



Minutes of the District Council Meeting

Wednesday 30th November 2016

Greetham Valley Golf Club

DISTRICT GOVERNOR JOHN DEHNEL

Rotary International District 1070 Council Meeting – Wednesday 30 November 2016

District Governor (DG) John Dehnel chaired the meeting, which was held at Greetham Valley Golf Club commencing at 7.30p.m.

There were 125 Rotarians present from 59 Clubs (Area AE 5; Area AW 9 Area B 9 Area C 10 Area D 8; Area E 8 Area F 10.

C 16/17.16 Apologies and Welcome

Apologies were received from:

PDG'S Iain Vernon, Peter Manton, Margaret Taylor, Len Taylor, Dan Connan.

Rtn's David Ward, Alan Jukes, Hugh Watson, John Garley and Alex Kondrass

Rotary Clubs Shepshed, Kimbolton Castle, Kempston, Welland Valley.

C16/17.17 Act of 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:

Trevor Chown Northampton West, Keith Fisher Peterborough (Hon) David Garrick Grantham, Richard Geary Coalville, Robert Hall Peterborough, Gethin Jones Northampton, Brian Mounter Sleaford Kesteven (Hon) Kevin Roberts Sleaford, John Shaw St Neots, Robin Tucker Sleaford, David Woodhouse Ashby Hastings.

C16/17.18 Minutes of the Last District Council Meeting Held on 18 July 2016.

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

Proposed: PDG Richard Hyde (Ramsey)

Seconded: DGE Chris Davies (Market Harborough)

C16/17.19 Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising

C16/17.20 District Governor's Report

The DG Report had already been circulated and there were no questions. As usual, an update would be issued at the beginning of December. DG John took the opportunity to update Council on some other issues.

- a. He had completed visits to all Clubs in the District and had emphasised Rotary Serving Humanity. Emphasis had also been given to the fact that this coming year saw the centenary of Foundation and invited members to go to Atlanta next year.
- b. Across RIBI, 6 million crocuses had been bought by Rotary Clubs. D1070 accounted for almost one third of a million – a truly outstanding effort to raise awareness of End Polio.
- c. In spreading ideas across the newly expanded District he emphasised:
 - i) that for the Disability Games there is a need for admin, sponsorship, publicity and registration officers. Rtn Karen Caudwell (Horncastle) would need several more volunteers later.

- A meeting would be held at Rtn Doug Henderson's (Stamford Burghley) on 14 Dec at 8p.m.
- ii) Awareness of SlamJam had been raised across the District.
 - iii) It was disappointing that Junior RYLA had been cancelled at a late stage. However, RYLA is progressing well.
 - iv) The Steering Group for Heartwize has been formed and will be meeting shortly.

As always, DG John emphasised that in many ways Vocational is a real strength for Rotary.

Membership had been discussed at General Council and there were areas of real concern. Within RIBI membership has declined by over 1500 in the last year. However, within D1070 membership has in fact increased slightly. The RIBI losses had led to a Budget Review. The budget for 2016-2017 was based on membership of 48500; forecast for 2016/17 is based on a lower figure of 47500-48000 and that for 2017-18 drops again to 46250. Capitation for this year is set at £52. A fee of £62 for 2017/18 would result in a deficit budget of £119000. A fee of £64-65 would result in a balanced budget.

Representatives from RIBI are developing a 3 year financial business plan looking at the areas of highest risk and cost. They will be looking for less expensive options and may include radical changes to how the Association operates.. A Strategic Planning Group is to be chaired by RI Director Elect Brian Stoyel comprising 2xDGs, 2xDGEs and 2xDGNs. Inputs are being worked on by each DG with their continuity groups. This requires urgent action with reviews taking place leading up to an additional Strategic Planning Meeting in January and the topic being on the agenda for General Council in February. Those actions that are possible immediately will be implanted. Others may need to be taken to the RIBI Annual Business Meeting or event to COL in 2019

DG John brought forward a proposal from District Executive that **Future District Council Meetings until July 2018 be held at Greetham Valley GC**

PDG Linda May (Blaby Meridian) brought forward **an alternative proposal that the meetings should alternate between Greetham and Corby.**

PDG Richard Hyde (Ramsey) asked about the different costs. The DS was able to confirm that costs at Corby are £185 whilst costs at Greetham are £150.

