

SI Cockermouth

Minutes of Business meeting Thurs 17 Jan 2019, 8 pm at Veeva's!

Present: 15 members

Members: Helen Lord, Jane Inman, Joan Hetherington, Martha Dewis, Hazel Potts, Sue Mendus, Doreen Bertram, Ros Earthy, Chris Blake, Tricia Burgess, Lindsay Edmiston, Katherine Eilbeck, Claire Rawlinson, Judith Spencer, Angela Winkworth.

Apologies: Barbara Williams, Lynette Norris, Maureen Foy, Helen Tinnion, Guida Bass

Guests: Jan Johnson & apologies from Marion Fitzgerald

1. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Any matters arising are covered on the agenda.

2. President's Report

Helen welcomed everyone wishing us a Happy New Year.

She reported two actions : 25 Nov UN Action Violence against Women, orange ribbons were given out in Cockermouth.

A stall was held on Keswick Market for Land Mines action collecting 200 signatures on the petition. Orange ribbons given out here too.

Everyone enjoyed the Christmas Party.

An envelope was passed round for the International President's appeal 2017-2019 for ***'Women, Water and Leadership, supporting projects which educate, enable and empower women ensuring they have the capacity, experience and education needed to manage water resources and gain careers in water related professions.'*** (www.soroptimistinternational.org)

3. Treasurer's Report

3.1 GIFT AID forms: As SIGBI is now a registered charity, the component of the subs you pay, via club, to SIGBI can now be gift aided if you are a tax payer and are eligible. Claire circulated forms to be signed for those wishing to do this and will be in touch with those not attending tonight's meeting.

ACTION: Claire/ALL

3.2 Current statement at end of Dec

Subs £756.47

Charity account:(all assigned) £1687.14

Admin: £530.09

3.3 Subs Main item for discussion was a proposal, from the Executive, to increase subs.

Subs were held last year but need to be increased this year due to increased subs for SI, SIGBI and UKPAC but also because we have increased ongoing costs. We do not have the option to keep the status quo

SIGBI dues are currently £43 and will increase in April to £48

UKPAC and region will increase from £6 to £6.50

Total increase of £5.50pa per member

Currently full members pay £81 from which we receive £32 from each member to club admin funds, the rest going to SIGBI, UKPAC and SI as explained above

Currently link members pay £50 of which £49 goes to SIGBI, region and UKPAC and £1 to club

Once subs are collected and all dues paid, the total income to our admin account is £680 based on 21 full members, 8 link members and 1 honorary member. The total expenditure to our club for 2018-19 year is £949

So the projected deficit is £269 which is not sustainable, although we do have a small 'safety cushion'. Therefore subs have to be increased.

We are not trying to accrue reserves, we are trying to make sure we have a sensible cushion to cover unexpected costs e.g. room rent increase.

The projected 2019-20 figures are based on 20 full members, 8 link, one honorary member.

Min increase proposed is £9 per person per annum, both full and link, bringing subs to £90 pa for full member and £59 for link member

Joan gave worked examples of other possible rises, but the key point is that if the minimum increase is preferred then there will be a further requirement for an increase of about £9 the following year, as this does not offset the deficit.

The minutes of the Nov meeting referred to the point that a decision would be taken at the meeting tonight, so a formal proposal was made.

After much discussion the following proposal was voted on:

To raise the subs by £12 pa for both club and link members, making the annual amount £93 for full member (£7.75 per month from April for those paying by direct debit) £ 62 for link members

Proposed: Claire Rawlinson

Seconded: Katherine Eilbeck

Vote

For: 15

Against:0

Abstain:0

This will be ratified at the AGM

In addition the following ideas were discussed:

The idea of a Past President's fundraiser for club admin was suggested.

Interest was expressed about the club becoming a charitable trust, so that the subs we pay into club could be gift aided and the club would benefit by being able to reclaim the gift aid (For the increase proposed this would be 20% of £37.50 ie an additional income £7.50 per full member eligible.) Jane had made a presentation during her year as Regional President to encourage clubs to explore this.

