

Rotary International District 1070 Council Meeting

Wednesday 17 April 2013

District Governor Chris Chew chaired the meeting which was held at the Best Western Rockingham Forest Hotel on Wednesday 17 April 2013 commencing at 7.30pm.

There were 136 Rotarians present from 67 Clubs (Area A 10; B 10; C 7; D 11; E 12; F 6; G 11 Clubs represented).

C. 12/13.43 Welcome and Apologies

District Governor Chris welcomed all who were present, and asked Past District Governors to stand to be recognised.

Apologies were received from:

Past District Governors: Ronald Watson, John Butcher, Martin Bridge (on his way to represent the District at the Council of Legislation) Barry Hasdell and Roger McDermott.

Clubs: Biggleswade and Hinckley.

Presidents: Peter Brearley (Towcester), Julian George (Market Bosworth), Malcolm Mann (Rutland), Brian May (Northampton), Bob Skinner (Boston), Keith Smith (Hinckley Ambion), Philip Wright (Peterborough) and David Whitehead (Biggleswade Ivel), Michael Hill (Northampton West).

Individuals: Lawrie Cooke (Huntingdon Cromwell), Mark Nichols (Rutland), Eddie Pearson (Melton Aurora), and Sally Smith (Northampton West).

C. 12/13.44 Act of Remembrance

DG Chris named the following Rotarians known to have passed to higher service since the previous Council Meeting: Colin Bagworth (Spalding), David Buckby (Kettering), Ken Chamberlain (Honorary Member Huntingdon Cromwell), Ron Clegg (Honorary Member Lutterworth), Neville Jones (Rushden), Richard Shepherd (Oadby), Keith Tompkins (Wellingborough), John Tyler (Loughborough), Ron Weatherall (Lutterworth) and Barry Wiggins MBE (Lutterworth). All present stood in an act of remembrance.

C 12/13. 45 RIBI Membership Development and Retention Presentation

PDG Amanda Watkins, Chairman of the RIBI Membership Development and Retention Committee gave an interesting and informative presentation including details of the Five Year Plan adopted by RIBI.

C 12/13. 46 Minutes of the last District Council Meeting

District Secretary Dick Parsley apologised that under Apologies PDG Dan Connan's name had been incorrectly spelt; Lesley Hammond (Boston St Botolph) had been omitted. He also apologised that under Act of Remembrance Keith Brown's Club should have been shown as Ramsey.

C 12/13. 47 Matters arising

In reference to Item C12/13.33 of the minutes of the meeting of the District Council on 29th January, Norman Brown restated on behalf of Bourne the proposal “That the District Treasurer sets up a provision within the New Generations’ budget so that expenses grants may be made available to candidates representing the District at Regional and RIBI New Generations’ Finals which are held outside the District 1070 Boundaries.” This was seconded by Allan Wilson on behalf of Northampton West. Norman Brown emphasised the word “may”. DS Dick said that in the absence of having been able to agree guidelines, the decision on any payment would be made by the District Executive. Responding to a question from AG Geof Nichols he thought that sufficient time was available to make a decision but if necessary a decision could be made for subsequent ratification. The motion was passed overwhelmingly with four votes abstaining.

C 12/13.48 District Governor’s Report

In addition to his written report DG Chris referred to the following:

Financial Incident: All District funds had been reclaimed either from the previous Treasurer or from insurance. However, the Crown Prosecution Service had acknowledged an error in not putting forward part of the claim which has now been covered by insurance. He said compensation for this maladministration would be pursued.

C12/13.49 District Secretary

Databases: DS Dick advised that 13 Clubs had not completed the listing of incoming officer RI Global Database and some clubs had not completed details for the District Database. He asked that the Clubs involved complete the details as soon as possible so that circulation lists could be completed.

District Assembly: Registration information had been sent to all Club Secretaries and asked that bookings be made by 1st May 2013.

District Directories: Each Club Secretary had been sent the file for updating and return to the printers by 1st May 2013. After which any changes up to 25th May 2013 should be sent in narrative form.

E-mail: Owing to the volume of e-mails some service providers had treated some of his messages as spam and they were not delivered. He hoped this had now been rectified.

Introduction for New Treasurers and Secretaries: A pre District Assembly session to help those new to these posts is being held on Monday 29th April 2013.

C 12/13. 50 District Treasurer’s Report

Standing orders: DG Chris asked for a proposal to suspend Standing Orders to allow a more detailed discussion of the Accounts This was proposed by Norman Brown (Bourne), seconded by David Morris (Melton Mowbray) and carried unanimously.

Circulation of accounts: DG Chris advised that following audit, the accounts could not have been circulated 28 days prior to the meeting (as required by Clause 16(a) of Standing Orders), and asked for a proposal to accept the 21 days’ notice. This was proposed by Ken Billington (Grantham Kesteven), seconded by Roger May (Lutterworth Wycliffe) and carried unanimously.

