



National Council Meeting

Saturday 27th June 2020 at 11:00 am

By Videoconference

MINUTES

National Board Officers

Peter Good	National President	PG
Andrew Mackereth	Immediate Past President	AM
Bernard Elwen	National Secretary	BE
Kevin Lovett	National Treasurer	KL
Steve James	National Fellowship Officer	SJ
Glen Lyon	National Membership Officer	GL
Andy Ventress	International Relations Officer	AV
Tom Atkins	National Councillors' Liaison Officer	TA
Don Mullane	National Communications and IT Officer	DM

National Councillors

Kevin Stewart	Region 2 (+ Caretaker Region 1)	KS
Roger Spensley	Region 5	RS
Wynn Parry	Region 6	WP
John Kilshaw	Region 8	JK
Peter Walker	Region 9	PW
John Manley	Region 10	JM
Rory Tompsett	Region 12	RT
Jim Conway	Region 14	JC
Neal Lowe	Region 15	NL
Paul Simmons	Region 16	PS
Kelly Clarke	Region 17	KC
Mark House	Region 18 + Honorary Webmaster	MHo
David Chard	Region 20	DC
Kevin Chard	Region 21	KC
Mark Hinchliffe	Region 22	MH
Richard Dyson	Region 23	RD
Peter McBride	Region 24	PMcB

National Honorary Officers

David Smith	National Honorary Solicitor	DS
Hugh Milward	National Honorary Archivist	HM

Guests

Duncan Kennedy	Cambria and Barry 41 Clubs	DK
Graham Sloan	Lytham St Annes + Cheadle & Gatley 41 Clubs	GS
Marcus Jones	Beeston 41 Club	MJ
Bruce Bennett	Leicester de Montfort 41 Club	BB
David Leon	LOTS + Harrow & Wembley 41 Clubs	DL



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Ralph Preston	LOTS + Market Harborough 41 Clubs	RP
Steve Tasker	Heswall XRT and Ellesmere 41 Clubs	ST
David Leach	Kingston 41 Club (Item 10)	DL
Carl Smalley	Re-Innovate IT (Item 10)	CS
Daniel Evans	Stonehaven 41 Club (Item 15)	DE
James Mortimer	Brighton Regency 41 Club (Item 15)	JM

Apologies

Peter Milburn	National Councillor – Region 4
John Bell	National Councillor – Region 13
Phil Douce	National Councillor – Region 25

1. Welcome and Permission for Guests to speak PG welcomed all to the meeting, and ask for approval for guests to speak. This was agreed by the meeting. PG welcomed Rory Thomsett (Region 12) and Kevin Chard (Region 21) to their first National Council meeting since being formally elected. He also thanked Kevin Lovett, Richie Minshull and Bernard Elwen for their service as National Councillors.
2. Purposes and Objects Read by Neal Lowe
3. Declaration of Business Interests Neal Lowe (Insurance) and Mark House (Website Building)
4. Apologies for Absence As above
5. Minutes of Meetings on 9th February and 4th April PG asked that these be signed as a true record of their respective meetings. BE pointed out that the minutes of the April meeting should be corrected, to show Jason Thompson as a guest from OBEs and Saffron Walden 41 Clubs. With this correction, the meeting duly approved the minutes.
6. Matters Arising PMcB said the National Golf Finals would be going ahead (*Secretary's Update 2/10/20 – this event has now been cancelled*).
7. Questions of National Board Reports PMcB asked how many Round Table retirees were potentially likely to join 41 Club. GL replied that the declared number at the Round Table AGM was 154 retirees. The curve is starting to ease up gently. RS asked about the budget figure of £50k, and KL replied that this was an estimate, which was likely to be inaccurate this year because of the pandemic. There was no way of knowing what the situation would be like for the remainder of the year. TA stressed that it was important that all Councillors maintain good communication with their clubs and members, so that we can be seen to giving good value for the annual subscription. RT

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asked if an "Idiots Guide" to member benefits could be produced and DM agreed that the Comms Team would do this. **Action: Comms Team**

8. Questions of National Councillors' Reports None. PG asked if any National Councillors wished to add to their reports, but none did.
9. Questions of Honorary Members' Reports HM announced that he intended to give up his position as Honorary Archivist with effect from the AGM in 2021. An advert would appear in the magazine for a successor, who would be selected by the Board and approved by National Council.
10. CAS2 Update DM introduced DL and CS to give an update. The programme was running behind schedule, but making progress. He was overcoming issues with the e-mail system. CS shared his screen and gave an overview of the landing page. The system currently allowed clubs to update their details and also allowed capitation to be recorded and invoices raised. The last piece to be added and tested was the bulk e-mail system. CAS1 was still being used for communication, even though the data was not up-to-date.
DL asked CS to explain the *Unsubscribe* button. It was assumed that, as this was a transactional database rather than a marketing one, this button would be seldom used. Including it in the system, however, improved our reputation and scoring with e-mail handlers, meaning that our messages were less likely to be regarded as spam. It also meant that widows of deceased members could unsubscribe to prevent any further correspondence.
PMcB, as a member of the Comms Team, spoke about a project management tool which had been obtained for acceptance testing. It was intended that the new CAS2 system would be fully functional by early to mid-July. The new system would allow access at individual member level rather than just club contact level for members as at present.
JM asked if the link to the Regional Facebook page could be added to the National Councillor's signature template. DM replied that this would not be a problem. **Action: Comms Team**
KS asked for a link to Aviemore Conference on his footer. DM replied that this had been added in CAS1.
TA asked about the ability to send attachments to messages. CS replied that this functionality would be added shortly.
DM informed the meeting that he would be taking over as Chairman of the CAS2 committee, with DL staying on as an external consultant.
11. 41 Club Events Booking System SJ introduced MHo, who gave an overview of the proposed new booking system for 41 Club events. SJ explained that this would allow for one integrated booking and payment system for all 41 Club events, to replace the 5 or so paper-based systems in use at present. MH shared his screen, and demonstrated the mock-up of how it would look

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and work. The current 41 Club website would have links to the Events Booking website, which in turn would have a page for each event and the facility to book tickets/packages and pay for them. SJ said that the cost of developing the system would be in the region of £1,000, to include plug-ins and design. SJ also said that there would be ongoing site hosting costs of £50 + VAT.

JK asked if the system could be used by Tangent, and PMcB asked if it could be used for regional events. The answer to both questions was yes, but SJ pointed out that where the money went needed to be considered as it would not be going into the 41 Club National bank account.

NL asked if the current National Conference committees could not use this, to which SJ replied that he would be approaching Aviemore Conference and asking them for permission to migrate their bookings data onto the new system. The problem with the current system was a lack of resilience – the system relied on one individual for maintenance.

HM asked about the current Events section of the website – BE suggested the 41 Club website referred to Events Calendar and the new website referred to Events Bookings.

The payment system used would be Stripe, which charged a booking fee of 1.4%+20p per transaction. To recoup that cost, it was proposed that there be a levy of £1 added to all national conference bookings and 50p to all smaller events.

All proposals under this item were put forward by SJ, seconded by DM and agreed unanimously.

12. Draft 41 Club Members' Handbook SJ introduced WP, who gave a presentation in draft of the proposed members handbook. It was proposed that this would be printed in A5, with card for the outer pages. It would be distributed as a standalone mailshot rather than with the magazine to all members who currently received the magazine. The estimated cost would be £7,500 to prepare and print. SJ asked that all present submit their questions and suggestions when the draft was circulated in a few days' time. It was proposed by SJ, seconded by WP and agreed unanimously that the handbook be produced and distributed. It was also agreed, following a proposal from GL, that a budget of £10,000 be allocated for this purpose.

13. 41 Club Rules Review Group BE had formed a sub-committee with DS, AM, JK and RS. The first two priorities were online elections for the contested posts, which had already been agreed by National Council. The second priority was charitable status for 41 Club. Another item discussed was the possibility of the YAP Convenor post being an honorary member of National Council. BE pointed out that there were 5 resolutions left over from the 2020 AGM still to be rolled over to Aviemore 2021. There was some discussion

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regarding our VAT status if we were to apply for charitable status, and it was agreed that KL and BE would look into this further. **Action: KL and BE.**

14. Advertising Members' Businesses DM introduced this proposal, which was to allow members to advertise their businesses on the 41 Club website, in return for a donation to the President's Charity. Adverts must be compliant with legislation and appropriate regulatory bodies. The proposal was seconded by SJ and agreed unanimously.

15. Membership and Approvals and Disaffiliations GL had sent a letter to all those members listed on CAS for whom 41 Club currently had no e-mail address. Six members had responded who had not realised that they had expressed a preference for no e-mails. He had received several responses from family members of those members who had passed away. GL was concerned that a significant number of former Round Tablers had opted to join Rotary Club rather than 41 Club, and he would be making efforts to explain that the two organisations were not mutually exclusive. GL was pleased to announce that three clubs had applied to affiliate, these being Alyn and Deeside XRT, Brighton Regency and Stonehaven & District. These were all approved unanimously. GL invited RT, JM and DE from their respective clubs to introduce themselves.

16. Any Other Business AV had received approaches from clubs in Denmark who were seeking to twin with UK clubs. KS had definite interest in his region, so AV would forward him some more details. **Action: AV** All councillors were asked to bear this in mind when talking to their clubs. **Action: All Councillors.**

MHo reminded all Councillors that Zoom Pro licences had been purchased, which could be used to set up meetings in their regions.

PMcB had been contacted by Hounslow 41 Club, who were unhappy that another Club, Feltham & Hounslow, had misappropriated their name. BE and PMcB would investigate further outside the meeting. **Action: BE and PMcB**

SJ announced that the date of the 2021 Motorbike Rally had been moved from 9th July to 2nd July. This was to accommodate the 75th Anniversary Weekend, which would now be on the weekend of 9th July, at the original venue in Nottingham. SJ would send an e-mail round with revised dates. **Action: SJ**

TA reminded all Councillors to contact MHo for Zoom access, and to publicise the 500 Miles + 500 More initiative for the President's charity.



41 Club
CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP

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WP asked all attendees for articles for the newsletter and the magazine. AV asked if the YAP information could be put in the next newsletter. **Action: DM and WP**

WP announced that the White Rose Dinner was still going ahead, but was likely to be cancelled in the near future.

BE had the collarets for Regions 1, 16, 19 and 21. These would be presented to the incumbents by PG when we could meet face-to-face.

MJ was asked to give an update on forthcoming "President's Happy Hour" online events. The next two would be Dean Andrews (TV Actor) and Tim Bradshaw (SAS).

Sgt-at-Arms. No transgression was overlooked, and the victims of PMcB's keen powers of observation and rapier wit were required to pay their fines online to the President's charity.

17. Next Meeting This would be announced nearer the time, as it was subject to prevailing pandemic restrictions.

Signed:

Dated:

07/11/20

Peter Good – National President 2020-22