

Lions Clubs International District 105EA – 2016 / 2017

Minutes of the second Cabinet meeting of the Lionistic year 2016/17 held on Sunday November 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 Nigel Folkard (Southend on Sea), IPDG Chris Crick (Beccles), 1st Vice District Governor Lion Derek Prior (Billericay), 2nd VDG Mandy Hawkesley (Bungay), Past District Governors (PDG) Lions Tony Prior and George Harris (Leigh on Sea), Derek Maguire (Haverhill), Barry Miller (Castle Point), Jim Cawte (Wymondham), Paul Martin (UEA Campus Club), Kevin Rodgers (Peterborough), District Secretary (DS) Lion David Pope (Peterborough), District Treasurer (DT) Lion Roger Fuller (Leigh on Sea), Lions Len Russell, David Goodwin (Haverhill), Jane and Michael Gardiner (Bungay), Sandie Briault (Lion/Lioness Club of EA and Witham Lionesses), John Potter March), Martin Langdon (West Norwich), Matt Bungard (Thetford Breckland), Douglas Whyte (Stowmarket and District), Simon Smith (Braintree), Don Drew (Littleport) John Fox (Downham Market), Trevor Hull and David Parker (Billericay), Mark Lanham (Lowestoft), Adrian Robinson (Clacton on Sea), Pam Maguire (Haverhill), Gaby Sharman (Peterborough), Lioness Chair Angela Howard (Lion/Lioness Club of EA and Saffron Walden Lionesses), Ujjal Kullar (Taverham), Tracy Field (Chelmsford), Paul Southerton (Kings Lynn), Sue Cowee (Attleborough 2013), Stuart Mackaness (Romford).

Sergeant at Arms (SaA) Lion Adrian Robinson called the meeting to order for this, DG Nigel's second 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 Nigel welcomed everyone and thanked them for giving up their time and wished them all good luck for the coming year. Some people still battling the elements.

Lions Clubs Purposes were read by Lion Michael Gardner (Bungay) and Lions Club **Code of Ethics** was read by Paul Southerton (Kings Lynn).

PDG Barry Miller (Almoner) advised Cabinet that we have lost to higher service the following - William Kimberly (Mersea Island), Donna Perry (Centennial Club), Michael Box, David Doe (Norfolk Broads), Lion/Lioness Susan Ashwood (Swaffham Lionesses and Lions/Lioness Club of East Anglia), John Kent, and Bob Gasgoine a life member of Peterborough. A minutes silence was observed. PDG Barry later advised Cabinet that he had just received a call advising that a former Lion of Grays Thurrock and Maldon, John Elsom, has passed to higher office earlier that morning.

With the assistance of Sergeant at Arms and CNRO the DG badged up the cabinet members present who had not previously received their badges. Lion Tracy Field then "volunteered" to run with the mike.

Apologises for absence had been received from Lions Chris Hibbert, David King (New Century), Wendy Cook (Ipswich), John Fox (Downham Market), Di Parkin (Peterborough) and Keith Radley (Witham), PID Phil Nathan (Centennial 100 club), John Cheetham (Peterborough, Trevor Roberts (Southend on Sea), Derek Rutter (March).

1.0 Minutes of the previous meeting –

Acceptance of these was proposed by Lion Len Russell, seconded by Lion Ujjal Kullar, and agreed unanimously.

No matters arising which will not come up during the meeting.

Lion Sandie reported she had spoken to John English (formerly Colchester Lions Club) and he confirmed that all money left at the closure of Colchester had been distributed and he will deal direct with Lion

Adrian as he now lives in Clacton. Proposed by PDG George Harris that this should be accepted, seconded by Sandie Briault, agreed unanimously.

2.0 District Officers reports

2a DG's report – 2 meetings, the 18th September and Council to discuss redistricting and the majority members wanted redistricting with 8 districts. The 18th was very challenging and continued to recent Council meeting in October. His brief was to keep EA intact when merged with a section of E another which would give another 763 members and a District total of 2020; the name would need to be discussed at a future date and he reminded Cabinet that we need to be sensitive to other districts who have lost their district, PDG Barry queried the numbers, they were confirmed as correct as of that day. Questionnaires have been sent to all clubs to be returned by 31st December and to date only one club from EA replied please urge clubs to send in their replies, at the council meeting in January they will be looking at replies to prepare resolution for Convention.

July 2017 Ireland goes it alone so we need new badge, but will be keeping name British Isles.

Mentioned Special Olympics but Lion Simon will fill in all details he urged anyone who can help please volunteer.

