

Lions Clubs International District 105EA – 2015 / 16

Minutes of the third Cabinet meeting of the Lionistic year 2015/16 held on Sunday 7th February 2016 at the Holiday Inn, Ipswich. The reports referred to in these minutes have been placed on the web site prior to the meeting.

Present : District Governor (DG) Lion Chris Crick (Beccles), PID Phil Nathan South Woodham Ferrers), IPDG Kevin Rodgers (Peterborough), 1st Vice District Governor (1st VDG) Lion Nigel Folkard (Southend on Sea), 2nd Vice District Governor (2nd VDG) Lion Derek Prior (Billericay), Past District Governors (PDG) Lions Tony Prior (Leigh on Sea), George Harris (Leigh on Sea), Derek Maguire (Haverhill), Barry Miller (Castle Point, Jim Cawte (Wymondham), Paul Martin (UAE Campus Club), District Secretary (DS) Lion David Pope (Peterborough), District Treasurer (DT) Lion Roger Fuller (Leigh on Sea), Lions David Goodwin (Haverhill), Mandy Hawkesley, Jane Bungay (Bungay), Chris Moreton (Hunstanton), Sandie Briault (Helen Keller), John Potter (March), Peter Smith (Stowmarket), Sue Cowee (Attleborough 2013), Martin Langdon (West Norwich), Matt Bungard (Thetford Breckland), Douglas Whyte (Stowmarket and District), Simon Smith (Braintree), Don Drew (Littleport), David Parker and Trevor Hull (Billericay), Mark Lanham (Lowestoft), John Fox (Downham Market), Adrian Robinson (Clacton on Sea), Pam Maguire (Haverhill), Gaby Sharman (Peterborough), Lions Keith Radley (Witham), Lion Kay Large (Leigh on Sea), Lion Tracey Field (Chelmsford) and Lioness Chair Angela Howard (Saffron Walden).

Sergeant at Arms (SaA) Lion Adrian Robinson called the meeting to order for this, DG Chris' third cabinet meeting, and wished him good luck; he gave the usual housekeeping rules, fire exits, etc and asked members to give their name and club before speaking to assist with the minutes. He asked members to get a drink at lunchtime and then go straight to the tables where lunch will be served. Coffee is available all morning just help yourself.

DG Chris welcomed everyone and thanked them for giving up their time and we have a lot to get through today, he declared the meeting open and asked everyone to be upstanding for the Purposes and Ethics

Lions Clubs Purposes were read by PDG George Harris (Leigh on Sea) and **Lions Clubs Code of Ethics** was read by Lion Mark Lanham (Lowestoft)

PDG Barry Miller (Almoner) three members lost to Higher Service since last meeting

Lion Barry Wise	Lions Club of South Woodham Ferrers
Lion Brian Chaplin	Lions Club of Clacton
Lion Dick Wilson	Lions Club of Castle Point

Cabinet had one minute silence as a sign of respect for these members

Apologises for absence had been received from Lions Len Russell (Haverhill), John Cheetham and Di Parkin (Peterborough), Chris Hibbert (New Century) and Ujjal Kullar (Taverham) and Derek Rutter (March).

1.0 Minutes of the previous meeting –

2nd VDG Derek Prior said he had three minor corrections - first page 2.0 second line COI should be CIO Page 3 towards the bottom he had asked PDG Tony Prior to explain the hierarchy of Lions Constitutions, Page 7 third paragraph should read “the proposal has savings but not costs”.

PDG Tony Prior said that during the last cabinet meeting DG Chris had been unanimously instructed on behalf of District Cabinet, to request the reinstatement of the Lioness Memorandum of Instruction and to oppose the submission at Eastbourne of a resolution by the Council of Governors proposing consolidation or redistricting of districts in the Multiple District.

Also as CNRO, he had been authorised to prepare and submit two resolutions for debate at MD Convention in Eastbourne. This was done by the closing date for acceptance of resolutions set out in the Convention Call. These resolutions have been rejected, as was the Resolution submitted by Peterborough and Clacton on Sea Lions Clubs.