AG Stephen Holdaway (AG A(East)) spoke in support of Greetham noting that during discussions that led to D1270 Clubs joining D1070, it was agreed that the focus of the District should move a little further north and that alternative venues would be considered.

A question was raised as to the numbers of delegates from new clubs attending the meeting; a count showed a total of 16.

Richard Strange (Northampton West) asked whether e-meetings and voting could be considered. This is likely to be addressed by the District Executive.

The Amended Motion that meetings should alternate between Greetham and Corby was put to the vote.

Proposed: PDG Linda May (Blaby Meridian)
Seconded: PDG Chris Chew (South Holland)

The amended motion was heavily defeated.

The Principal Motion brought forward by the District Executive was then voted on. The motion was carried by a substantial majority.

C16/17.20.5 Presentation.

1. Past RI Director and RIBI President Neville Hackett (Ashby de la Zouch) was applauded for his work with Audrey's Wells, a project in remembrance of his late wife. A great deal of effort had been put into making the project a success. A certificate in recognition of this will be presented at a later, suitable date.
2. IPDG Geoff followed this with another Awards Presentation of RI Certificates for Membership Development. He wished to record his appreciation to Rtn Mike Warrington who had been a great help in the provision of historical information.

C16/17.21 DGE Report

Nil to add to the report already circulated.

C16/17.22 District Secretary

A report had been circulated and there were no questions. The District Secretary informed delegates that the RI website would be down from 3-5 Dec. It was also noted that RIBI had a phonographic performance licence. This did not take away from the Club responsibility for ensuring that all necessary licences are in place.

Louise Willis (Kettering Tresham) was concerned that not all clubs had yet completed their compliance forms. DG John added that such non-compliance by clubs is unacceptable. She will be contacting those who had not yet done so.

C16/17.23 District Treasurer's (DT) Report

The District Treasurer had circulated his report and the Examiner had seen them; there had been no comments.

The DT noted that historically budgets have been based on entitlement to expenses. This can often mean a surplus on budget if legitimate claims are not made. He also noted that we are currently carrying more than recommended reserves. In this Quarter, Q1, we are on line with the budget.

Over the Christmas season there is a great deal of financial activity taking place, often involving large amounts of cash. In handling this cash there are 2 areas of concern. Firstly, safety of the individual and, secondly, safety of cash. Each of these areas should and must be covered in a Risk Assessment. RIBI does carry insurance covering both the individual and cash. No individual should be carrying more than £500. It was noted that this may be difficult over the Festive Season but clubs should make every effort to put in place systems to meet this requirement.

C16/17.24 Assistant Governors' Reports

Written reports had been circulated for each Area and the following additional comments were made:

Area A E Nil to add

Area A W Nil to add, however, the Purple Ball on 10 March and its associated raffle was emphasised.

Area B Nil to add.

Area C Nil to add. Rtn Nick Merritt (Uppingham) asked for clarification on cut off dates for Club Reports. DG John explained that there is no requirement for such reports for District Council and is purely an Area C issue

Area D Nil to add

Area E Nil to add

Area F Nil to add

C16/17.25 Foundation

There was nothing to add to the report already circulated. Emphasis was given, however, to the Foundation Lunch which will be held on Sunday 2 April. A pamphlet was available for every Rtn explaining exactly what Foundation is. A request was made for those who had not yet requested a Foundation Speaker to do so as soon as possible.

C16/17.26 Project Teams' Reports.

Youth Service. There was nothing to add to the report already circulated. In questions, Rtn Nick Merritt (Uppingham) asked if there are lessons to be learned from Young RYLA being cancelled. Uppingham had made significant effort in this area and had they been aware there was a possibility that the few candidates that were needed to make the project viable could have been recruited.

Rtn Maureen Garriff (Lincoln Colonia) noted that D1270 had always been very successful in this area. She pleaded that it should not be allowed to happen again since from a PR perspective this year had been "a disaster".

PDG Linda May (Blaby Meridian) asked if a briefing could be arranged at a District Meeting so that everyone is informed about what is involved,

The Rotaract Coordinator was not available; however, questions were taken. PDG Richard Hyde (Ramsey) asked if meetings of Rotaract, which Ramsey had attended, continue? 2 members of Ramsey had attended RYLA. This needs to be discussed with Rtn Alan Jukes (Northampton) outside of the meeting.

Community. Rtn Bill Watson (Shepshed Charnwood) reported that £800 had been raised from "The Worlds Greatest Meal".

International. There was nothing to add to the report already circulated. Rtn Nick Merritt (Uppingham) issued a request for clubs to become involved in their International Project.

C16/17.27 Support Teams Chairmen's Reports

Communications. There were 2 issues to report:

1. There is now a requirement for a new District Webmaster with Word Press knowledge and experience.
2. **A Club Website Competition** has now been launched. Details have been sent to Club Secretaries and a copy would be available in Club Baskets at the end of the meeting.

Vocational. There was no report.

Conference Report.

1. **Nottingham** The Conference manager reported that there was likely to be a small surplus from the Nottingham Conference in spite of the attendance problems already reported. Early Warning of potential problems ensured that early remedial action had been put in place to reduce costs.
3. The forecast Registration Fee for Llandudno is £35. This figure was unanimously accepted by the District Council. For Llandudno the format would revert to the usual means of Registration and Gala Dinner attendees.

Proposed: Rtn Bill Hill (Melton Mowbray)

Seconded: Rtn (Kettering Tresham)

3. **2018.** There were 2 options for 2018 Conference: Southport and Torquay. Budgets for each venue had been circulated and from those figures Torquay looked to be the most cost effective option. The forecast Registration Fees for each venue are: Southport £35 and Torquay £30.

When put to a vote it was agreed that Torquay would be the venue for 2018 by a large majority.

Leadership Development and Training.

There was nothing to add and there were no questions.

Membership. There was nothing to add to the report already circulated although aspects of Corporate membership were emphasised.

Minor Sports. There is a need for a new Minor Sports Organiser for 2017/8.

New Club Formation

To date there has been little activity in the pure sense of new club formation. However, there has been considerable activity in the formation of satellite club groups and this has been spread across the District with the groups associated with Northampton, Loughborough Beacon, Wreake Valley, Melton Mowbray and Boston all meeting with 10plus members and delivering service either in support of the parent club or separately. Some clubs had been in touch following DG John's visit and PDG Dick has had meetings with Boston St Botolph and Thrapston and Raunds in the last month. PDG Dick

also took the opportunity to encourage clubs to make better use of Rotary Club Central which is a very useful tool for clubs to measure performance and progress.

C16/17.28 Club Presentation Slot

1. Rtn Alan Waller (Wellingborough Hatton). Four years ago, this club was close to folding. Club Visioning helped to rejuvenate it. Much of the effort was through the use of social media. Over this 4 year period the Club has learned much more about polio and its lasting effects and as a result the Club's President's Charity this year is to deal with Post polio Syndrome. This syndrome is an annual muscle wasting disease which is a result of having contracted polio in the first place and lasts a lifetime. Thus, even when polio itself is eradicated, the effects of this muscle wastage will mean that very many thousands will still be affected by the condition. A local Support Group is setting up a hydrotherapy support club to help victim of this condition. Such a system may help to slow down the progress of the muscle wastage.
2. Grantham Kesteven made a request for help with raising funds in support of a small charity supporting a Peasant Farming Community to the north of Nairobi. Such a charity project is heavily reliant on a water supply since when the rains fail, the harvest fails. Grantham Kesteven target their support in favour of disabled children where the mortality rate is particularly high. The Club is sending some £9000 per annum to help but this level of support is unsustainable. They have developed a proposal to apply for a Global Grant to be able to help this School Agricultural Project and are asking clubs to donate £280 to facilitate the completion of the application.
3. AG Graham Martin (AG Area B) gave a briefing about a Charnwood Membership Initiative which had been held in an empty shop in the Carillon Centre in Loughborough on Sat 10 Sept. There was much to report of a positive nature and, as always, there were lessons learnt. In organising the event after a slow start, everyone did come together and brought a quality project to fruition. The event was attended by some 200 visitors of whom some 17 left follow up details. Of lessons learnt the most important was not to overestimate the ability of some Rotarians to sell Rotary. Choose those who will have face-to-face wisely. In the same way, do not underestimate individual ingenuity and creativity.

C16/17.29 To Confirm the Venue and Dates for the Next District Council Meeting

The next District Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 2 March 2017 at Greetham Valley Golf Club commencing at 7.30p.m.

C16/17.30 Any Other Business

1. PDG Dick Parsley (Wellingborough Hatton) emphasised the usefulness of Know Your Rotary for new Presidents, new members and partner organisations.
2. The District Treasurer term comes to an end in June 2017 and there is a requirement to find a replacement. There is also a vacancy currently on the Finance Committee.