

President William Withers welcomed 17 members to this “business” meeting. There were no guests or greetings from other clubs.

Rtn Charles Denman said Grace. Object of Rotary read by Rtn Joe O’Brien

The minutes of the previous EVR business meeting were approved as amended (the version now on the website). Matters arising

- Shelterbox meal at Riverside Hall Bampton – no further details as yet
- Youth Speak details are now with Bob Fuller for circulation to local schools and Young Farmers groups.. It was noted that releasing such details during the school holidays reduces potential for involvement – District would have helped more had these been available for circulation before the schools’ summer closure.
- No details yet re Rotary Young Chef or Rotary Young Musician competitions, nor detail in regards the proposed Young Apprentice scheme announced by the DG at our last meeting..

Treasurer Rtn Bob Rice had pre-circulated his report. Te bank admin transfers are at last moving forward. All subs have been collected. The Exmouth cruise broke exactly even and so was not subsidised by club.

Secretary Rtn Andy Harris brought to club’s attention a circular from District encouraging nominations for District positions next Rotary year. The deadline is 01-09-24 and the President has nomination forms.

Membership – nothing to report – a meeting planned for next week. Two former EVR members have been nominated for the new position of “Friend if EVR” and the membership committee will consider that, with BP suggesting a “7 day letter” (as per formal membership applications) be implemented. After discussion it was agreed that the amended “Friends of EVR” paper should be re-circulated for review/approval at the next Business meeting. Secretary felt this was effectively a new by-law of EVR and should be voted in accordingly and that there was some evidence of confusion amongst members over its parameters. MP felt it would not be a By-Law, and was a different concept from the Rotary Central’s “Friends of Rotary” scheme. After discussion it was agreed MP will produce the amended paper for AH to circulate in good time for the next meeting.

Program - The next meeting will be a visit to Pitt Farm, with meal at the Culm Valley Inn Culmstock. Numbers are limited. CD has circulated details. Secretary asked that Hon. members and Friends of EVR should be included in event invitations from now on and offered to assist in dongs so.

Uffculme show – Rtn Martin Peat reported:

- different sized fliers for the show are still available for display in your area. Please take as many as you can display locally
- some 70+ traders have booked with over 100 classics, 10 stationary engines and 22 tractors) booked to display, so far

- 6 Alpacas will be in the children's area
- Dog show now re-sited within the main show area. The previous disabled parking area will now be for dog show entrants, with disabled parking moved to the main car park nearest the show boundary.
- A privateer's bouncy castle has been accepted with risk assessment approved and they carry £10million public liability insurance. Rotary insurance excludes bouncy castles.
- Martin highlighted the hard work by the Uffculme Lights team, who have made up the potential shortfall in volunteer numbers. So far 18 from EVR, 5 from Tiverton Rotary, 12 from Uffculme and 5 others indicated 15 less than last year. However Uffculme have just indicated another 7 or 8 locals have just volunteered for part of the day. Numbers are tight but now sufficient – though more would be welcomed.
- Martin also thanked the various members of the Show committee by name.
- He is coordinating safety briefing notes and will speak personally to any volunteer who has not previously attended a show safety briefing.
- After discussion it was agreed to provide a gazebo for Shelterbox team to use, but this year not to include a Rotary marketing tent (District's Rotary Caravan no longer in use). Volunteer numbers do not extend to staffing that

The members present today all thanked Martin for his hard work, without which this show would not be proceeding.

Rtn Chris Gregson brought members up to date with the developing situation at the Calvert Trust. An emergency appeal has been launched and it is hoped to reach 500 thousand by email.. He hopes for a £1 donation from each recipient who in turn would chain email another 5 people. TV interviews have started and some funds already collected. Staff meetings re redundancy have produced positive ideas from a supportive team. He asked if he could email EVR Secretary for circulation amongst members. Club recognised the membership list shall not be used for marketing or external purposes but given the import of this situation and EVR's support for the charity concerned, the members present sanctioned the Secretary to circulate the membership on this occasion.

Wine draw won by Trefor Davies and Chris Gregson
Charity draw won by Arthur Haywood (who will advise the treasurer which charity he nominates).

Final toast 9.50pm.