The letter of rejection from Council Chairman Simon Moss stated :

“The reason they were not accepted is that, Council agreed that as Districts do not have to have their resolutions seconded by any second body, then it is essential that evidence is produced which demonstrates that the wording of any resolutions presented for debate is as it was proposed and seconded at a Cabinet meeting and agreed by a majority of Cabinet Officer present. The minutes of the Cabinet meeting provided to the MD CNRO did not provide this evidence”

We had our last Cabinet meeting on 22nd November and all the information about redistricting had only just been received , the next meeting was today (when the minutes would be formally approved), closing date for resolutions was 5th January 2016 and would not have been possible to meet the requirements of approval by Cabinet of the formal wording. All that could have been supplied at that time were draft minutes and those minutes would be amended and formally approved today.

Lion Tony proposed that an additional paragraph, as shown below, be added to the minutes of November meeting to accurately reflect what took place at the meeting.

CNRO PDG Lion Tony Prior was unanimously instructed on behalf of District Cabinet to submit resolutions for debate at MD Convention in Eastbourne with the purpose of

- a) opposing any resolution about redistricting or consolidation of districts in MD105 which has been submitted only after full and proper consultation with the members of MD105 and not before the Lions Centennial year of 2017***
- b) Proposing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Lionesses of MD105 should be reinstated.***

The exact wording of the resolution to be at the CNRO’s discretion.

Lion John Fox asked that use wording “Memorandum” on formal document.

Acceptance of the minutes to include the additional paragraph requested by the CNRO was proposed by PDG Paul Martin and seconded by PDG Derek Maguire, carried unanimously.

The Draft minutes will have the alterations made and the additional paragraph added to the approved document and placed on web site as confirmed and approved minutes

With the above amendments acceptance of the minutes was proposed by PDG Paul Martin and seconded by Lion Roger Fuller.

Matters arising – none

2.0 District Officers reports

2a DG’s report –

On 9th January there was a meeting on “where we go from here”, and yesterday another meeting here on membership and going forward, PDG Paul to report

As already mentioned the Cabinet report resolutions were not allowed to go through.

CIO on its way but not this district for about 2 years.

Ireland is still leaving.

Regarding CIO questionnaires are going out to all Club Presidents as they want to know much money coming into clubs, there is a cap of £5K, but they are looking at all money coming in not just charity money. The closing date is 31st March – Zone Chairmen please chase your clubs to ensure prompt return.

There are serious issues with Charitable Trust, 6 clubs have been struck off by them, not in this district, as they have not sent in reports, they are still raising money against their charity numbers Health and safety, Equal Opportunities and Vulnerable Persons are all high profile.

There is an “on line” course available for treasurers, everyone knows what is happening in their club, everyone seen resolution re Ireland leaving.

You should all have seen letter from Simon Moss re our resolutions, now looking at 7 or 8 districts but not looking at EA at all. Council have been told need to look at the friendship, fellowship, red socks and lots of other aspects of EA, especially the why we help each other.

Lion Simon Smith has asked DG about funding for SOGB, he wanted to know what it was for Bath 2013 so that he can do budget for 2017, he has asked Charity Treasurer and he says ask District Treasurer who says ask Charity Treasurer, Simon will pursue.

Lion John Fox asked if clubs could have a copy of the report before the cabinet meeting so that we can read it in advance. DG Chris will send a copy for circulation to Cabinet

PIP Phil spoke regarding SOGB, does Simon mean how money was spent, Simon and Phil to work on this outside of cabinet. Phil was involved in Bath so will take up with Simon.

2b 1st VDG – no updates

2c 2nd VDG – It was no updates but he is now going to United Nation’s day at Westminster and 1B meeting on 11th Feb.

2d District Secretary’s report –

Membership is 1103, lost one from Bury St Edmunds and gained 1 at Basildon, this month nett.

Cabinet reports please send in on time so that cabinet papers can be sent out in time, you know who you are getting them in late, please help me on this.

Convention reports are really important, this is your opportunity to tell everyone what you have done this year and for insertion in the convention book he needs them by **no later than 16th February**. Lion David also reminded about the Delegate and Alternate forms, reminders will be going out, and although he has already had quite a few in it is important that we get all the clubs in for voting at our convention and especially MD.

2e District Treasurer’s report –

Report before you, several updates. Received some membership dues from list but still outstanding Hunstanton, Swaffham, Wells next Sea, Braintree Chelmsford, Colchester, Helen Keller, Maldon, Mersea Island, SWF, Dereham, Sheringham, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, New Century, Saffron Walden, Halesworth and Thetford, Zone Chairmen please chase these clubs will not be In Good Standing at Convention if dues not paid on time.

Also still quite a list of Accounts outstanding, with one club with three years outstanding, Hunstanton, and two with two years Maldon and Norwich North, the following are outstanding for 30th June 2015 – Swaffham, Braintree, Harlow, SWF, Acle, Norfolk Broads, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, Newmarket, Mildenhall (ceased), Stowmarket, Rayleigh Charity only, Southend on Sea and Thetford. Again Zone Chairmen please chase these up.

Budget at moment is within the set budget.

More information will follow as the meeting goes on.

2f - Immediate Past District Governor –

IPDG Kevin had nothing further to report but said he would continue to support the DG but also cabinet.

2g Constitution, Nominations and Resolutions

PDG Tony pointed again that there was a copy of letter from Council Chair Simon Moss regarding our Resolutions. Despite these being on time and correct, the resolutions were rejected as was the resolution from Leigh on Sea. The resolution behalf of 1051 has been lodged, and resolutions on redistricting, which were approved after the Council meeting last week on redistricting, one is 8 districts (because the Council have listened to complaints from SW, D and SE, and this resolutions shows they have listened), the other resolution is for an MD of 7 Districts. These resolutions submitted were

undeniably in breach of MD constitution. This fact was confirmed by MD CNRO officer and other district CNROs, and last night Lion Tony had confirmation from a solicitor specialising in Constitutional law that it is in breach, the final closing date was 5th January 2016. Council of Governors submitted and approved their own resolutions last weekend 30/31st January 2016. At the meeting yesterday we discussed the rejection of our resolutions together with the resolutions accepted. The following are suggestions for our next moves

- 1 We accept our rejection and the resolution of Council of Governors are correct
- 2 Go to Eastbourne and vote against this.
- 3 Go it alone as an independent District
- 4 Appeal to LCI to have this investigated but not sure about time, whether we have enough time to do this. PDG Tony is checking this, but we will need to pay \$750 (approx £525) to get this started.
- 5 Legal again, the solicitor has confirmed we can get an injunction against the Council of Governors in that they were in breach of Constitution and then look deeper into constitution etc and we can move forward. This action will cost money, and we have no idea how much but guess £2 – 3000 to get action going.
- 6 One further solution SANITY, Chairman of Council withdraw the resolutions on redistricting at the Eastbourne Convention.

PID Phil says it is right Council Chairman has been discussing Essex with LCI and they say Essex does not fall within the geographical area of East Anglia. Had Lion Tony been advised of this opinion ? Lion Tony said he had not received any such advice.

Lion David Large said he is appalled at the stage we are at, if it is the only thing we can do then we must spend money.

PDG Tony said if we take an appeal to LCI cost will be \$750, if we spend money taking it further then we will be working against our DG and he felt it was not really suitable for him to be in room whilst this is discussed. DG Chris said if this is what Cabinet want he would hand over the chair to 1st VDG Nigel and left the room. PDG Paul Martin raised the point that Nigel was at the last meeting where the discussion and voting took place and was part of the vote, should the IPDG not take over the chair. 1st VDG Nigel said Chairman of Council made it clear to the observers they could vote but their vote did not count for anything they were only there as observers.

2nd VDG Derek Prior said except Saturday they were offered the opportunity to say our feelings but in no way was their votes used, CoC Simon made quite clear that the Council of Governors would be the only votes taken forward. He said he was not sure everyone understood all the options, perhaps we should go through them but agreeing on one does not exempt using others

Lion Kay asked how long these options would take, no sure.

Lion Martin Langdon said we have to take very seriously Lions suing Lions, we need to look very carefully at using members money, could cost £7000 just to look at this particular incident and the constitution, court costs could cost £20K+

Lioness Chair Angela said we also have to consider membership all this could hinder our membership drives.

IPDG Kevin said he hates all the things we have said and the idea of suing. However there are people who are doing everything against what we want and are not listening to us. We have to do something.

PDG Barry has had no replies from CoC Simon, no-one is listening to us, let's go forward after all we have been told we are not allowed to use reserves they have to transfer to new district – let's spend it.

2VDG Derek Prior says in reply to Angela he feels we are standing up for members today and tomorrow because we are standing up for the constitution which is for everyone.

David Large thinks there is no real option, we cannot appeal to LCI because of time limitations, if we do not go for injunction we will go to Eastbourne the resolutions will stand, we lose the vote and then EA is gone. If we get injunction then we can at least try to get these resolutions sorted. We need to try everything to get our voice heard and the only way forward is an injunction.

Keith Radley asked if Tony's advice was from a lion in EA, Tony replied that the information was coming to him from a recently retired solicitor specialising in this area of expertise. Next step is to move forward to a solicitor to look at everything and then take it further. Tony spoke to DG yesterday and he has kept Simon Moss in touch and Tony said he hopes that with the threat of injunction SANITY will come through but it appears it does not worry Simon Moss at all. Paul asked what chance there is of Council Chairman allowing our resolutions to go forward at Eastbourne, our DG voted to throw out resolutions.

Tony said that we should try to get amendment for EA to stay as it is, chances of acceptance at Eastbourne not great, it cannot be simple amendment

If we appeal to LCI we have two bites of the cherry, we can apply after the event.

Eastbourne – we need to get members down there but even if everyone goes we will not have sufficient to get our resolution through.

We can only get our resolution through on a Point of Order and as an absolutely last ditch effort and person who accepts this or not is Simon Moss.

Tony re-iterated that the preferred option is SANITY, all we are looking for is for the integrity of EA to be left intact, to be able to run our own affairs, we should follow through with MD. MD Noms and coms Officer agreed in writing that could agree resolutions and then three days later is told his information is incorrect.

PDG Barry said we should not question the DG about his vote.

PDG Tony confirmed the only bit DG not involved in is legal action so he can come back in to the meeting.

Lion Peter Smith said the breach of constitution is very important and this needs to be addressed and then the redistricting.

Lion John Potter said to date he only has only 4 bookings for the coach to Eastbourne and agreed with Peter Smith.

Lion David Pope, in defence of DG Chris, the Governors would have been given a steer towards what should be voted and he feel they have been hoodwinked, and wool pulled over their eyes

Lion Keith Radley said they should vote how their district members want not how someone else is saying.

Lion Trevor Hull asked if we should go to LCI and tell them we are **disbanding** EA and they will lose 1100 members what would their reaction be?

PID Phil said next board meeting is too soon, the following one in October too late.

Lion Simon suggested we could use an International Director from Europe to arbitrate.

PDG Barry said he was known as the black sheep, outspoken Governor in his day, and voted against things if he was not happy with them, he felt we should ask DG what he voted.

PDG Tony said we need to decide about legal action whilst DG Chris is out and then we can bring him back.

Lion Derek Prior said he could see Simon's point about arbitration he wrote back in October that we should stay as a block and it was rejected

"To which independent body is it possible for me to appeal (written in November) still no reply."
Independent arbitration is not acceptable.

Lion David Large proposed that we immediately appeal to LCI in USA (noting that there is a cost of \$750 to be paid out of reserves). Immediate reference to appropriate legal advice with the instruction to write to MD105 and LCI to lodge an appeal.

An interim injunction be raised (served?) to stop vote for the redistricting resolutions as they stand, before Eastbourne. Costs up to a limit of £2500.

This was seconded by PDG George Harris

PID Phil said our strengths are our weaknesses, we have now rebuilt district 3 times, last time went to over 1300 and now 3 years later we are struggling. An outside arbitrator will look at this, we cannot substantiate this.

Lion Roger asking if we are proceeding with legal proceedings, of which we have no idea of the cost. If we use the reserves to fight this we will be left with no reserves and members will not be happy when we start raising subs to rebuild the district reserves.

Lion John Fox said money frightens him, how much will it cost. We must remember that money used by MD for legal fees etc will be from us through our dues, so in effect we will spend money to fight and money to defend. This worries him

Lion Mandy said we should vote on sending a legal letter and then come back to approve anything else.

Lion Martin said David had said a legal injunction which is very different

Lion David agreed to change this to a temporary interim injunction.

PDG Tony said first proposal was £525 to LCI, seconded by Lion Simon Smith (Braintree) 2 against, rest in favour, carried.

