

Present: 23 members – no guests.

The President thanked Martin and Sarah-Jane Trevor for providing a round of drinks to those members present. Sadly, Martin’s illness prevents him from returning to Rotary. This generous gesture was greatly appreciated and Club’s best wishes are passed back to him.

Grace by Fred Leach, Object of Rotary read by Sarah-Jane Trevor.

The minutes of the last business meeting having been pre circulated by posting to the club’s website, (members’ area) they were approved as accurate.

Matters arising –

* Uffculme Show proposal postponed until today. Martin Peat reported that an Uffculme based committee had since been formed with a view to taking the show forward and had seemingly secured a community grant for initial seed money. With this in mind, and given the factors previously discussed, Martin now proposed that EVR does not take any responsibility for promoting the 2025 Uffculme Show, though with the provision that EVR does offer guidance and the benefit of our experience in support of the new committee if asked. Club will also offer to run our catering stall (at a cost). In the light of this proposal Andy Harris had withdrawn his earlier proposal and Martin’s proposal had been considered at Council and carried unanimously. It was also agreed to defer any public statement until the new committee were ready to launch the 25 show, so as not to diminish any goodwill the show may currently have amongst public, traders and entertainers.
* Blood bikes (Devon Freewheelers) – In the light of unfortunate governance legacy issues reported, no proposal was forthcoming to make any donation form our charity account at this time. Members do of course remain free to support them personally.
* Friends of Exe Valley Rotary.
  + Council had today approved the draft by-law which had been previously discussed and circulated (drafted by Bruce Pearson with amendments by Andy Harris). Copies were available at this meeting . Club approved that decision
  + A copy will be made available to download at any time form the Club;s website – members’ area Resources section.
  + Former members Tony Steiner and Garry Berry have been approved as the first appointed “Friends of EVR”.
  + President urged members that anyone minded to nominate a “Friend” should speak with Bruce Pearson (chair of membership committee) BEFORE speaking to the nominee so as to avoid embarrassment should the nomination not be approved.
* Rotary Youth Challenge - Robert Fuller reported that he had received no response from the schools he had approached.
* The Dictionaries for Life project – Robert had ordered the numbers requested by the schools an an invoice had been received. He proposed that be paid 2nd Treasurer. Carried with 5 abstentions (reflecting concerns amongst some regarding the value of printed dictionaries in a digital age.

Treasurer

* Bob Rice had circulated club accounts for review. £1660.06 in hand. Using the cash basis favoured by the club we saw a deficit of £1,017.36 in the year to date but if adjusted to include current year subscriptions paid early, and thus included in the last accounts, a £348 surplus would result.
* The charity accounts are not quite ready as Bob is still accumulating information held by the bank and our late treasurer.
* Transfer of the Lloyds bank a/c from Ken Mills to Bob Rice has been almost completed. However the HSBC bureaucracy continues to complicate the transfer of that account, and his efforts continue.
* Council has decided that the account currently named “The Uffculme Show account” will be retained but renamed the club’s “Project” account.
* Chris Gregson proposed the £3000 content (normally held as seed money for the following Uffculme show) be retained as seed money for other projects. Counter proposal by Andy Harris that £2000 be retained for that purpose but the residuary balance now be transferred to the charity account. 2nd Bruce Pearson. Chris withdrew his proposal. The amendment was carried unanimously.

AOB

* Council has approved a £200 donation to the Ethiopia charity represented by our recent speaker
* The Exmoor Rotary shelter box supper was a great success. EVR was well represented.
* Kiva continues to operate smoothly under the guidance of Tim Barton, with another $600 re-donated recently.

David Disney will circulate details re the Indian meal night at Gwalior restaurant EX16 4LA (£25 per head)

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Council meeting date – 1830hrs ahead of the January 2025 Business meeting.