

Lions Clubs International District 105EA – 2016 / 2017

Minutes of the first Cabinet meeting of the Lionistic year 2016/17 held on Sunday 21st August 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), PID Phil Nathan (Centennial 100 Club), PDG Kevin Rodgers (Peterborough), 1st Vice District Governor Lion Derek Prior (Billericay), Past District Governors (PDG) Lions Tony Prior and George Harris (Leigh on Sea), Derek Maguire (Haverhill), Barry Miller (Castle Point), Jim Cawte (Wymondham), District Secretary (DS) Lion David Pope (Peterborough), District Treasurer (DT) Lion Roger Fuller (Leigh on Sea), Lions Len Russell (Haverhill), Jane and Michael Gardiner (Bungay), Sandie Briault (Lion/Lioness Club of EA and Witham Lionesses), John Potter and Derek Rutter (March), Martin Langdon (West Norwich), Matt Bungard (Thetford Breckland), Douglas Whyte (Stowmarket and District), Simon Smith (Braintree), Don Drew (Littleport), Trevor Hull and David Parker (Billericay), Mark Lanham (Lowestoft), Adrian Robinson (Clacton on Sea), Pam Maguire (Haverhill), Gaby Sharman and John Cheetham (Peterborough), and Lioness Chair Angela Howard (Lion/Lioness Club of EA and Saffron Walden Lionesses), Trevor Roberts and Rod Nolan (Southend on Sea), Paul Bradley (Bury St Edmunds), Ujjal Kullar (Taverham), Tracy Field (Chelmsford), David King (New Century), 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 first 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. He said our International President Chancellor Bob Curlew said we have new mountains to climb, let's get on and start the climb.

Lions Clubs Purposes were read by Lion Paul Southerton and Lions Club **Code of Ethics** was read by Lion Don Drew.

PDG Barry Miller (Almoner) advised Cabinet that 3 Lions Jack Hobbs (Southend on Sea), Ernie Pearce (Stowmarket and District) and Rosemary Kearney, known as Peggy (Littleport); the first two Lions have over 80 years service between them. A minutes silence was observed.

With the assistance of Sergeant at Arms and CNRO the DG badged up the cabinet members present. Lion Tracy Field then "volunteered" to run with the mike.

Apologies for absence had been received from PDGs Paul Martin (UEA Campus Club), Chris Crick (Beccles), Lions Chris Hibbert (New Century), David Goodwin (Haverhill), Wendy Cook (Ipswich), John Fox (Downham Market), David Large (Leigh on Sea), Di Parkin (Peterborough) and Keith Radley (Witham).

1.0 Minutes of the previous meeting –

Proposed PDG Barry Miller, seconded PDG Jim Cawte, 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 John Cheetham, agreed

2.0 District Officers reports

2a DG's report – attended first cabinet meeting very detailed,

- Briefing from PDG Ian Clare (GMT), he said Centennial year was a great opportunity for Lions to showcase their achievements, look at lost clubs and look at potential. A special mention for EA for all the work they had done on increasing membership. In Tokyo asked by an American presenter how we had so many new lady members, DG replied we had used new strategies for ladies. Also need to be looking at retention.
- Also GLT asked that we encourage leadership training, especially ALLI (Advanced Lions Leadership Institute) and Guiding Lion certification.
- DGE seminar feedback was that he thought they were superb including the general lions organisation information.
- *Convention in Blackpool* – International President Bob Curlew will be attending, but there were lots of concerns from people present as they are apparently going through lots of alterations at the moment, you can stay at the Nobrek or elsewhere, choice is for the individuals.
- Discussed Ireland leaving and everyone wants it to happen in a friendly manner they will be involved training with us, PDG Simon Moss has a liaison post for this.
- Report from PID Phil on centennial year, budget and more information to follow
- Special Olympic – Simon Smith is working extremely hard on this please help to support him where you can; from a personal note DG attended the last ones and it was fantastic to see the participants enjoying everything. Please try and support this
- Prostate cancer had fantastic speaker on the subject on the Sunday morning session, and made a lot of eyes water but hopefully the male members of the audience took on board his comment, sure the wives did! This is a charity we are supporting.
- Charity commission – no clubs in EA failed to return form
- PCC Andy Pemberton is leaving his post of MD Secretary in 2017, on a personal basis he works very hard and it will be a difficult job to replace; DG said he feels might have to look at job share
- Directory – sadly because of cost cutting it will no longer be printed but available on line.
- Health and Safety – we are a little adrift on the dates on our policies and there is advice from H & S officer on how to get this up to date. DG reminded that we must have risk assessments for every event, produced in advance and logged with someone. In the event of an accident authorities will want to see it immediately.
- World sight day – clubs arranging walks and other functions, don't forget to report to Lions Roar.
- Young Ambassadors – final at Dudley in February please look for candidates. Really good weekend if anyone would like to go and support this event.
- Redistricting – results presented to COG at end of July, emailed to everyone, when saw EA response of 24% he was stunned so were other members of COG. There were then some replies found in a folder at MDHG which changed our figure to 60%. Majority of districts for redistricting and having 8 districts passed but not unanimously, DG did not vote on this. When we get the feedback from clubs the COG will be meeting 18th September to discuss this and then a draft proposal for resolution(s) will be prepared and discussed with membership and then resolutions will be agreed to take forward to convention next year.
- A new committee is to be put in place to consider applicants for DG, they will consider whether they meet the International criteria and look at their experience within the district and their training. This must be made up of between 3 and 5 members, DG will have 3, the members must not be PDGs but members from any clubs in the District, but not the club from DG Team members standing. Full rules will be received from Oakbrook.
- Also a Credentials Committee is to be set up in each District, this will be to check the authenticity of Delegates and Alternates.