MD Convention 21st – 23rd April, International President Bob Curlew is attending and will be staying at the Norbrek, looking for support from Districts to support this convention. MDHQ are handling all the bookings.

Countess of Wessex gave a donation of £14,000 for her charity event.

No report on Centennial as PID Phil is not here, £1000 donations received for hearing dogs from New Century, lots of talk about events over the country but not formally approved yet.

DG handing out centennial patches when he visits club for work on the projects. Not all clubs are putting their information on MYLCI.

Chicago International convention 3/4th July 2017, the advice is the best way to do the arranging is through JTA

Council Secretary, Andy Pemberton is preparing a list of duties to give to council to help them find a new MD Secretary as he is retiring at the end of the Lionistic year in June 2017. DG Nigel said he feels he has done much work over the years which is all voluntary, the MD Treasurer also indicated he will leave the following year (2018), he has also done excellent job.

There have been discussions with Marie Curie on the partnership and also with Chichester regarding specs collection.

Applications for new Chair of Council for next year, close 14th January 2017. CofC Heather has been very good with the Council this year.

PDG Tony Prior raised the question of facilities at Norbrek and how much will it cost. DG said he understands it is a general 3 star hotel, colleagues have stayed there and reported back that the food was good, and they had an enjoyable time. As far as technical facilities are concerned he will have to go back and ask about them and the costs. PDG Tony said figure quoted for providing those facilities was £10,000, DG Nigel will raise at next council. Lion Adrian Robinson said he thought the EA team could offer services this was declined by the team.

ZC Don Drew asked how many questionnaires will be lost this time. DG said MDHQ were very aware of EA and very attentive to our questionnaires. Well done Beccles the only club returned form.

PDG Georg Harris asked if they made a comment about MD would they be taken on board, DG Nigel assured George they will be considered by council. Lion Martin Langdon said his club feel the results are the best we can expect got a good deal, Lincoln is a bit of a distance but whatever it could be much worse. DG Nigel thanked him for the comments. PDG Tony asked if district should be advising members what to reply about district – DG Nigel said no these forms must be completed by members with no advice. PDG Barry Miller agreed with Lion Martin, but the next move is to keep EA in good standing for convention. Lion Simon Smith said he disagreed with PDG Barry there are good people in other districts and we must respect this.

DG Nigel said it is going to be a lot of work to set up the redistricting over the next two years, lots of ideas in the pot for the future, meeting clubs in one area.

2b 1VDG – no update to report except spent weekend at NE convention. Their district convention has agreed to pay new member joining fees for joining branch or a new club. They have a big Membership initiative underway.

MDO for Insurance gave a report and it would appear that all members now have medical insurance, ie where running diabetes check, sight things etc certificate on web site for down loading.

Training of trustees for all clubs trust and cabinet is also available.

2VDG – no update

2c District Secretary's report – 1252 (7 new lost 4). Several lost to higher service not on system yet.

2d District Treasurer's report – Updates but mainly chasing. Our accounts are now ready for signing off and have been audited. Charity account not printed only in and out entries, Admin Account with all expenses taken out, reserves taken a tumble this year and now stand at £6000 below what we should have. These reserves need to be replenished but we will discuss later. Acceptance of accounts proposed by PDG Tony Prior and seconded by PDG Jim Cawte, agreed unanimously.

Next years budget – with expenditure which has gone through the DT advised that we need increase in subs of £2, we have had no increase for about 9 years. He asked DG for approval for this to be deferred to end of meeting as some members present may alter some of the figures during the meeting. 1VDG said this was still much lower than in a lot of Districts.

Chasing accounts – Paul southerton said he visited and told they had been completed Kevin said he was told the same last year. Have they gone to the wrong place. Also chase others outstanding.

Lion Ujjal asked re Norwich North and Lion Roger confirmed they have been received

2e - Immediate Past District Governor – No up date.

