

Soroptimist International Cockermouth & District

Minutes of the meeting held at VeeVa –19th July 2018 8pm

President Helen welcomed fifteen members (Guida Bass, Doreen Bertram, Chris Blake, Tricia Burgess, Martha Dewis, Ros Earthy, Katherine Eilbeck, Maureen Foy, Jane Inman, Lynette Norris, Hazel Potts, Claire Rawlinson, Judith Spencer, Barbara Williams, Angela Winkworth)

Apologies from Mhairi Angus, Lindsay Edmiston, Joan Hetherington, Sue Mendus, Helen Tinnion,

Minutes The minutes of 21st June had been circulated and amended so were accepted and signed.

Matters arising would be dealt with in the agenda

President's remarks.

Helen had attended a photo call with Chris and Trish on 22nd June at the Lakes to hand over the £350 funds raised to Alzheimers. Grateful thanks were offered to Trisha for a brilliant Summer Lunch which had raised £500 for Brain Tumour Research. Trisha thanked all her helpers and Hazel and Sue for helping with getting the garden ready.

She had attended a Dementia Alliance meeting with Chris on 5th July. SI Cockermouth have agreed to man the marquee at Cockermouth Show on 4th August. RE and HT would do 10-12, CB and HL would do 12-2pm and TB would act as a reserve.

Claire had started her Walk Challenge at 04.55 and reached Scafell at 20.30 with fifty six minutes to spare. She had felt 'challenged'. There are some pictures on our facebook and Claire's just giving page. £700 so far. There is also a BTR link to Ros' page for her park run and '5 in 5'.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/claire-rawlinson6>

Helen had asked John Dempster and the funeral director if the £1671 collected after Wendy's funeral for Brain Tumour Research could be added to our total for a tile on the wall. BTR had linked this and it gives us us £2914 to date so we have achieved our first tile.

Jane is holding a Friendship coffee morning on Thursday 2nd August 10.30am at Chapel's Hill to fundraise for Brain Tumour Research. Linda Johnson Regional President from SI Tynemouth and Whitley Bay would be running a parallel event for members in the North East. She had organised a day out and donations could be added to our link SI Cockermouth on the JustGiving website. Please let Jane know if you can attend to give her some idea of numbers.

Treasurers report

Admin £922-26 Charity £873.94 (of which £500 is going to BTR.)

Subscriptions £421.97 (Prepaid for next year)

The amount in Admin will hopefully just cover this year's expenditure but we may need to consider some fundraising for Admin as there are a number of rises to capitation fees coming in next year.

Jl asked that the fees for moving to the sigbi website were considered in future financial planning.

Programme Action.

Chris reported the trip to take out the Chernobyl children had gone well. She was about to fill out the PA forms for this and the forms for the summer lunch had been completed. Forthcoming events would be the Dementia Alliance Stall at Cockermouth Show and for Handicap International which we have supported in the past. There would be a Training Day for Dementia Champions on 30th August 10-4 in the Friends Meeting House Kirkgate.

Jane & Martha had met with Moira Rogers from Penrith to plan our strategy for Michael Kaufmann's White Ribbon Campaign 'Say No to Violence against Women' starting on 25th November for 10 days. Jane had contacted Vera Baird, the Police and Crime Commissioner for President..... Date.....

Northumbria who had asked the police to wear a white ribbon. We did write to the PCC last year but had insufficient time to organise. Home made ribbons would cost £50 but are more expensive from the campaign itself. Different badges are available for sports clubs, companies etc. Accredited organisations include many local councils but not Allerdale, Eden, Copeland or local schools and Colleges. There are companies giving grants Greggs- <£2000 4x/yr, Coop similar but next round is 2019. We are hoping to start Bags for trafficked women in Cumbria and DS Lesley Hanson has been contacted.

The next major fundraiser would be in November, Christmas Decorations Demonstration, with mulled wine and mince pies. There was some discussion as to whether it would be better to try to change to the Friends' Meeting House which is bigger.

Jane had attended our Friendship Link SI Northallerton Charter Event, a walk and Tea on 28th June which had been attended by lots of members from other clubs. Nothing had been heard from SI Edinburgh and JI would try to contact SI Murau again.

Judith reported that the Lions would be holding a Christmas Dinner and there would be some input from Soroptimists. A PA report needed to be completed for Claire's Challenge.

MCS are pressing for 41 conservation areas around the country, one of which will be in the Solway. Please log in and send a letter to Michael Gove (It's done for you) to help protect our seas.

<https://www.mcsuk.org/campaigns/new-41-marine-conservation-zones>

Federation

The Questionnaire on Regions which had caused us and everyone else much angst has had its deadline extended to 21 September and been forwarded to members around 16 June. It's in Adobe PDF format. MD had brought one hard copy which was given to Doreen. Jane had already sent her comments so MD, LE, KE, HT, DB and CR needed to confer to bring some responses to the business meeting on 6th September. Helen also wanted to have an Exec meeting at her house on 4th September @ 7.30pm so we should complete our proposed responses before this.

Ballot 9 to change the wording of our Articles of Association to satisfy the Charity Commission had been agreed

Federation Vice President Barbara Dixon

Director of Communications - Gail Teague

Director of Finance – Ruth Healey

APD Education – Yvonne Gibbons

APD Environment - Naina Shah

APD Violence & Conflict Resolution Nisha Ghosh

Friendship Link co-ordinator Baswati Biswas

MD will be able to attend conference in Liverpool as voting delegate at the AGM.

There was a ballot for how to choose the International President in 2019. The club unanimously voted for both hustings at Conference and videos from each candidate to be placed on the website.

Region

A list was circulated for the next meeting which would be on Saturday 22 September at Scotch Corner.AGM, PA awards and a speaker about the Manzini project in Swaziland. The deadline would be 14th September for numbers so we would confirm on 6th Sept.

There were lists for Darlington 70th Dinner on 29th September (reply by 22 Sept) and Newcastle Lunch on 10th November at the Life Centre. Details had been circulated to members.

Communication

President.....

Date.....

MD would circulate an updated list of members' details.

The GDPR would be considered with a view to resolving in September. CR, LE & MD would confer to find a resolution acceptable to members.

MD had finally managed to update the website, especially the Calendar, so it would not be necessary to reissue the programme when it had any amendments. Members should look at the website and send any suggestions to MD.

<http://www.cockermouthsoroptimists.co.uk/>

JI, RE & MD had also looked at various formats for websites by surveying other club sites and felt that ours was quite good in comparison. Some clubs fundraised for club funds but it had to be clearly stated. The main conclusion was to keep it concise and avoid lots of boring text. We are now not under so much pressure to make the changeover quickly as the present site can run until 2019.

Ros had a report in the Cockermouth Post p 57, which has just been distributed.

<http://www.thecockermouthpost.co.uk/>

Membership

Barbara had received three enquiries via the website. Deborah Rawlinson was coming for coffee. Joan Guha lived in Keswick and the other was Charlotte McCarthy. It was suggested that we make 20th September an open evening and invite prospective members. We had not heard from Judy Davidson who had been unwell and hopefully we would see Claire's friend again. 'Meet Up' had not produced any results in our area and would require a venue centred over in the west where there were only 3 clubs to cover the £120 fee.

AOB

There was a challenge called 'running down Dementia' from Alzheimers Society to complete 100km by 31st August. Ask Ros for details.

Ros also had access to a display on suffrage from Keswick Museum and had been looking for a venue to coincide with Heritage Open Days. None had been found so Katherine would ask if it could be displayed in the Lobby of Albion Square workplace in Whitehaven which would have a good footfall although not open to the public.

Rotary had produced a Cockermouth Calendar for 2019 in aid of old People's Xmas Lunch.

The late Richard Longstaffe had an exhibition of photographs in the Kirkgate.

The meeting closed at 21.09

President.....

Date.....