Barry Miller commented regarding paper which came out last week stating that we had only returned 24%, he had not seen any apology or advice that the figure had changed to 60%. He has spoken to Chairman of Council, they have rubbished us and no apology has been forthcoming, he said he now mistrust in MD had increased.

1VDG told DG he did a good job standing up for EA at the meeting but his hands were tied due to the incorrect information which had been given. It was fortunate that in ES we had kept careful information regarding our replies. Has any correction been sent yet?

DG replied that he will find out about global apology, regarding correction the person who completed the first set of figures has been on holiday and is now looking at the corrections. Majority of clubs want 8 districts and it was agreed they would go with the majority. Resolution at convention one was for 8 districts but not voted on, is this resolution being worked on or is there any changes to the way this redistricting will take place. DG said that maybe after 18th September meeting we will look more deeply, MDS says in minutes that he will resend the documentation of the 8 options.

Stuart Mackaness asked about the series of events. DG replied that if this happened with exam results or election results etc this would be taken very seriously. He was appalled and made his feelings felt at COC meeting and someone went back to MDHQ the next day and looked and the papers were found. Stuart then asked DG if he felt we would end up with a largely similar proposal coming out, DG said it is very difficult to say what will come out but it is going back to all members for comments. It is down to members to decide. He said the COG are driven by the membership, majority of districts want redistricting and some do not.

DS David said he has never read such a biasedly written questionnaire. He also knew that we had 34 clubs had responded just short of 60%, when figures finished and issued and e mails were flying around everywhere he went through everything and asked to have it checked as he knew that at least 30 had been returned. He said he is not precious about this but very concerned that MD feels we are stirrers and we should have a full apology for everyone to see. District M lost 3.7% of members last year with Chairman of Council as their DG, Chairman of Council last year was also Past DG Simon Moss also from District M and very involved in redistricting.

PDG George felt we are going to end up with the same resolution we had originally. He will not be told he has to join a club in A, he will leave Lions before that, there were many offers of clubs within EA to accommodate the many Essex Lions who agreed with George.

Coffee break

2b 1VDG – updates Lioness/Lions club of EA last night great evening but now tired from last night.

2d 2VDG – Lioness / Lions charter the night before was a thoroughly enjoyable event

2c District Secretary's report – 1252 (10 new lost 8). Please when he gives date deadlines please keep to them. Thanks to all who get the reports in on time

2d District Treasurer's report – Updates but mainly chasing . Now received 49 out of 64 dues, please chase and also for accounts which are outstanding. Budget in by end of September for approval at November meeting. We have already heard re Jack Hobbs from Southend on Sea, he has left a bequest to the District in his will. Braintree have now sent in their accounts thank you Simon and Ujjal has contacted Norwich North who say they have sent their accounts, please ask to send again.

2e - Immediate Past District Governor – Not here

2f - Constitution, Nominations and Resolutions – DG has already mentioned about new committee to be set in place - non PDG members, members must be from different clubs for nominees to DG. Rules coming in from Oakbrook, there are lots of details to be confirmed. As DG mentioned membership is between 3 – 5, and he has confirmed he will be having three. This committee needs to be in place by the end of year to ensure the work has been carried out ready for nomination at Convention.

The Credentials committee as already mentioned will need to be formed to check on details of alternates and delegates for District and MD conventions. This will consist of secretary, treasurer, PDG and non cabinet members.

PDG Jim Cawte, Assistant CNRO, said going on from last comments about Credentials committee there is also to be an Election committee to be responsible for the preparation for elections. Candidates for DG and rest of team and any other elections contested will be able to have an observer present, results will

be published. Official call for convention to be sent out by the end of August, PDG Tony and he think we should send out call to convention this month, a separate sheet will go out with the nominations for District and VDGs when available. SAS Adrian said none of this should be put in place until it has gone through our convention and put in our constitution and convention rules. Lion David Pope already drafted convention call and it is ready to go, his understanding is committees have to be in place 60 days before convention but we need to get out the other information to members. We need to get papers out by the end of the week regarding DGs, trustees etc. DG is going to put these two committees in place and Lion Jim will liaise with them. 1VDG said that Adrian's comments about voting, many members do not understand that there are club, district, and MD constitutions which all follow International and if they have it in place we have no alternative. 1VDG said he feels they are trying to get rid of him. SAS Adrian said his point is if this all goes forward and the membership do not know about it there will be problems at Convention and they will think it is a secret society again, we need to tell membership what is going on..

2VDG Mandy Hawksley advised cabinet that the 2nd VDG from C has been deselected, as he did not meet the criteria.

Lion Martin Langdon asked if we are changing our constitution by dictate from outside the District do we need an extraordinary general meeting. It was agreed we do not as DDS David will include this information with convention call.

3.0 Zone reports

1A – No update

1B – Please read Lion magazine as there is a big spread about Lion Gaby receiving a Citizenship award in Peterborough, also for work on Young Ambassador

2A – First zone meeting in next couple of weeks

2B – No update

3A – No update

3B – Only did one

4A - No update

4B – No updates

5A – Essex Country show at Barley Lands had fantastic support from the Zone but we still need more bodies as there are gaps on some gates and other things need cover. Please go out to you clubs and see if anyone can help. 10th/11th Sept at Barley Lands

5B – No activity

6A – Over last 12 months Lowestoft created a box for MIAB and they have moved huge quantities, is there any funding available to help. Deaf Blind society hired a holiday camp for about 400, are there any bottles available - cost approximately £360 and this can be covered but other funding not available.

Proposed PDG George seconded by Lion John Cheetham passed unanimously. Lion Matty just happens to have four boxes in his car.

6B – No updates

4a Almoner – No update

4a Global Membership – report submitted

4b Leadership – no update

4d PR – no update not here

4e Centennial Celebrations – Report before you, one update - attempting to get 100 Lions to attend the sunset parade at the royal Norfolk show and also at the Norfolk parade (Summer (2017) Lion Tracy reported they raised in excess of £6000 for the Diabetes walk.

4f Competitions – Requests to ZC to promote the competitions available. All info on web site. Golf competition going to be held probably in May, will talk to experienced golfer for more info!

Quiz is being held on Saturday before February cabinet meeting and will be held here. Lion David asked if cabinet will fund, proposed PDG Jim seconded Lion Trevor, passed.

4.g Lionesses – Last night charter for new club, the Lioness/Lion club, Angela thanked everyone who attended and helped so much especially PDG Tony as Master of Ceremonies. From MD it was good news in that at last Council of Governors meeting the new Lioness guidelines were accepted by council

and will take place of the Memorandum of understanding. Chairman of Council Heather said had good news the day before and the extension on lionesses has been extended to 2018..

4.h Lioness Liaison – no update but congratulations to new club, a very good evening.

6.0 Events

6.a - No updates but need a decision re storing regalia from South Woodham and Malden. PDG Barry said Rayleigh has offered but not been taken up. This was noted and will be looked into. Lion John Cheetham asked about the Royal Norfolk show, will PDG Jim be bringing us up to date, and is usual payment being made to the people who attended on Tuesday and looked after the sheep. PDG Jim replied as at this moment we have received no payments from them, he has had discussions but nothing received to date he will discreetly speak to contacts.

6.b – Convention Co-ordinator – Lion Martin apologised re pins, and everyone receiving a demand for extra postage.

6.c – convention host chair John Potter reported numbers had increased slightly but Cabinet members please book if you have not already done so.