The Charities Commission offer a 'light touch' for charitable trusts with a low income, which does not require auditing of accounts, although there is a returns form to complete. Club members to consider this **ACTION: Presentation will be circulated for consideration. Jane/Claire**

Thanks to Joan for all the work in pulling the analysis of figures together.

4. Programme Action and future fundraising events

Orange Ribbon event mentioned already

Calderwood House - lots of donations of toiletries. Thanks to all members, former members and Link members for their endeavours in this. Rachel tries to put a welcome tea tray into each room and would like help with tea, coffee, milk, sugar sachets – so if you are staying in a hotel and can collect these please do. Pass onto Jane

ACTION: ALL

Lobby letter re Women in the Criminal Justice system was circulated and members encouraged to send to their MP.

ACTION: ALL

Fundraising - Sing a long Oklahoma £100 deposit paid, Kirkgate centre costs £204. Tickets cost £8 including popcorn and are now available from Doreen. Please sell hard - we have 120 tickets to sell. Kirkgate are selling tickets and it is on the Kirkgate programme.

ACTION : ALL

5. Regional business

The next regional meeting is on **Sat 16 March at The Auctioneer, Carlisle**. Coffee at 10.00, meeting starts at 10.30 and finishes at 3 pm.

Our club is hosting so we need to have a good turn out. The afternoon speaker is Andrea Pankiw from Brain Tumour Research, and we will update everyone about the funds we have raised to celebrate the lives of Wendy Dempster and Diana Clark.

WEAR HATS - for Brain Tumour Research

What we do as host club: set up a display board about our projects (Helen with Chris), be there about 15 mins early to welcome everyone. Wear sashes (Helen has these). Ros will take photos on the day for social media and press.

ACTION: ALL BOOK your place with Claire and pay Joan when we have the notice in

Joan will send one cheque to cover everyone and confirm numbers. Please alert her to any special dietary requirements (the usual pattern is a hot buffet with a choice of main meal, with vegetarian option, and a selection of desserts)

6. Federation business – none reported

7. Membership

Letter from Mhairi who sadly has had to resign for family reasons. Helen will reply, Claire to complete the SIGBI monitoring form and an invitation extended to Mhairi to join us for the Change of insignia meal.

Both Jan and Marion have confirmed they definitely wish to join. The welcome of new members will be made at the Change of Insignia meeting on 4 April

9. Friendship link clubs

SI Murau - took part in 'Orange the World' during 16 days of activism. A joint project between SI Europe and UN Women, to light up as many iconic buildings as possible with orange lights. In Murau, the castle was lit up. There were many excellent photos on their club Facebook page and on SIE Facebook page.

They will join us in wearing hats for Brain Tumour Research, preferably on 16th March, for social media photos.

Xmas wishes were exchanged with SI Murau and SI Northallerton

Members were sad to see the recent obituary in the Soroptimist magazine, of a member of Naas-Newbridge, one of our original friendship link clubs.

10. Correspondence

Xmas cards received from Dorothy Jackson, The Mayor, Brain Tumour Research

11. Welfare- none reported

12. AOB

Bass Rotary Charity Burns Supper 25 Jan tickets from Jane

13. Date of next meetings:

24 Jan Lunch at Hunday Manor please Judith is coordinating. Please let her have your choices asap.

Thurs 7 Feb 7.30 pm Planning meeting for the new programme for Katherine's year starting in May

ALL welcome at Katherine's home:

Linden House, Papcastle, CA13 0LA

tel 01900 827832

Apologies from Ros, Joan, Jane

Mon 11 Feb 10.30 Coffee at Lakes Centre

Thurs 21 Feb 7.30 for 8 pm Business meeting at Veeva's!

21 March AGM 7.30 for 8 pm

4 April Meal and Change of insignia, induction of new members

Doreen is coordinating meal. Details to follow

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

President

Date: