

## 1. Minutes of Last Cabinet Meeting

### Lions Clubs International District 105EA – 2016 / 2017

Minutes of the final Cabinet meeting of the Lionistic year 2016/17 held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017 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), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Lion Derek Prior (Billericay), 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Mandy Hawksley (Bungay), Past District Governors (PDG) Lions Tony Prior, Derek Maguire (Haverhill), 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 (March), Martin Langdon (West Norwich), Douglas Whyte (Stowmarket and District), Simon Smith (Braintree), Don Drew (Littleport), Mark Lanham (Lowestoft), Adrian Robinson (Clacton on Sea), Pam Maguire (Haverhill), Gaby Sharman, Di Parkin and John Cheetham (Peterborough), Lioness Chair Angela Howard (Lion/Lioness Club of EA and Saffron Walden Lionesses), Ujjal Kullar (Taverham), David King (New Century), Sue Cowee (Attleborough 2013), Keith Radley (Witham), Chris Hibbert (New Century), Wendy Cook (Ipswich), John Fox (Downham Market), Kay Large (Leigh on Sea), Matt Bungard (Thetford), Trevor Hall, David Parker (Billericay)

Sergeant at Arms (SaA) Lion Adrian Robinson called the meeting to order for this, DG Nigel's final 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. OPAC shirts available take what you want and tell Adrian. Finish 12.30 for lunch.

DG Nigel welcomed everyone and thanked them for giving up their time and wished them all good luck for the coming year.

**Lions Clubs Purposes** were read by Lion Michael Gardner and Lions Club **Code of Ethics** was read by Lion John Fox.

1VDG gave 1 minutes silence for those who passed to higher office  
Lion Gaby Sharman then "volunteered" to run with the mike.

**Apologies for absence** had been received from PID Phil Nathan, David Goodwin, Stuart Macaness, Peter Southerton, Derek Rutter, Peter Smith and David Large

#### 1.0 Minutes of the previous meeting –

Proposed PDG Paul Martin, seconded Lion Don Drew, agreed unanimously.  
No matters arising which will not come up during the meeting.

#### 2.0 District Officers reports

**2a DG's report** – attended last council, meeting very detailed,

At Convention in Blackpool there were 396 delegates in attendance representing 251 clubs, 105 alternates and 700 attended the convention.

Finance reports were published you could have picked up a copy and they are also on the web site

MD officer appointments and applications are being sorted by the incoming Council

MD105 forward – in draft initial response by 105

Shine new spotlight – it was felt this was strong but lacked detail and is to be discussed at International Convention  
International convention will have 191 people attending from UK

MD convention 2017 at Blackpool was a weekend of friendship with a good Banquet and Ball; we said a fond farewell to Ireland and voted our International Director PCC Geoff Leeder. Lots of discussion which was friendly and useful. It was agreed we would go to 8 districts from 2020.

2018 convention will be in early May at the Hampshire Court Hotel in Basingstoke Hampshire. Matty only had 4 people reply who want to go, anyone else please let him know or there will not be district hotel.

At the end of Convention Chair of Council was asked where the Council minutes were as last year it was agreed these would go onto the web site this has not happened, and these are now being loaded on the web site. Convention next year has a first class hotel costing £115 instead of usual £195. There are only 90 rooms available and already half taken by MD.

**2b 1VDG** – none

**2d 2VDG** – none

**2c District Secretary's report** – David Pope logged onto system this morning and our current membership stands at 1171, we have lost 6 members and gained 4.

**2d District Treasurer's report** – New membership is in budget for next year, assumes it is the Cabinet's decision to pay \$25 for new members – please remind treasurers they must send e mail to Lion Roger or they will not get money.

Peterborough Convention has broken even, no profit no loss, due to clubs in 1B who donated £980 to make it special, at the end there was a balance of £440 and it was decided by the committee that the £440 went back to clubs. We didn't have to pay £1000 hire fees. Come to the Treasurers notice two clubs sent donations direct to appeals instead of through him. We like to monitor donations and he cannot help if doesn't know about donations sent direct to MD. \$750 paid for appeal, which we won, has now been \$650 returned.

