, swimming clubs and schools for their input.

Minor Sports: Winner Rotary Club of Sleaford Salver accepted by President Elizabeth Venn

Runner up Rotary Club of St Neots, accepted by IPP Gordon Johnston

Photography: Winner Rtn Paul Smith (Peterborough Ortons) – presented with the District Shield

2nd Rtn Graham Norris (Wigston) accepted by President Richard Kew

3rd Rtn Paul Smith (Peterborough Ortons)

C. 10/11. 07 District Secretary’s Comments and Correspondence:

The District Secretary added to his previously issued report.

District Directory

The District Secretary requested that the printed District Directories (in hard copy, as agreed at the January 2010 Council meeting) be collected from the Club baskets before leaving. He had hoped to extend this facility by letting members have them in a pdf format via the District Website, but concerns had been raised regarding security and access to the information. He assured members that anything on the members section of the District Website, being restricted to members only with protected password, is secure. He emphasised that data protection is taken very seriously in respect of every publication the organisation produce. Further investigation suggested it could possibly be a breach of the Act the Data Protection Act if the electronic directory cannot be kept up to date. Due to this uncertainty the directory will not be made available in a pdf format at present. This leads to some confusion since the RIBI Directory will now only be available via the RIBI Website and we are not certain at the moment if or how often this will be updated by R.I.B.I. The District Secretary thanked Clubs for their views on issues of security of information.

District Database

At the previous District Council meeting members were advised that District Executive had authorised the District Secretary to investigate the feasibility of a District Database, with AG Ken Billington co-opted to assist. District Executive feel long term savings in running costs could result and have authorised proceeding with implementation of this new system (cost estimated at £1500, payable over 3 years). It is hoped the new system will be fully operational and live by 1st July 2011. Early preparation work will enable the data to be used for the compilation of the District Directory 2011/12. Hard copy of the District Directory may be retained; recommendations will be made to District Council later in the Rotary year. The new database will have very strict protocols, a secure area for members to view information, with alterations only made by Club administrators (Secretaries) for their own Club entries. District administrators will have really up to date information, rather than at present, where accurate details of membership are not available. District Executive has seen the benefits such a system can provide in better management of Club and District affairs. These benefits will become apparent to all Clubs in practical applications to be demonstrated at a series of “workshops” to be held, for Club Secretaries and any member who feels that they would like to be involved, in early autumn. Dates will be announced by the end of August/early September.

Unsolicited Mail

Some Club Treasurers have received correspondence offering currency exchange facilities. IPDG Dick Parsley has looked into this intrusion of privacy. This correspondence was sent to Treasurers at their Club meeting place. It is clear the information had not come from an RI or RIBI database, both restricted and very nearly impossible to access. The firm concerned may have accessed the RIBI **public** webpage as only those Clubs who have listed Treasurers details have been targeted (public pages do not normally reveal personal addresses). It is virtually impossible to stop this type of canvassing; there is no breach of any protocols. RIBI will be issuing a statement to Clubs advising of the frustrations of such SPAM mail in their next Club Mailing.

Secretarial information

Club Secretaries have been emailed details of the latest information and downloads available.

Nominations for District Governor 2013-14

Nominations received from:

Rotarian Geoff Blurton	Rotary Club of Kettering
Rotarian Robert Bracegirdle	Rotary Club of Loughborough Beacon
Rotarian Lawrie Cooke	Rotary Club of Huntingdon Cromwell
Rotarian Margaret Morley	Rotary Club of Corby Phoenix

Voting papers are in the baskets. Voting will be by the single transferable voting system. The District Secretary asked Club Secretaries to ensure the Clubs preference is indicated by the candidate’s name, 1 as first, 2 by the second and so on. Crosses or ticks will invalidate. All voting papers are to be returned to the District Secretary, in the envelope provided, by the **7th August 2010** (note change from previous advised date of the 21st August).

Nominations for other District Officers 2011-12

As there is an election for DG 2013/4 requests for nominations for other District Officers will be delayed until the end of July (to allow any unsuccessful candidate for DG 2013/14 to consider applying for another District Office). Requests for nominations will be sent by email to all Clubs. All nominations will need to be sent to the District Secretary by the **28th August 2010** (again, please note the revised date). Any elections will then be notified to the candidates and Clubs as soon as possible after that date.

District Assembly – 8th May 2010

Loughborough University are undergoing refurbishment of the James France Building. There are additional facilities in the new adjoining Stuart Mason Building, which will be used for the breakout sessions and hopefully for the 2 plenary sessions. This should give larger capacity.

Bourne: Change of Treasurer

Graham Anderson
Hollwell
Stainfield Rd
Kirkby Underwood
Bourne
PE10 0SE
Tel 01778 440595
E mail graham@andersonfca.fsnet.co.uk

Soar Valley: Change of Secretary

Alan Meredith
5 Sheepecote
Rothley
Leicester
LE7 7RH
Tel: 01162 303895
e.mail: alanmeredith@talktalk.net

Change of Other Officers:

PR is the responsibility of IPP Roger Williams 01509 815523 e.mail: rogerwwilliams@msn.com

Youth Services Chairman is Roy Lilley 01162 303364 e.mail: royndor@tiscali.co.uk

Rtn Graham Cooper (Soar Valley) enquired as to the economics of having the District Directory available on disk. The District Secretary said he would refer the matter to District Executive.

Rtn Don Scott (Holbeach) reiterated the concerns raised by his club regarding security issues should the District Directory be supplied in pdf format.

He expressed his support for a District Database in a secure area provided it was kept up to date.

C. 10/11.08 District Treasurer's Report:

Accounts had been distributed prior to the meeting, updated copies put in baskets and distributed round the room. The District Treasurer appealed to those yet to claim expenses for 2009/10 to submit claims in the next few days so end of year accounts could be finalised.

He reported that 8 clubs had yet to comply with submission of their statement of accounts due by the 31st December last year. This being a statutory requirement he would have no option but to inform RIBI of the failure to submit.

The District Treasurer will shortly issue a subscription invoice to all Club Treasurers by email. **Payment is due by the 31st July** and he appealed for prompt payment.

C. 10/11. 09 Assistant Governors' Reports:

AG reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Assistant Governors present had nothing to add to their reports.

Rtn Jim Wiggins (Grantham Kesteven) repeated his request that AG reports be in a standard format making them easier to compare.

The District Governor said he would refer the request to District Executive but felt reluctant to stifle personality and style differences.

C. 10/11. 10 Standing Orders of the District

The District Governor requested permission to suspend Standing Orders to allow time for meaningful discussion. This was overwhelmingly agreed (1 against, no abstentions).

PDG Iain Vernon thanked Clubs for their input, many suggested changes having been incorporated into the final document approved by District Executive on the 14th June.

Rtn Bob Seery (Thrapston & Raunds) expressed appreciation of the work undertaken by the working group and requested the content of Standing Orders should continue to be monitored. He expressed disappointment that no mechanism had been allowed for clubs to be able to canvas the opinion of other clubs in respect of changes.

Rtn Jim Wiggins (Grantham Kesteven) raised a couple of minor points of clarity that were noted.

He highlighted a perceived change of emphasis regarding District Conference when the District Secretary had been denied, and the Stage Manager granted, expenses. He felt this indicated a reluctance to confer.

IPDG Iain Vernon explained that the 4 District Council meetings held in District 1070 were in effect 'Conference' and the District Conference more a form of 'Convention'.

PDG Roger May (Lutterworth Wycliffe), as a point of order, said RI would not allow us to call it a Convention.

PDG Ken Parkin (Huntingdon) commented there was no District 1070 Inner Wheel – it being District 7.

PDG Iain Vernon proposed the revisions to Standing Orders be accepted, seconded by IPDG Dick Parsley and agreed with a significant majority (1 against, no abstentions).

Standing Orders were reinstated.

C. 10/11. 11 Project Team Reports:

Project Team reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.

a. Community and Vocational:

Rtn Simon Adlam announced that Rtn Pam Wiggins would no longer be responsible for Literacy (Dictionary for Life etc.) leaving a vacancy. He appealed for a volunteer to replace her.

b. Youth (incl. RYLA, Interact, Youth Exchange, Rotaract):

Rtn Mary Whitehead had several points to add to her report:

She clarified that 'New Generations', a term now used by RI, would still be known as 'Youth' in District 1070.

The newly formed Castle Theatre Interact Club is probably the first theatre based club in the world.

She reminded Clubs to keep in contact with their RYLA candidates and give them support.

PDG Andrew Cowling announced that a couple of RYLA places still remain - clubs wishing to take up these places to contact him in the next 3 weeks.

The Celebration of Creative Youth, held at the end of last month, had been a great success.

She thanked clubs for supporting youth events. There are still mistakes on the website so updated material had been emailed to Club Secretaries and she asked this be forwarded to the appropriate member. Members of the youth team would be happy to visit clubs. Many updated RIBI competition rules are now available on the RIBI website (Young Musician to follow).

Youth Speaks DVDs are available at £1.00 per copy.

c. International (incl. RFE):

Rtn Ken Billington gave a very inspiring presentation on Trade Aid. 10 boxes have been sent to Guatemala (5 carpenter and 5 builder), 29 boxes to Haiti and 21 to Zambia.

Trade Aid would like to do more and he requested Clubs consider this venture within their charity support.

d. Foundation (incl. Polio Challenge & Future Vision):

Rtn John Dehnel had several additions to his report:

He announced that on 14th July the Foundation Committee meet to discuss allocation of funding for project proposals, this leaves just a few more days for Proposals and Memoranda of Understanding to be sent in. Global grant applications can be submitted at any time. Since Future Vision is a new venture feedback is essential and he invited Clubs to keep him informed of their experiences.