Second proposal PDG Tony said was that we should only commit to say £2500 so that legal people can look at the documentation and we come back to look further at this after initial report. This was seconded by PDG George Harris

Mark Lanham said he is against taking legal action and not happy going to clubs and explaining the spending for this purpose

To instruct legal advisors to investigate the situation and write a letter with details of the legal route (proposal 2) 25 for, 7 against, carried.

DG Chris returned to the room and 1VDG Nigel handed back to him.

DG Chris said like everyone else he is a volunteer not expert on resolutions etc but has passion for being a Lion yesterday he was harangued for how he voted. His vote at Council was on the advice given that day and as DG has to make a decision on the information on that day, whatever decisions made today he will support us.

Return to PDG Tony P in order to comply with the constitution. To go on from here we need to amend the resolutions into 8 and 7, can he ask cabinet if they would like him to put together the words for this proposed 2VDG Derek Prior and seconded IPDG Kevin Rodgers. Once again Tony asked for SANITY and INTEGRITY. The two things we were passionate about integrity and passion for EA, and our Lionesses. Resolution about Lionesses rejected, PDG Tony feels any wording should be having that resolution reinstated. Everyone agreed.

PDG Barry agreed with what DG Chris said that what goes on is confidential but we are not a secret society and we have people at the top who do things secretly and he hoped DG Chris voted with the wishes of EA not MD

PDG Tony said Clacton on Sea put in resolution which Tony amended wording on and that was rejected too.

2h Assistant noms and coms

PDG Jim Cawte nothing further to add

3.0 Zone reports

1A - report stands as written but visited Swaffham Lionesses club on Thursday, they did not mention loss of Lioness as they are confident they will carry on regardless.

1B – As stands, but he has been looking at coach but at the present time we could cope with the number wanting to go to Eastbourne in mini bus. 2VDG Derek Prior said lots of zone meetings in the next couple of weeks, do you want to see if any further take up then and then decide. Lion David Large said after debates this morning we need to get people to Eastbourne, we need to be heard at Zone meetings and should ask clubs who they are sending, not are you going. Lion Simon said his club had been disinterested until last Zone meeting, they now want to have a say they will be going. Possibly there will be a big take up after convention.

2B – No update

3A – No update -

4A - Apologies for no report, précis as follows

Woodbridge good festive season with 200 food parcels, Christmas collections at supermarket and sleigh around the town,

Stowmarket now 52 members plus 1 at large. Collected £5000 at Tesco over 11 days for poppy appeal, and their sleigh netted a further £6700, £2000 pledged to Cumbria floods

Lots of social events over the festive season and events planned for the future.

4B – no updates no bullet points last meeting received last meeting Lion David to check e mail address

5A – Congratulations to ZC Don who has decided to attend Eastbourne MD Convention as a first timer.

No update

5B – No update but will be pushing coach at Zone meeting tomorrow night

6A – Apologies for length of report but getting clubs to work together, quiz won by Southwold who rang yesterday and will not attend final. Miab – have created own lions version of publicity and not using MD version; it is in doctors surgery, hospital, and pharmacies. Zone came up with options for membership poster, to be agreed in couple of weeks time, now A4 bit will be printed as A5 and circulated. If any clubs interested contact Mark.

6B – No updates but three Lions from Attleborough going to Eastbourne, Lions Sue, Harry and one other,

4.0 Membership

4a Almoner – No updates. PDG George asked that PDG Paddy O'Donnell should be included in our In Memoriam as he had been a good friend of EA over many years; PDG Barry said this is already in hand. Lion David Large reminded Cabinet that when a death is notified to PDG Barry please send photo, and pass this on to club via Zone Chairmen.

4a Global Membership – No updates but need decisions from Cabinet. One is for funding - to advertise in 4 local papers, for one week is £1000, 4 weeks possibly slightly less than £4000, but still cannot guarantee one new member. If we can offer clubs a realistic option with final assistance this will help to address the long term problems and we may be able to increase our membership. We do not have a problem recruiting members, about 130 per annum but we are losing between 140 / 150 per annum. He said is looking at £5000. DG Chris asked about cost of putting a flyer in each local paper, PDG Paul to find out. Lion Roger asked about how the £5K is broken down as district are already paying the joining fee for new members, already about 30/40% clubs claiming this. PDG Paul says he is suggesting paying half International, MD and District dues, paid in two payment, part one when new member first subs due and second half when they are members for a year. The payment of the half fees to clubs is for one year only. Lion Kay said she is not sure that the cost of dues is to the forefront with new members and we do need to get new members but this is not necessarily due to fees.