Paul Martin said regarding payment of joining fees these will increase to \$35, do cabinet absorb this or clubs help. VDE Derek Prior said International President was swamped at convention by everyone telling him this is ridiculous, how not to attract new members!! He is taking back to the Board. What do we do, Derek Prior said the joining fee gets absorbed into the first dues. Ian constable asked if family membership will continue, Roger says he believes this will continue but they must complete one form and district will only pay one fee.

Paul Martin said family membership is only available on International portion of dues, not MD or District. Only proportions on MD and District dues are for students.  
Roger proposed we reimburse \$25 dollars seconded by Derek Prior, agreed by everyone, district can afford at the moment.

**2e - Immediate Past District Governor** – None

**2f -CNR** – Tony Prior has been advised there is a meeting tomorrow with E and C regarding their appeal, and another meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June. John Cheetham says last paragraph of Tony's report, he thinks northern clubs of EA should make contact with the southern clubs of E and he knows one meeting has been set up. John Potter says they have an event coming up in Peterborough and he has been in touch with clubs north of Peterborough and several clubs have responded they would like to be involved. Derek P invited counterpart in E to next cabinet meeting as observers, hope they will reciprocate but he is doing nothing official until after International Board meeting agrees everything as we are aware there are appeals going forward. Chris Hibbert says he lives in E and goes to many events. Paul Martin said he is concerned that this is handled carefully and diplomatically.

**2g - Centennial** – PDG Jim ~Cawte no update

**2i – Lions Roar** -John Fox said he would like to look towards a development of Lions Roar he feels there is a situation out there where lots of club lions do not know what goes on at cabinet. He is looking at an opportunity within Lions Roar to report about what is happening, ie joining fee, and he is looking for someone to do this, and someone to do the quiz. David Pope has volunteered to undertake the Cabinet reporting.

Derek Prior said he has done the quiz for three years someone else help please – Mandy volunteered.

### **3.0 Zone reports**

**1A** – No update

**1B** – none

**2A** – none

**2B** – No update

**3A** – No update

**3B** – Ujjal said two clubs no reports, one late and one still outstanding. They have had a centennial project, renovating two rooms at Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, most items for this has been done and handover is to be arranged.

**4A** - Nothing

**4B** – No updates

**5A** – no update

**5B** – No activity

**6A** – no update

**6B** – No updates

**4a Almoner** – No update

**4a Global Membership** – Reminder whether or not redistricting goes forward we still face the problem - we need new members.

**4b Leadership** – Reminder incoming officers day 11<sup>th</sup> June, everyone welcome members who have held positions before and those who might be thinking about it, everyone's input is welcome.

**4d PR** – no update not here

**4e Centennial Celebrations** – no update

**4f Competitions** – One up date - golf competition this year outside convention we have 1171 members and only 11 players have entered – how can we get more people. Quiz numbers dwindling so this year trying one quiz with clubs taking part (no heats) at old Copdock and see how this goes. Proposed David Parker, second Simon Smith all agreed cost £200. John Potter asked about clubs who enjoy doing zone quiz, it was repeated there will be only one quiz.

New Century sensory garden has had patio laid with help of Bury St Edmunds club, help from Ipswich and Chelmsford clubs too and hopefully get Derek Prior down on presentation day.

**4.g Lionesses** – 5<sup>th</sup> May closed down Leicester lioness club, main reason was they could not find anyone to do officers and president has done 3 years and wanted someone to take over. This is the last lioness club formed, two joining lions club and current president may join Lions / Lioness club, want to help community without all the officialdom. Thanked Douglas for all his help.

**4.h Lioness Liaison** – no update but would like to reply to Angela, he has enjoyed the time working together especially cabinet being told what to do. Thinks time now to sit back and relax, enjoyed every minute with Lionesses.