Audited Accounts for years ended 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2012: District Treasurer Geoff Richardson said that he had received only one question on the accounts which was from Nene Valley concerning the 44% increase in District Governors expenses over a two-

year period. He explained that the predominate amount of the cost related to travel expenses for Club visits. An increase in costs based on the RIBI travel rate resulted in a 27% increase and the rest was mainly the result of the difference between the DGs' places of residence – the further from the centre, the further the distance travelled in the year.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Bryan Swain (Huntingdon Cromwell), seconded by Geoff Blurton (Kettering) and passed with no votes against.

Accounts for the year to 31 March 2013: Acceptance of these accounts was proposed by Ken MacKellar (Stamford Burghley), seconded by John Cartwright (St Neots) and agreed unanimously.

DG Chris thanked District Treasurer Geoff for his hard work in sorting out the accounts who in turn thanked the DG for his leadership during the period when the accounting crisis had to be managed.

C 12/13. 51 Conference Accounts

There being no questions, approval of the Accounts of the District Conference Committee for the year ended 31 December 2012 was proposed by Iain Vernon (Peterborough Ortons), seconded by Irvin Metcalf (Grantham) and agreed unanimously.

C 12/13. 52 Assistant Governors' Reports

There were no additions to the written reports and no questions were raised.

C 12/13. 53 Committee Reports

The following items were in addition to the written reports circulated by all Committees.

Project Team Chairmen's Reports

Community: Chairman Tony Robbs (Kettering) asked that he be advised of donations to Canine Partners and DEBRA. Tony introduced Kids Out organiser Bryan Swain (Huntingdon Cromwell) who advised that 43 Clubs had booked and paid to take participants to Kids Out. He also thanked the following Clubs who whilst not participating had made donations: Ise Valley. Lutterworth, Lutterworth Wycliffe, Shepshed Charnwood and St Ives.

New Generations (Youth Opportunities): Chairman Moira Bartlett asked Clubs participating in Rotary Stars to advise John Tyers (Soar Valley). Rotarians with prior arrangement are invited to visit the Youth Exchange camp at Grafam Water and particularly for the supper on 18 July 2013 at which the guest speaker would be a Foreign Office Minister. Students would be available to visit Clubs on Tuesday 23 July (lunchtime or evening) or Thursday 25 July lunchtime. Results of Young Photographer have been published and the theme for next year is "People". The exhibition for the Young Artist pilot competition can be viewed on Saturday 18 May from 1400 - further details will be sent to Clubs.

International: Replying to a question from John Lyon (Bourne), Chairman Roger Neuberg said that the Global Grant application for the motorcycle ambulances was progressing. DG Chris asked for Clubs to be advised when further information was known.

Support Team Chairmen's Reports

Vocational: Chairman Mary Whitehead asked Clubs to include a named contact for Vocational in their District Directory entry. RotaSkills forms had been put in the baskets.

International Fellowship of Cricket Loving Rotarians: Norman Brown (Bourne) advised that the GB&I Section of the IFCR would be hosting Australian members and the "Rotary

Ashes” would be held on Saturday 19 July 2013. Any Rotarian interested in spectating or playing (dual gender) should contact him. He also advised that the 8th IFCR World Festival would be held in Nottingham between 13 – 19 July 2014.

Conference: DGE Margaret Morley gave an update on arrangements for the York conference. Registration forms were available on the District website, and she requested details of hotels booked to be advised so that bus transport could be arranged.

C 12/13. 54 Rotary Foundation

In addition to his report, Chairman John Dehnel (Melton Mowbray) said that Paul Harris presentation folders could be ordered free of charge at www.shop.rotary.org/

C12/13. 55 Next Meeting

DG Chris confirmed the next meeting would be held at the Best Western Rockingham Forest Hotel, Corby NN17 2AE on Monday 8 July 2013 at 7.30pm

C12/13. 56 Any other business

- a) Irvin Metcalf (Grantham) advised that those Rotarians attending their first District Council had not been specifically welcomed. DG Chris asked those Rotarians attending their first District Council to stand, and they were welcomed with acclaim.
- b) In looking back over the year DG Chris referred to the challenges of the financial incident, an Equality and Diversity problem and the Re-structuring of RIBI. He said an effective District Team had provided a great resource for Clubs. New Clubs had shown the innovations which could be brought to Rotary meetings. India has been Polio free for two years. The opportunities for humanitarian service included fundraising for DEBRA, Hope and Homes for Children, and Canine Partners. Increased public awareness had been achieved particularly via Social Media and the Global Swimarathon. He thanked Rotarians for their help, support and encouragement during the year, and for the honour of serving Rotarians of RI District 1070 as District Governor.
- c) As Immediate Past District Governor, Linda May proposed a vote of thanks to the work done by DG Chris during the year and in particular the running of effective meetings. This was agreed by acclaim.

There being no other business, DG Chris declared the meeting closed.

District Governor Date