2f - Constitution, Nominations and Resolutions – CNRO confirmed he has still has not received any resolutions for consideration at convention but looks as if one are mandatory could be coming through from DT today. As mentioned by the DG, MD CNRO has passed through a lot of paperwork which needs to be adopted by EA and many other districts, we have not had time to produce resolution and ensure does not go against our articles. It was suggested a committee be set up to look at this and read out what he considered basis for resolution for convention, he proposed this be a resolution for March, seconded Derek Prior and agreed. John Fox queried whether MD will still go their own way, Tony said the wording is taken from the MD articles. Tony feels the new constitution should be written with new districting and is trying not to do the work twice, but committee need to work on this, not just one person. Keith Radley said if redistricting goes forward we should need to invoice E and C. Paul Martin said surely if tony is CNRO we as cabinet should be guided by his comments. As he understands it the constitution mentioned will be accepted by everyone. DG Nigel asked if Tony if he can have document by February council meeting – Tony replied no, the new constitution will be in 2018 he is anticipating just putting a resolution with the comments from the MDHQ CNRO. Tony said he feels there is not a single voice about keeping our identity, some do not need to, would cost us less money if we kept our identity he feels as far as some clubs in Lincolnshire feel unhappy about joining us. We really need to talk to these people to find out their views, from our point of view we have almost everything we asked for, we said in our proposal that we were happy to welcome new clubs. If there is a funeral in Scarborough it is a very long way for the DG or Team to travel. Lion Martin Langdon has already spoken to his oppo in E and they have discuss the possibility of one central place for all conventions. DG Nigel does not want to endorse these meetings yet until MD Convention is over. Tony reported that he had looked at John Fox comments and he proposed the following wording for new supremacy clause in District Constitution as follows-

“The Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws shall govern the District unless otherwise amended so as not to conflict with the Multiple District and International Constitution and By-Laws and policies of Lions Club International.

Whenever there may exist a conflict of a contradiction between the provisions set out in the District Constitution and By-Laws and the Multiple District Constitution and By-Laws then the Multiple District Constitution and By-Laws shall govern.

Whenever there may exist a conflict or a contradiction between the provisions set out in the District Constitution and By-Laws and the International Constitution and By-Laws then the International Constitution and By-Laws shall govern.”

This was seconded PDG Kevin Rodgers, and agreed unanimously
2g – **Assistant CNRO** - PDG Jim Cawte, no update

3.0 Zone reports

1A – No update

1B – no update

2A – no update

2B – No update

3A – No update

3B – Looking into a project on two rooms in Norfolk and Norwich Hospital which need decorating, this will involve other zones. What happened to the money collected for Bert Mason bust in Ireland. DT reported that he thinks there was a slight surplus at the end but without looking up the figures he is not sure. PDG Paul confirmed there was a small surplus left over and the last communication from Liam in Ireland said he was sorting out with his DT to redistribute the surplus. Lion Ujjal asked if we are still collecting foreign coins; yes please give it to Jane Gardner at Bungay.

4A - Spoken to Presidents of Ipswich and Bury and VP Lion Tony Wass at Stowmarket in good state and preparing for Christmas activities. 4A hosted a swimming gala at Crown Pool Ipswich, and thanks to Carol Malpas. Zone meeting week commencing 5th December. Paul Bradley is now out of hospital and having further treatment and recuperating but will be out of action for a little while.

4B – No updates

5A – No further update but draw attention to point in report that he attended Barley lands for the Essex Show, but this will be the last.

5B – No updates

6A – As per report explain Harleston president rotated between two members and they had told him they would finish next year, but now they now have no venue, tried to get new members much publicity but no one interest so they are folding December. Zone meeting is on Tuesday with Derek Rutter attending to talk about his project but he is now not able to attend however there are sufficient speakers to cover this.

6B – No updates

4a Almoner – No update but please remember photos for in memoriam

4a Global Membership – No update as such, couple of things discussed. Through DG there was a time when zone chairmen copied their zone meeting minutes and club visit reports to MERL he has seen one set from Sandie (who said it was actually meant for Mandy). Roadshows - should they continue, are they worth doing, and the other thing was that we should as a district put forward a strategy on retention. Proposals have to get through at MD convention. Any thoughts or comments on the above please report to Paul. PDG Tony said Region forums ideal place for roadshows. 1VDG Derek spoke about next year as he has region chairmen coming back so region meetings a good idea. GMT at the moment is only Paul, next year team will include officers for woman, cultural, youth and retention. PDG Kevin going back to retention said it is very important, for many years we have gained 130 members but lost 135, never know until see it on forms it needs all clubs reporting to Paul when people are fed up or there are problems to try and help us save them. PDG Paul said this is why he is asking for copies of minutes etc. PDG Barry Miller said winter forum not the right name should be summer forum.

Leadership – No update, hoping to run Guiding Lion course in the North of the District in February and he will contact NE re trustee training,

4d PR – no update not here

4e Centennial Celebrations – Mandy Broadbent is requesting information for project, this was in weekly news, so not only does Jim need info but also Mandy for the portfolio she is preparing.