Chris Hibbert

### **6.0 Events**

**6.b – Convention Co-ordinator** – Tendring show booked commitment from District for wristbands, not aware about marquees and staffing. Can he have Zone Chairmen collars back unless they are continuing. Tony P mentioned in report don't know where the gazebos are, he has one in garage and Billericay has one. Paul martin has two stored and one in back of car and Ian Constable is taking one back. We need 4 for Norfolk and Norwich, 3 blue and the centennial. Two white at Yarmouth. 3 blue and centennial also for Tendring and from 1<sup>st</sup> July will not have vehicle to get gazebos around won't fit in vehicle. Simon Smith said he was asked by disabled sports who were desperate for gazebos, Tony P said not desperate but any additional available would be useful, probably have enough for that event. Don Drew asked if we do actually have enough gazebos because Littleport arranged to have one for an event and a month before they went walk about and they used a donated one. Paul said they had requested a gazebo but not confirmed and Paul arranged to meet a member of the club half way to hand one over then had phone call to say don't bother too far. Derek P said we have enough in district the problem is moving them around. Paul travelled miles sorting these out but what we need is co-operation from the clubs to pick them up. Keith Radley said Witham borrowed them last year went to Leigh to pick up and took back. Have accounted for Centennial, (lost one to wind damage at Barley Lands, and claimed on insurance now down to 5, he can account for 4.

If we have insurance then we should replace, Tony says we need a new one but how do we have it printed – Lions Clubs International; until we know more about redistricting and District name etc we could be ordering something which is wrong. Roger said £450 insurance not sufficient cost for new one but there is a reserve for these. Cost for a new one £650 and Tony Prior proposed we buy a new one as a replacement, this was agreed.

Trevor Hull said the damaged gazebo in Billericay store - does anyone want any of it or should they throw it away, Paul Martin said the frame was useless there is a big tear in the canvas but sides can be saved. Who is going to organise the Tendring show – Lion Adrian has said in past he will not do it as it causes friction with his club. Nigel asked if he should put out a plea for a volunteer, Paul said in new lion year perhaps the Region Chairman for that year this should be first project and looked at in the future rather than just before the event, causes loads of headaches. Derek P asked what the problem is with Clacton. Adrian said the club feel it is a district event and the club feel it is all left to them, they are becoming anti-district. As it is a district project support will be given by them for this, would they be happy to run this as Clacton lions with support from district. Adrian feels someone from outside must deal with this as he does not feel the club would want to organise it again. Sandie Briault said this conflicts with Witham carnival. This will be discussed outside the cabinet. Don Drew suggested a job description so people can see what the job entails

6.c – Martin Langdon said he requires a decision regarding planning for 2019/20. David Pope said in the light of all going on does not want us to go off until we know the decision of the International Board. Forward planning person next year is Mandy and this should be part of it. Derek Prior agreed with David and this was the content of an e mail he sent to him about a month ago, report only made deadline.

John Potter hoped everyone enjoyed themselves at Convention, he did. Nigel gave big thank you to John and the team for such a wonderful convention, he was overwhelmed.

Tony P asked if we had to made a decision about Convention, Derek said he was asking for cabinet to approve holding off – seconded David Goodwin, passed.

## 7.0 Welfare

**7a – Chairman** – No update

**7.b – Diabetes** – Trevor Hull said this was his last cabinet meeting thanks for support and wish successor and DG every success going forward

**7c – Environment** – no update

**7.d – Gift for Living** – no update

**7.e – Lions Clubs International Foundation** – David P said there is little pack available outlining what LCI is about, also pins available £20, and measles pins too. 12.3% donations across MD which is wonderful considering our membership is running at 10%.

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

**7.g – Medicalert** – no update

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

**7.i – Speech and hearing** – Cost of hearing dog over life now £40,000, Open day at Ear Foundation in Nottingham info available if anyone would like to go, cochlear implants under discussion.

**7.j – Vulnerable Persons** – No update

**7.k – SOGB** – no updates

**Youth Projects** –

**8.a – Chairman** – No updates

**8.b** – Young leaders – No updates

**8.c – Leo Liaison** – No updates

**8.d – Life Skills** – no updates

**8.e – Peace Poster** - no update

**8.f – Young Ambassador** - no updates

**8g – Youth entertainment** – no update

## 9.0 Administration

**9.a Health and Safety** – Regarding DG questionnaire being completed, Michael has been in consultation with Dickie and Derek P and it is requirement that it is completed every year and it will be circulated again for next year. Derek said in Health and Safety policy it has to be done, we have to put in a resolution if we don't want it.

**9.b International Relations** – No update

**9.c – Insurance** - no update

**9.d – IT/Webmaster 2** – Felixstowe Lions have been asked if they can get in touch with Felixstowe Coastal Patrol Rescue Service.