He was delighted to be able to report that District 1070 had exceeded the previous year's annual giving to Foundation with a total of £222,000, an average of around \$80 towards the \$100 per capita suggested. He thanked the 28 Clubs who had given >\$100 per member. A trophy is given to the Club donating the highest amount per member combined with undertaken work for Foundation

The Foundation Trophy was awarded to the Club running the District Shop over many years raising £5000 in addition to their significant donation per member, **The Rotary Club of Kettering Huxloe**. Members had also been involved in the immunisation programme in India, GSE etc. The trophy was presented to last year's President Andrew Carnell and Rtn Bob Frost.

IPDG Dick Parsley was delighted to present a **Paul Harris Fellowship Award** in recognition of undertaking significant work for District to **Rtn Bob Frost**.

Rtn John Dehnel highlighted the need to decide how to divide up the District Designated Fund for the next Rotary year He reiterated the proposals detailed in his report and proposed this split be adopted, seconded by PDG Neville Hackett and unanimously agreed.

He gave updated figures for the Polio Challenge which had exceeded \$1000 per club over 3 years, but expressed disappointment that 2 or 3 Clubs had declined to support this venture. District has raised £187,000 over the 3 years.

A CD message from Bill Gates "thanks, keep up the good work" was shown.

C. 10/11. 12 Support Team Reports:

Support Team reports had been circulated prior to the meeting.

a. Conference:

Conference Manager, Andy Roberts, being unwell was not able to attend.

Joint Conference Manager Rtn Neville Thompson (Grantham) acted on his behalf and thanked Barry Hasdell for his support and advice.

- 1. Bournemouth 2010:** Rtn Neville Thompson reported an increase in registration (up 18% on last year) with 482 delegates booking so far, bookings for the gala dinner also up 12%.
He announced that the HQ hotel contract had been successfully renegotiated, only 3 rooms left not booked in HQ hotel and transport for all delegates now reintroduced.
The issue of the expense of coffee was detailed with £3 a cup charged at Bournemouth and difficulties experienced getting served in the intervals. Alternatives suggested were use of disposable cups (saving £1000) or supply of water only (saving £2,500). He asked for a show of cards to indicate a preference.
A suggestion by Rtn John Horn (Melton Mowbray) that only those attending conference indicate, was rejected as impossible to operate. Indications showed a preference for water only.
Rtn Neville Thompson concluded by noting that the conference was so far well within budget and thanked the team for their support.
PDG Ken Parkin (Huntingdon) retracted his comment at the previous meeting and congratulated the team on their ability to negotiate.
Rtn Alan Faulkner (Spalding Welland Centenary) asked that crèche facilities and activities for children be considered for future conferences.
- 2. Southport 2011:** DGN Linda May had nothing to add.
- 3. Telford 2012:** DGN (E) Chris Chew had nothing to add.
- 4. Future Conferences:** The District Governor said proposals for future conferences would be presented at the next District Council meeting.

b. Communications (incl. District Editor, Web site, Marketing):

Rtn Graham Walker reminded members of the new Members Only area (secure site) on the District website. Additional copies of News & Events available for distribution to non-Rotarians – a chance to market Rotary.

c. Leadership, Development & Training: nothing to add.

d. Membership (inc. Extension, Membership Development & Retention & Inter-Club Sports)

Rtn David Morris announced that another marketing campaign will take place, in March 2011, in District 1070. This time the campaign will be centred round Peterborough, all areas within the Peterborough Evening Telegraph circulation.

Clubs wishing to benefit from the campaign must have completed the Planning Guide for Effective Rotary Clubs and any Clubs having just “a single gender membership” must additionally provide a proposal/strategy on how this issue would be addressed.

Membership is currently lower than last year – actual figures will be posted on the District website.

He had attended an RIBI meeting at Alcester where retention/mentoring were the main focus.

A membership Seminar will take place in Corby on 2nd September entitled “how do we stop losing members”; Ian Thompson and Peter Davy to be speakers and presenters.

C. 10/11.13 Report on Council on Legislation held in Chicago

Our District Representative PDG Richard Hyde gave an entertaining and informative presentation to support his previously issued report. He highlighted some of the resolutions discussed and emphasised the privilege of being part of an organisation giving its membership a genuine opportunity to influence change in a democratic manner.

C. 10/11.14 Date and venue for the next District Council meeting:

Rockingham Suite, Best Western Rockingham Forest Hotel, Corby. NN17 1AE

Thursday, 28th October 2010

Meeting to commence at 7.30pm.

C. 10/11. 15 Any Other Business

The District Secretary pointed out and it was noted that the revised Standing Orders are now effective.

However, as the District Conference does not run according to the Rotary year (operating from the end of each conference) these cannot be applied retrospectively to Bournemouth.

New Standing Orders will apply from Southport onwards.

The District Secretary reminded everyone to ensure that they cleared “their baskets” and sought volunteers to take the contents of baskets of Clubs not represented at the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.37 pm.

District Governor _____

Date _____