

Minutes of SI Cockermouth business meeting 7 October 2021

Present: Claire Rawlinson (President), Joan Hetherington, Lindsay Edmiston, Ros Earthy, Joan Markwell, Hazel Potts, Martha Dewis, Tellervo Juurma, Sue Mendus, Chris Blake, Angela Winkworth, Helen Tinnion.

Apologies: Karen Shankland, Judith Spencer, Doreen Bertram, Barbara Williams, Helen Lord, Jen McCullough, Maureen Foy, Tricia Burgess.

1. Matters arising: None

2. Presidents report:

Wonderful charter lunch on 26 September. CR was congratulated by members on a good event, well attended and enjoyed by all.

CR thanked everyone who helped with the event.

3. Treasurer report:

TJ reported that all is well with the accounts. Balances are:

Charity-£1,221.18

Admin-£2,474.22 (includes £1,475 for the cost of the charter lunch)

Subs-£1,417.36

More detailed accounts information to be emailed out to members.

4. Region/ SIGBI:

HT, as regional rep, attended Zoom Regional Meeting on 18 September. Past Regional President Joyce and current Regional President Christine were congratulated on keeping the momentum of region going during the last difficult months. International membership has decreased but the Region has gained 23 new members over the last year.

An update on the centenary celebrations is available on the YouTube SIGBI Members site.

The SIGBI virtual conference in Llandudno has few people registered. So far no-one from our club plans to attend.

SINE website ([Welcome to Soroptimist International Northern England Region | SI Northern England | SIGBI](#)) - please can all members try to use as it contains lots of useful information on activities in our region (including information about the PA projects shortlisted for the Best Practice award).

6 clubs were shortlisted for the above award:

Carlisle, Darlington, Penrith, Stockton, Tynemouth and Whitley Bay, Middlesbrough.

The award winners were Penrith, who received the award at our charter lunch.

Next regional meeting is 20 November on Zoom.

5. Programme Action:

Preparation for 15 days of action (26 Nov - 10 Dec).

After discussion we agreed to post images with an orange theme on Facebook (we did this last year, all members to send photo if possible to LE by 20/11).

Research having a presence at the Christmas 'Taste of Cumbria' event. **RE to action**

Look at having a free stall at Keswick Victorian Fayre or the Weekly Keswick Market.
CB to action.

Brilliant Breakfast

HP and DB hosting on 2 separate mornings, email invitation sent to all members. DB has a small number of places left, anyone wishing to attend who has not already signed up to contact DB asap.

Toilet Twinning

Gareth from Veeva's has agreed to having its toilet twinned. **CR to speak to Katherine about details.**

West Cumbria Domestic Violence project

CR has 2 dates to meet with them(1 or 3. /12). HT offered to attend the meeting with CR.

PCF box

CR is happy to report that it is almost full (JM helped put all the donations so far into the box in preparation for shipping). Short of pre/ post natal items including nappies and sanitary pads.

HP and SM offered to source these.

SM has also researched purchasing reusable nappies. These are expensive but very cost and environmentally effective, as they can be used many times and passed on to other families. We agreed to consider having a dedicated fundraiser to purchase these nappies for inclusion in a future box to be shipped to PCF. JS to review action required and agenda the item at a meeting in the coming months.

CR is still collecting ring pulls for PCF projects.

Presidents challenge

CR brought examples of some items she has sourced to help with the above challenge. These included; peat free compost and bucket/food containers (made from 100% recycled plastic). Source is online shop for a local company - Chimney Sheep (this is linked to the charity Buy Land Plant Trees where Jane Inman donated saplings prior to her move).

6. Fundraising:

The planned event to help local business' promote their products has been postponed. Following contact with local shops and the response received it was agreed that this was not the right time to try to hold the event.

7. Membership:

Mary Lister has decided not to join the club due mainly to meetings being too far from where she lives.

CR said that ML would like to join us for the occasional social event. JM to keep her informed.

JH has met a prospective new member, Sue Longstaff. She will join us for coffee at the Lakes centre on Monday and hopefully come to the next Speaker meeting.

LE has also identified a possible new member, Diane McCracken. LE to follow up.

7. Social.

Lakes centre coffee morning as usual second Monday of the month.

Xmas Celebrations - in addition to our traditional Christmas Meal at Veeva on 1st Thursday in December SM has suggested that she would organise a Party Night for anyone who was interested. This will be at Hunday Manor, Workington on Friday 10 December (details to be emailed out).

8. Any other business.

Display boards - We agreed to try to identify the possibility of placing them in the window of one of the towns empty shops. **RE to research using Firms.**

SI Cockermouth Website ([Club Home - SI Cockermouth \(sigbi.org\)](#)). MD reported that this is now active again. She asked members to send her information to go on it.

CVS are making a video of voluntary work carried out during the pandemic.

LE to check out what we have got to send to them.

9. Next meeting: Speaker meeting 21/10 Pauline and Dougie Hardie - DEWODE.