**9e Lions Roar** – no update

AOB

DG handover is 12<sup>th</sup> July please join, Tony P said his club is holding a business meeting you could always join them. David Pope re officers - some clubs have still not advised incoming officers.

Ujjal reported he had attended seminar in Woking re CIO. SE funded this seminar, and had people attending from the Charity Commission, Solicitors and Accountants talking about it. Change to CIO is like registered company, and any club with a turnover above £5 must register. Must have an audit trail and displayed, trustee is responsible, and insurance may not be honoured if mistake is made or things not done properly. Must have proper paperwork trial or LIONS may not pay on their insurance. With joining a CIO trustees not liable for anything. Gift Aid means we can claim 25% of donations of taxpayers. Roger says every club over £5K must be registered, MD under trustee Phil Goodier and John Bush looking at this, several clubs being used as guinea pigs and there are lots of problems raised which need to be ironed out. Trained people will join the team and once this has been set up and problems resolved they will then come out to districts and invite the clubs to become CIO, more problems the trustees do not want to be swamped by 500 clubs joining, our district has some clubs over 5k and as long as they are known they will be put on waiting list and no action will be taken against them. Derek Prior 147 clubs throughout the MD who are not registered as charities we only have 9 so doing better; one club not registered as charity earned £147k last year, the problem if person or company owe inland revenue 20% they are committing fraud trustees of that club liable but

not charity if registered no trustees so officers liable and also club members and if they did not pay everyone who had been a lion would have to pay. This is serious because if they did not pay they could be prosecuted and max sentence 10 years in prison and unlimited fine. Oh dear! this is why we are spending money fixing this problem, there are about 5 clubs over £100K over £50K an horrendous number of clubs. MD are paying solicitors a large amount of money and one of the benefits is the Gift Aid, on total subscriptions to gift aid £200K per year could be the saving for MD. David Pope said he was astonished when found how much we have spent on solicitors, one pilot club is Wisbech. Roger reported that one club who did not comply members who did not pay up were issued with county court writ. Ujjal said this can take up to a year, can protect yourself from Trustee insurance through MD105. John Fox checked his club was ok they are already charity – yes, any club already a registered charity is fine.

DG Derek's vision statement for next year.

Create lead and inspire

Focus on retention of existing members and recruitment of new members. Paul is knocking himself out getting new members but still managing to lose more than we recruit, we need to plug the hole in the sink and turn taps on. PDG Kevin is looking after retention, not just down to them but everyone needs to be involved. Why do we need more members, it gets us out and seen helping our communities, people need to see us making a difference then they will be interested in joining us. Lions serving with lions, his club serve with other clubs at their events, this gives us more value for money being a lion. His club also help Rotary at local events and also Round Table for fireworks. We should work with other organisations

Nigel said he has been privileged and honoured serving in EA this year and thanked sincerely his cabinet for this year he could not have done what he has this year without their hard work and support. Good luck to Mandy and Ujjal.

David Pope said Nigel had a pretty tough year this year with redistricting, you promised to keep us together and despite what we think about Essex this is happening, discussions were difficult but you have worked hard.

Special thanks to Douglas Whyte and John Cheetham who are both retiring this year, after a long service on Cabinet. PDG Jim Cawte said for a number of years this district was one of 4 who took part in Lord Mayor's Show in London, there is some money left in the account and we as a district will be part of the pay out and he would like to use the money for the walking group in the Norwich Lord Mayor's show on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, this was agreed, seconded by Gaby Sharman. Tony P said in light of the possible new district structure and the need for charity status should we do it as CIO. Derek P said nothing doing until after October and we should not go alone on CIO but possible need to think.

Nigel thanked everyone for the support of Marian's charity they have been overwhelmed. He thanked Marian for all her support and hard work during the year, it has been exciting

Marian re-iterated everything Nigel said, she enjoyed every minute. Without support of all clubs and lions she would not have achieved what she has without so many people.

Ujjal presented a banner from Turkish participant on the ALLI course in Malaga.

Raffle made £138.00

**Tail twister** This was carried out in the usual professional manner and raised approximately £41.80

#### **Closing remarks by DG**

The next Cabinet meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August. He thanked everyone for coming today, safe journey home, bon voyage.