4f Competitions – Now knows 6 heats taking place for quiz can other 6 let him know whether taking part. Travelling Lion / Lioness club need more applications. Fancy dress at convention don't forget, but it is optional . Stowmarket planning quiz in January.

4.g Lionesses – Thank you for all the support of Lions last year and the continuing support and Tony for all he has done for the district. Membership still an issue, charted with 98 members lost one to higher service, currently 31 members will stay and pay dues, if rest leave this will leave a deficit of 67. What have they done, Angela asked one lioness from each club to ask their lionesses, Derek Prior attended the last district meeting about the new club and they were going away to discuss with their members. As MD chair she said Lionesses were having same issues as lions we are all getting older and it is more difficult to do all that we want to do. Lost 30 lionesses last year, two clubs in ea struggling, but Downham Market working very hard to keep going. Thetford are not taking part Dorothy feels club will dwindle out, membership a real problem. The club is going very well, it's had its first face to face meeting and lots of good ideas coming forward. This is the situation at the moment, can district suggest anything else we can do, if so please tell Angela know. Lion John Fox says Margaret and other members of the club have heard nothing from new club, please talk to them. Kay Large asked if it is purely financial reasons some are leaving, have you put in place monthly direct debit, Angela says they have spoken about this and how they can help to subsidize the dues, her club have decided they will put in a small amount at the moment and then they do an event to cover the dues, making it clear what they raising the funds for admin not charity. Have talked about setting up direct debits, feels doing everything they can to keep the numbers, there is still an issue with some e mail addresses but working on it, also using Facebook, and other means. Tony says dual membership dues is a dangerous way forward, but have you tried to get a sponsor for the club, 60 member loss will be very difficult to cope with, possibly several small sponsors could help. Lion Roger F has done sums and District holds Lioness sub on account at moment and feels this could be used towards subs. £448 would be very helpful. Angela says they have discussed sponsorship but not looked into it yet, will do now. Very positive start to new club. Roger says we have worked so hard with numbers and everyone would love us to go down to 1200, so that they can say "told you so". What if district could waive subs, anything would help, Tony said terrible shame to lose this club, we need to look at everything.

4.h Lioness Liaison – no updates.

6.0 Events

6.a - Adrian asked about the purple pimples. Lion David Parker said Billericay waiting on a claim for a damaged pimple.

6.b – Convention Co-ordinator – Very brief summary of the likely cost for the 3 days in Norwich 2018, the room hire will be inside the balance shown in the treasurers costings. Three days cost £466.80. talking to various people about options for 2019 and will keep everyone informed. Proposed Martin seconded Lion Gaby, agreed. 2019 will be 40th anniversary of our district.

6.c – Convention host chair John Potter reported 87 bookings deficit now very much reduced. Reminded everyone to book and Zone Chairmen please push convention with clubs.

7.0 Welfare

7a – Chairman – No update but would mention that at the last cabinet asked zc take to next meeting and up date what they are doing for the centennial

7.b – Diabetes – Lion Trevor spoke to Joy Jones last night at New Century Charter and she suggested training on using their questionnaire which they consider to be a better form of screening, he will follow this up with her. Reiterate Lion David's comment please ZC ask clubs to tell him what is going on.

7c – Environment – No up date but photo competition closes 31st ~December,

7.d – Gift for Living – no update

7.e – Lions Clubs International Foundation – Donations from EA were second lowest in MD but now after Italy and Haiti we lead the way being top of the table. LCIF badges available from Kevin and he did not attend the meeting at MD as Geoff Leeder was unwell and it was postponed.

Simon asked about donation from Braintree for Italy as acknowledgement said thanks for donation to general fund. Roger said it all goes to MD but if designated for a place this is told to LCIF.

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

7.g – Medicalert – We have had our first donation to early start programme made by Downham Market. Matty said that he was at a MIAB meeting and message in a wallet was discussed and it was said clubs should do what they want. PDG Paul said when he was DG this raised its head and they sought legal

advice and told not to support it, happened next year same thing happened and advice was same. Lion David proposed that the advice to clubs be not to support this, seconded by PDG Derek, agreed unanimously.

7.h – Message in a Bottle (MIAB) – Bottles supplied to Deaf Blind new boxes available from Lowestoft lions

7.i - Speech and hearing – No update

7.j – Vulnerable Persons – No update

7.k - SOGB – Simon went to last council meeting and the presentation was longer than expected but received very well. Whole event revolves around fact we need to raise money, £25,000, thanks to those who already have but need resources and most of all help. 21 different events, EAmore volunteers than rest of MD put together. New club (Sheffield) formed and they are working very hard. Packs available from Simon. Cornerstone event for centennial lots of publicity already.

8.0 Youth Projects –

8.a – Chairman – Lion Kay no update, Peace Posters on wall after judging today Third place went to the Wisbech entry, Second also to a Wisbech entry and First place to an Ipswich entry, the winner will now go forward to the MD competition in the new year.

8.b - Young leaders – no update

8.c - Leo Liaison – New Century are happy to support them in the new Leo club they are working on.

8.d– Life Skills – see typed note

8.e – Peace Poster - no update

8.f- Young Ambassador - the report is as written, would cabinet like the competition to take place at the November meeting next year, max 30 mins extra on the day, Lion Gaby says would be good for candidates. Lion Adrian asked if there is a cost involved possibly, £150 for room plus meals etc. David Parker said there is always a cost involved so why not at cabinet. Roger asked what if we had more than 3 candidates, Lion Gaby said she would be jumping for joy. Proposed Lion David Large, seconded David Pope = agreed.

8g– Youth entertainment no update

9.0 Administration

9.a Health and Safety – Michael Gardner said only received 23 of 60 please help with task and get everyone to send in their forms.

9.b International Relations – No update

9.c – Insurance - PDG George said that since report had 11 clubs contact him re copies of insurance policy please ZC tell clubs it is on our web site. PDG Tony Prior said he understands that there are funds left over from the insurance premiums paid by clubs to MD for the Insurance Policy, he understands that after the premium has been paid have funds left over and these are being used for other things. DT Roger says he gives out instructions to clubs as instructed by MD Treasurers. Tony asked if we could get a firm answer to this as if insurance premiums are taken out of charity accounts it cannot be used for other things as this is in breach of Charities Commission rules. PDG Paul asked where the money is going, would DG Nigel take to council. PDG Kevin said the cost is £21.40 and we charged £44, PDG Kevin he was asked at council (when he was DG) to sit back and not take part in a vote as they wanted a unanimous vote. It is thought the balance used for administration which is disgusting, and not charity. Keith Radley said this is fraud. Simon said Brian Riley asked this question and apparently it was agreed at the council meeting in April 2016 PDG Chris Crick agreed this was correct. 1st vdg had meeting at weekend at NE and agreed not to discuss with anyone but the topic was discussed and you will soon find out. It will not happen when he is DG. Lion Roger says that he thinks what happened before insurance done by outside company then made it self funding with ceiling of £100,000 after a few years this was reached and cost of £21.40 was needed to keep it topped up and so use money for other things. 1VDG Derek said that the additional £23.60 is being used and if not available subs would have to pay, but not done the correct way. Lion Simon asked George to find out what cyber insurance we have and why do we pay a broker for this insurance of £22,000.

9.d - IT/Webmaster 2 – Plea for ZC – photographs needed for In memoriam at ~Convention
Mersea I

sland - Kim Kimberley, Centennial - Donna Perry, Swaffham Lionesses/Lioness Lions Club – Susan
Ashwood, and Lion John Kent.

9e Lions Roar – no update

AOB

The events supported by district Royal Norfolk Show, Tendring, Barley Lands (apparently there will be no Barley Lands), we have stock of wristbands to cover Norfolk and Tendring, but there is another event in April at the Norfolk Showground, the Spring Fling held at Norfolk, where children get up close to animals etc, do we support this as a district or do local clubs attend and pay for the MIAB themselves. Matt has several boxes in garage left over from Barley Lands. PDG Jim said these are the property of district will we supply these to Spring Fling, the cost of these is £120. Roger said take it out of supply seconded by 1VDG Derek. We do not want to buy any new wristbands until we get redistricting sorted.

Young ambassador – DT said we need to put some money in for this and looking at funds for sub costs for Lioness club so propose subs to £11.00 seconded by Lion David Large agreed; this will now go forward as a resolution at Convention.

Plea from 1VDG - in case anyone doesn't know Derek collects unwanted pens from the meeting for his wife who works for the NHS.

At this point the partners joined cabinet

Raffle made £121 thanks to everyone.

Vote of thanks

IPDG Chris invited to speak! IDG Chris thanked Nigel for taking us through the meeting and giving us the opportunity to discuss redistricting and other things and still running almost on time! Some very strong subjects discussed today but you kept us on target very well. Keep up the good work.

Tail twister This was carried out in the usual professional manner and raised approximately £41

Closing remarks by DG

DG Nigel thanked everyone for giving up their time today, we got through a lot of business, some difficult.

The next Cabinet meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn on Sunday 5th February 2016