7.0 Welfare

7a – Chairman – No update

7.b – Diabetes – presentation at 5A zone meeting this week. Slight change to Diabetes screening as Lloyds are no longer supporting this and are recommending clubs encourage people to go direct into Boots and Lloyds pharmacies for this test. There was a programme on Channel 4 recently about a dad with diabetes and his problems, excellent programme and Lion Trevor is trying to get him to come along to convention next year.

7c – Environment – Please update my LCI all goes towards Centennial figures. Another project clubs may be interested in is “adopt a bee hive” at a cost of £30 per year – Lion David has details.

7.d – Gift for Living – if ZC would like her to attend a zone meeting she is quite willing to attend. 2VVG Mandy received a very nice letter from Serbia thanking us for the mattresses that we funded.

7.e – Lions Clubs International Foundation – no update

7.f – Lions Eye Health Programme / Sight – no update – don't forget World Sight day second Thursday in October,

7.g – Medicalert –

7.h – Message in a Bottle (MIAB) – No update. Lions Paul Somerton and John Gifford involved in the initial MIAB project awarded recognition.

7.i – Speech and hearing – Just observations centennial projects, one is hearing dogs and Lion John has plenty of brochures and please include in your projects. Can everyone keep looking for training opportunities and Peterborough quiz please see Lion David he has 500.

7.j – Vulnerable Persons –

7.k – SOGB – Simon very happy to come along and talk about it, if anyone is interested in coming to the Special Olympics please come along speak to him re accommodation, etc. Appeal letter coming out in next few weeks not just for funds but for help and resources. 7th August 2017 for 10 days.

Youth Projects –

8.a – Chairman – no updates David pope hosting etc

8.b - Young leaders – no update no up date but on facebook this morning copy of new pin. All log books available on line to download, everyone will get badge of their choice.

8.c - Leo Liaison – received e mail from old Ely club and wants to know what to do with regalia and also accounts. Tracy happy to hold regalia for the time being.

8.d– Life Skills – see typed note

8.e – Peace Poster - no update

8.f- Young Ambassador - no updates but there is a promotional code for accommodation at Dudley for finals

8g– Youth entertainment – not present

9.0 Administration

9.a Health and Safety – distributed envelope which contains district Health and Safety forms please get them to clubs need reply on time please (zone chairman)

9.b International Relations – No update

9.c – Insurance - no update

9.d - IT/Webmaster 2 – no update

9e Lions Roar – no update

PID Lion Phil – We have many exciting projects he said he believes strongly in lionesses but is sitting back and getting disillusioned. As he said last night he believes in service. Last year he was waiting for call to be 3rd VDG in Japan, support of most of Europe and he thought this was it. Then out of the blue he had a call to tell him that the preferred candidate would be the PID from Iceland who was not as qualified a Phil and with less experience. However she is a woman and ticks boxes which it is felt should be ticked, we want a female International President before other Service Organisation. If EA had not done what they did last year and other districts agreed we would have been gone by now. Targets for the Centennial are getting hammered in our district. The Head and Neck cancer charity is partnering with Lions. We are doing what we do best “We Serve”.

Lunch back at 1.40

AOB

Roger bought up subject of wristbands and MIBA at events. A donation pot is usually put out at events but even if District has paid for the items they do not get the money. Lion Kay proposed a donation bucket be put out at events and money goes to district towards cost of replacing items. Lion Martin said at Royal Norfolk on their gate they have a donation bucket and raised about £200 – £250 as do other clubs, if they find the money goes to district his club would not be happy. SAS Adrian said Tendring Show is different and they have only just got permission to collect if they do not solicit donations. 1VDG said Barley Lands collect and last year money collected went en mass to hearing dogs and other charities. PDG Jim said he did not want to see collections at Royal Norfolk as they could well withdraw the money they usually pay us. Lion Kay suggested that she withdraw her motion. Lion Tracy said her club went to Tendring but did not expect any payment, and speaking on their behalf they would not mind what happened it could go to the charity or district. Lion Adrian said Tendring buckets said donations towards MIAB and bands.

SAS Adrian suggested that we have another open meeting after 18th September possibly before next cabinet. DG will look at dates. SAS Adrian is happy to arrange

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 and a short dvd shown on cystic fibrosis which is the DGs Lady's appeal for this year. It was wonderful to see how much is being done for this condition, and how normal a life many of these sufferers can now live.

Raffle made £132 thanks to everyone.

Vote of thanks

Sort of IPDG invited to speak! PDG Kevin said the dvd excellent and softened everyone's heart. Well done Nigel you kept the meeting going and 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 £40

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 20th November 2016.