

**MINUTES OF ROTARY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018**  
**held at the Wheatsheaf at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Melodie Beevers (Chair), Bob Barratt, Peter Elliott, Charlotte Mannion, Dick Mattick, Ray Norman, Roy Parkinson, Stephani Trinci and Mike Welsh

**Apologies:** Jerry May and Gary Walker

Mike rang to say he had been delayed and Melodie took the Chair

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December were approved as a true record

**Matters Arising**

Roy reported that he had tabards available if required but it was explained that it was the Swindon Clubs that provided tabards and that it was some of our members who had been able to find the people who were to supply them.

**President's Matters**

Melodie reported that the three Presidents had not met as often as we had intended and felt we were perhaps not doing as much as we should.

Dick reported on a Quiz he was intending to organise in March in aid of the Willows Counselling Service. It would not involve expenditure of any Club funds but he hoped the club would support it. This was agreed.

Melodie asked that stewards responsible for getting visitors to sign the Visitors Book get full addresses for speakers so that she could send letters of thanks.

Melodie was writing a handbook and hoped to have it complete for distribution next week.

**Secretary's Matters**

Dick reported that a letter of thanks had been received from Dial a Ride for the £50 donation along with a email to inform us that the money was being used to benefit the volunteer drivers.

**Treasurer's Report**

No report in Jerry's absence

**International and Foundation**

Stephanie reported that it was hoped we could talk to Jerry with a view to releasing funds to purchase a Shelter Box which it had been hoped to raise funds for from the Old Town Live Event.

In relation to Old Town Live it was felt best to hold the event over to the next Rotary year and do a feasibility study of venues and capacities etc with New College a possible venue.

A Quiz might be a possible way of raising Shelter box Funds.

**Membership**

Ray reported that as all the feedback he had had on the Christmas Event was either good or excellent it was being planned to hold a similar event next year.

Twelve people had booked up to go to the Birmingham Symphony Hall Concert

The Summer Solstice Walk had gone well with six members completing the walk and two golfers gate crashing the breakfast at the Polly Tea Rooms. A fifth Wednesday breakfast here or at another venue (Jacks in Old Town) was floated as a possible event.

Cyril Mannion is lined up to do a fifth Wednesday Event when he would talk about Alcock and Brown.  
A date will be confirmed in due course

Given the May Fifth Wednesday was two days after the Duck Race it was agreed to look at a social get together for this one.

Given the success of the Port Vale trip Knees Up two was booked for the Cambridge match on 17<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Administration**

No matters to report

### **Public Relations**

Charlotte wanted to remind all members that while items sent to the Web Site were forwarded by her they needed to be picked up and dealt with by the appropriate person. One specific item raised was a request from the Magistrates Mock Trial Competition. Dick agreed to follow this up.

Council felt that Charlotte should be commended for the excellent weekly bulletins but Charlotte felt they could be more useful if people alerted her to events before hand rather than her just writing them up after.

Charlotte reported that the hosting agreement for the Website runs out soon and will need to be renewed. **Council unanimously agreed to Club the £47 cost should be paid.**

There was discussion on Data Protection issues. Charlotte had leaflets on this available and urged members to fill in own info on our Website.

### **Duck Race**

Roy reported on behalf of Gary and reported the duck sorting process was going well.

Less encouraging was the reduction in the number of super markets we are selling at. It was hoped however that we could get a selling opportunity at the Christ Church Beer Festival and the Great Western Hospital.

Tickets for schools were due to go out shortly and Mike ordered 2,000 for Goddard Park.

**It was agreed to recommend purchase of two walkie talkies cost £20 each for use on Duck Race day to enable contact to be made with First Aid Officers.**

### **Recruitment**

Bob urged members to let him know of any potential recruits as the Recruitment Committee was looking to set up informal meetings to enable people to find out more about Rotary over a cup of coffee in an informal situation.

### **Trustees**

Meeting next Wednesday

### **A.O.B.**

Stephanie reported on a meeting with the helping Hands group which tried to help the homeless in Swindon. It was agreed to find out more about this group.

Bob said the Christmas event at the Bath Road Methodist Church had raised £2,500 and he would like to do it next Christmas under the auspices of the Rotary Club. It was agreed he should talk to Roy about this and that as long as monies went through Rotary Club there would be no objection.

There being no further Business the meeting closed at 8.15p.m.

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Stephanie had sent in a written report. Nothing much to report. A committee meeting will be held very soon into the new year to move plans forward for the postponed Old Town Live, Council feel this could be carried forward to next year.

### **Membership Services Report**

Some lessons may have to be learnt following the 'Call my Wine Bluff' as it would appear that there were problems at the start as the pub said serving our own wine is against Arkell's rules. This was not an issue we were expecting as this event has previously been held at The Kings without question. It was a great event, enjoyed by all, but we may consider a different venue in the future.

Council wish to thank Ray and Tony Pickett for organising and managing a really good evening.

The Xmas 'do' is in hand. Full payment will be chased up tomorrow if anyone hasn't paid yet.

Ray has been receiving menu choices, at the moment 36 people have booked. More menu choices awaited. Ray needs the plan form Steph to enable him to check up on timings/staff/ music etc.

One more fifth Wednesday event may have to be planned.

### **Administration Report**

Melodie needs to send a copy agenda for the Special Annual Meeting Peter Elliott, Mike Welsh and Dick. Peter has a speaker ready for the next week, Christina Line from the Nelson Trust.

Next meeting needs to be arranged, perhaps the same time as a Trust meeting.

### **Public Relations**

Thanks to Charlotte were expressed for putting the menu on the website.

### **Duck Race**

Duck sorting is going well, after Gary left last week I went round the barn as follows; The 5000's are laid out on the table for bagging. The 7000's and 8000's are all still loose and to be sorted. There are some boxes with random bags and loose ducks in which will be for Gary and I sort at the end. It looks like therefore that we are well past halfway with the sorting and the rota is working.

In the meantime can he would like to remind Gary about the base for the sign, perhaps he could bring it to breakfast as we will need this on Saturday.

Jerry asked when we might expect the contribution from Nationwide.

### **Recruitment**

Dick mentioned that he went to the Bangladesh celebratory dinner, but found there was not a great deal of opportunity to talk to people. Since attending he has written introducing our club.

**Following out attendance at Christchurch Xmas fair, together with our thanks for the loan of their tombola drum for Mcarther Glen it has been suggested we send them a small donation of £25.**

### **Trustees Report**

Meeting due to be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November didn't take place, a meeting should take place in January.

### **A.O.B.**

Various members turned up to assist with the Old Town Lights switch on the 26<sup>th</sup> November. However, later in the afternoon, there was no one around, so although some people assisted, there was no one supplying tabards or instructions for the 'late shift'.

'Dreams can come True' and 'Together for Mental Wellbeing' were discussed. Council feel that members would like to know more about these to decide how much help they would like to commit to.

It is suggested, that as in previous years, instead of sending other members Christmas cards we ask members for a donation of £5 each for Christmas Cares.

**Council recommend that £250 is given to The Kings Staff at the final meeting before Christmas.**

A question was raised about the Area Rotary Clubs fund raising for Brighter Futures, Ray will get an update on the situation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8 p.m.

**Date of next council meeting: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018**