PDG Tony felt should not put in paying long term dues, but need a budget for fees to be net for large groups of people so that we can bring them into our district and membership team need to be able to negotiate and as only yesterday some considered this need to be negotiated by membership.

Lion Don Drew lost two good members, both young but due to unemployment, this is an area that we could help with and has asked to PDG Paul to help.

Lion Roger said they have had this problem at his club and the directors have sorted this and PDG Tony said if we can't help our own that is not good. Lion Roger said he is worried if we are paying someone's dues when they join that this will upset other members. PDG Tony said we have an emergency situation at the moment and we are in a desperate situation with £19k reserves we should use some of those fund to help us get out of it.

Lion David Pope said this is all about timing if you recruit in Jan dues not paid until June
IPDG Kevin said £3750K could solve our immediate problem and this should be done, PDG Tony said there is an International fund for large groups bringing them into lions we need to decide today so that we can start tomorrow. PDG Paul said his figures are a long term strategy we do not have time for this now he will withdraw proposal and bring back next fiscal year and whole heartedly supports PDG Tony in his actions.

PID Phil said this is what we should have, a long term plan and we have not in the past, we need to carry on with this.

Lion Roger accepts what said was said but need to assume EA will keep going and we remain EA. His worry is when reserves are gone and we have to put up subs to replenish them will the members agree.
2VDG Derek Prior says Lion Roger makes a good point but the reserves would be replaced over a period of time with the increased number of lions, with increased numbers would mean £1 per lion for 5 years.
PDG Tony if we took £5000 out we would be down to £10K, if we don't use this money it may not be ours it will go to new district.

Lion Martin Langdon suggested that we party to spend it.

Lion Mandy said this money is in reserve so we should spend it.

Proposal by PDG Tony £5k be set aside for membership committee to use with District Treasurer for emergency action to be taken to increase our membership expiry date 11th March 2016, for one purpose the other date 31st December 2016, should be end of this Lionistic year but we need to work really hard to get the numbers for PID Phil's endorsement.

Lion David Pope said we should really be able to use this for retention too. This was agreed.

PDG Paul said we must have 1250 members for convention, but if we don't have that we don't stand a chance.

PID Phil says we have done this before but do not maintain the numbers

Lion Simon says he would like to amend the wording of the proposal and second it, it should be recruit and retain. Agreed

4b Global Leadership – no updates

4d PR – no updates but would like to emphasise there is a PR toolkit to download from MD web site, which has been put together for lions to communicate with their communities showing what they do. Zone Chairmen please publicise this with your clubs and get them to look at it and use it. Lion Peter Smith asked if cabinet was aware of the MBE given to Lion Ernie Pearce from Stowmarket, it was in all local press and in the Lion magazine.

Lion John Fox said he was aware there was one in Kings Lynn but he had heard of nothing else

4e Centennial Celebrations – No update

4f Competitions – Lion David Parker asked for all district trophies to be returned, please Zone Chairmen ask for these to be returned for District convention. District quiz is on 20th February, room cost is £125, should this be paid by us or charged to individuals. It was agreed it should be paid from funds. Lion John Fox mentioned the Scribe trophy as it was listed to be returned and he knew it was on its way, Lion David confirmed he had received it since his report. PDG Paul Martin says that in the past room paid for by District so should be this year, seconded by Lion Douglas Whyte (Stowmarket), all agreed.

4.g Lionesses – Lioness Chair Angela said her report before Cabinet, no major update but thanks to DG and all Lions in EA for their support, the Lionesses do appreciate that. Save EA - they are as keen to save EA as the lions. 4 clubs represented yesterday at Membership meeting, but getting together with other clubs soon. Lioness convention coming up 19/20th and Council Chairman Lion Simon is coming. Thanks again for support.

Update from PID Phil – he has not been talking to his wife all morning on the phone, he has been warning MD and CC of which might be coming, and CC will be texting our DG to ratify what PID Phil has told them. The CC is willing to drive to EA to meet with a committee to discuss the integrity of EA. PID Phil says we need to set our self a target for future membership of 2000. It was agreed that DG Chris will go along with PDG Tony Prior, PDG George Harris and Lion Roger Fuller (District Secretary).

4.h Lioness Liaison – no update

6.0 Events

6.a - Lion Adrian reported Centennial shirts now available sold 40 out of 50 and ordered some more so should be ok for convention. Mentioned marquees in his report and PDG Jim would like to speak re wristbands and marquees. PDG Jim has been trying to find out how many wristbands are available in the district. PDG John Haynes has the stock and he is getting no reply from calls, texts, e mails etc. We have information stand booked at venues this year and this is all under control, however if we have to purchase wristbands they are £25 per 1000, and changing colour is no problems. Gazebos vary over district, but DG John Haynes has two or three and we are not sure what condition they are in. Need to get some new ones and possibly in centennial colours. Lion Pam said one of the gazebos PDG John has needs repair, it was used in September at a Fayre on Jesus Common, Cambridge. PDG George suggested his club president should go round there, she has tried that but to no avail. Lion Roger says £2500 is in reserve and £250 for repair, but the money is not to increase the number but to replace those destined for higher office. Lion Trevor said they have tried to return a gazebo to PDG John but he has never collected and they have some wristbands, he will count them and let PDG Jim know how many. PDG Paul said one gazebo used at Barleylands is broken and needs replacing. He suggested at last cabinet that he finds out price for sides in Centennial logo, the cost is £125 each side and the total for a new one £900, these are a stronger frame and better quality. He suggested we buy one new complete gazebo to replace the broken one. 2VDG Derek Prior said he thought there was a budget for Norfolk show of £1250, Lion Roger said this is £1200 which we receive from the show less cost of information stand, and donations to clubs participating, there was £250 left and £250 from PR budget. PDG Barry said Rayleigh have offered to store gazebos so Billericay could take them there, also PDG Tony P has 2 and would like them to go elsewhere else; there is a zone meeting next week so arrange relocations. PDG Jim asked about ordering wristbands, 30000 needed for April for the Spring Fling at Norwich, it was suggested we need to get the ones back from John. Lion Sue Cowee (his Club President) offered to go round to PDG John and get the wristbands and gazebos. Lion Adrian said it is now time that we got this equipment back from PDG John, all the gazebos need looking at and we still have some missing. PDG George Harris also offered to go up to PDG John when he is up there for Attleborough charter weekend.

Lion Adrian asked about storage for district regalia, its present home is no longer available, it is with district for convention but needs a new home after convention. Any offers

6.b – Convention Co-ordinator –

Lion Martin said Lion Peter to update on this year's convention
Next year getting near to signing the agreement but all on target

2018 we need to make decisions about what this should be, whether a party or the usual three days convention. He cannot get prices until we know exactly what we will be doing, ie whether we want rooms, usual social events or just farewell meeting and / or party, we need to know by end of the year. He had been talking to Lion Adrian at lunchtime about when cabinet want to call any extraordinary general meetings, we need a room big enough to hold about 400 people possibly. 2VDG Derek Prior said whilst at council it was said that the meetings for new districts should take place Sept 2016. Lion Martin Langdon said if the DG is happy he will speak to opposites in other districts

2016 Lion Peter Smith reported all is going well and thanked Lion Martin for his vociferous discussions with hotel. We are now oversubscribed so we are looking at another hotel this week. The hotel have been difficult to work with but the committee are positive everything will be good. Lion Martin says he is looking at some excellent hotels no more than 5 minutes away and they are looking to run shuttle service. Lion Roger said there are a few bookings for Friday cabinet lunch can you check if you want to come that you have booked. Lion Peter said our International guest is PIP Scott Rennals. Lion David asked for a logo for the flag party, Lion Peter will sort out.

7.0 Welfare

7a – Chairman – No update

7.b – Diabetes – one small amendment screening is on 21st May for Billericay Club

7c – Environment – If Zone Chairmen are aware of projects your clubs are doing in relation to the environment please advise him.

7.d – Gift for Living – no up date, but PID Phil told about visit to Serbia and the awful conditions he saw, but they have bought beds which he had requested and bed sheets which cost much more, and this was from our donations; everyone very grateful and they will help with the bed sores and prevention of them.

7.e – Lions Clubs International Foundation – no updates.

7.f – Lions Eye Health Programme / Sight – no update

7.g – Medicalert – no update, but Lion David drew everyone's attention to the final paragraph that showed no donations have been made to this from the district since July 2015. Can Zone Chairmen please bring this to the attention of clubs. New initiative coming for this project very soon.

7.h – Message in a Bottle (MIAB) – no update

7.i – Speech and hearing – no update

7.j – Vulnerable Persons – No updates

7.k – SOGB - more information to follow

8.0 -Youth Projects –

8.a – Chairman – no updates

8.b - Young leaders – no update

8.c - Leo Liaison – East Anglia Leos having problems and has not yet formed, they are still meeting and involved and looking at Ely college to form there. Also talking in Chelmsford about a branch or Leo club but because of age possibly start as Leo

8.d- Life Skills – New information should be available at next meeting

8.e – Peace Poster - The final took place at the November Cabinet meeting advice going out to all clubs about 2016/17 competition.

8.f- Young Ambassador - Info for Zone Chairmen we need to find entrants by middle of October so that we can get a district final.

8g– Youth entertainment – No update but Zone Chairmen please push the competition. Possibly the last year MD will do this competition.

9.0 Administration

9.a Health and Safety – Mandy said getting back questionnaire was like pulling teeth, next year can we have a system that if nothing changes they just advise no change. Questionnaire is unchanged. Lion David recounted a course he had attended in Southend and an example which was given. Everyone will know where Shoreham is, and what happened there last year, the aircraft crashed onto a main road. The Health and Safety Officer from Shoreham wanted everything there and then, reports, risk assessments etc, it wasn't a problem as everything had been done properly and all available immediate. That shows that everyone is doing what they should be doing including a review of the event. Lion Peter Smith said it is essential that the review is shown and signed off and everyone should do the questionnaire annually. Clubs to be named and shamed on EA Weekly news.

9.b International Relations – No update

9.c – Insurance - no updates but since report had couple of enquiries from clubs wanting copies of public liability insurance and PDG George has told them it is on web site. 2VDG Derek said Brentwood club had an event on 1st September and this proved difficulty as this is the date for the new policy, PDG George said the certificate will be available from middle of August to cover this.

9.d - IT/Webmaster – Lion David Large spoke on behalf of Lion Simon regarding the cost of hosting web pages, some clubs have still not paid for this, please pay up this has been paid from Lion Simon's own pocket. He has paid for Ely they have gone, Simon paid, Colchester down to 1.

9e Lions Roar – Lion John Fox was seeking a volunteer to put together some words for the Roar and Lion about convention. PDG Tony Prior volunteered

AOB

PDG Tony P – at yesterday's meeting which was brilliant, one thing that came out was the Centennial 100 club of East Anglia, it has been outlined, and we have 10 already signed up and Lion David will send out details in tonight's EA weekly news, we agreed to support this.

PID Phil also asked for our support for his endorsement at convention and especially at MD this was unanimous.

PDG Barry Miller following meeting at Cambridge services will the outcome of that be sent out quickly - yes.

2VDG Derek Prior – put out his usual plea for pens for the NHS please.

Lion Roger Fuller said in view of money earmarked today and amount of money going out of the reserves and the need to be replenished, he would like Cabinet to consider an amendment be put forward to raise subs to £10 as of 1st July 2016. It was asked if this is dependent on the outcome of the meeting on Tuesday. No spending of £9K has already been agreed so this is irrespective of outcome.

PDG Paul said it had not changed for many years and it used to be more, he agreed.

2VDG Derek Prior asked about whether cabinet can put forward amendment, PDG Tony said no but it can from a club, two have volunteered. After amendment first person to speak will be District Treasurer and he can say anything about cabinet supporting.

Raffle ; made £101 thanks to everyone.

Vote of thanks

IPDG Kevin thanked DG Chris for a long meeting with a lot of important business done, fantastic meeting and thanks for birthday wishes this morning. Very interesting and gone well in the end. He made a confession, he is actually 30 in age!!!!!!

Tail twister

Duties carried out very well by PDG Derek Maguire and Lion David Parker.

Date of next meeting

3.15 Friday 11th March at convention hotel

14th May 2016 here