

41 Club
CONTINENTAL FRIENDSHIP

**Extraordinary National Council Meeting
Monday 11th January 2021 at 7:30 pm**

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

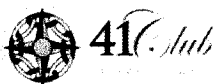
Kevin Stewart	Region 2 (+ Caretaker Region 1)	KS
Roger Spensley	Region 5	RS
Wynn Parry	Region 6	WP
John Kilshaw	Region 8	JK
Peter Walker	Region 9	PW
John Manley	Region 10	JM
Steve Tasker	Region 11	ST
Rory Tompsett	Region 12	RT
Duncan Kennedy	Region 13 (Caretaker)	DK
Jim Conway	Region 14	JC
Neal Lowe	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	KCh
Mark Hinchliffe	Region 22	MH
Richard Dyson	Region 23	RD

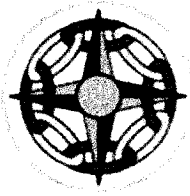
National Honorary Officers

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

Apologies

Peter Milburn	Region 4	
Peter McBride	Region 24 – attended the last few minutes	PMcB





41 Club
A COMMITMENT TO FRIENDSHIP

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1. Welcome to Meeting PG welcomed all to the meeting, and explained that the purpose was to update National Council on 2021 Conference and AGM.
2. Declaration of Business Interests Mark House (LuBan Restaurant)
3. Apologies for Absence As above
4. 2021 Conference Update SJ informed the meeting that he had just come from another virtual meeting with the Aviemore Conference Team. They had advised that they would not be prepared to go ahead with organising a conference for 41 Club and Tangent in the current pandemic, with little likelihood of the vaccination programme in Scotland being completed in the foreseeable future. This meant that the 2021 Conference planned for April was cancelled, and that the idea of a mini-conference later on in the year was not feasible either. This later conference would have included an SGM.

41 Club had just paid £11,300 deposit to MacDonald Hotel Group for conference. It was planned to use this deposit to host a National Council weekend later on in the year.

(At this point, DK and JC left the meeting as elections were due to be discussed)

JK asked about the Tangent Presidents Ball, and PG replied that this was planned for July and so would not clash with a National Council weekend later in the year.

KS stated that vaccination was not likely to be completed until at least October, and therefore it would be better to avoid Scotland for a half-year meeting. SJ would continue planning for National Council weekends as normal, although we may have to resort to Zoom meetings nearer the time. He would try to use the £11k for a half yearly meeting, but may have to accrue for a loss. RT asked if there was a clause in the contract that covered exceptional circumstances, and SJ replied that we have to commit to another date within six months to avoid losing the deposit. WP asked about those members who had booked to attend conference but would not necessarily attend a half-year meeting. SJ replied that anyone who had booked directly with the hotel would receive a voucher to use within six months at any hotel in the group. HM had booked with the hotel direct but they had not taken the payment. SJ advised all in this situation to cancel the booking and rebook through booking.com. SJ asked all present NOT to call the hotel within the next 48 hours as he had not yet had a chance to speak to them to update them.



By Videoconference

MHo asked about the arrangements for the 75th anniversary weekend, and SJ replied that he needed to speak to Marcus Jones.

DM asked if we were looking at sharing the potential £11k loss with Tangent if we lost our deposit, and SJ confirmed that we were.

KS asked if the Aviemore Conference Team could re-bid to host Aviemore. SJ replied that they would have to submit a fresh bid if they wished to host a conference in the future.

WP asked if something should go into the newsletter, and SJ replied that a communication would be sent straight after the meeting.

5. Virtual AGM Our rules state that an AGM has to take place each year between 1st April and 31st May if there is no conference taking place. SJ sought National Council agreement to use a suitable company to run the AGM for us, and also use an online voting platform for the contested elections. This was agreed by National Council.

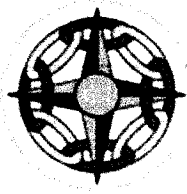
6. JK thought that electronic voting would be more representative, and asked that it be considered by 41 Club even when we could have physical AGMs. JK asked if the online voting system would allow proxy voting, and DM replied that proxy voting would not be necessary as all clubs would have access to online voting. DS saw no reason not to use electronic voting. He reminded the meeting that under Rule 23.2 *The National Council shall have the power to determine any point not provided for in this Constitution, Rules and Standing Orders. Any such decision shall be submitted to the next following General Meeting for confirmation.*

BE had identified two companies so far who provided online voting platforms, and would be looking at more.

BE said that it was intended to look at companies who could host an online AGM, as an alternative to Zoom. Tangent were also looking at options, and would share with us what replies they received. The date of the AGM had not been decided, although Tangent would be holding theirs on the original date of Saturday 17th April. It was likely that there would be separate platforms for the AGM and the online voting for the contested posts.

JK asked about Ladies Circle. BE was not aware what they were doing and didn't know who to ask. BE would also find out what Round Table intended to do.





By Videoconference

7. **Resolutions** BE informed the meeting that there were five resolutions still on the table, left over from the Cardiff AGM in 2020 which didn't happen. It was intended to discuss and seek an outcome for most if not all of the five. Several of the more recent National Councillors expressed concern that they did not know what the resolutions were. BE agreed to copy and paste from the 2020 AGM Order Paper and circulate to all members of National Council. RS asked whether it would be prudent to revisit the resolutions at National Council before resubmitting to an AGM. BE pointed out that National Council had already approved the resolutions, but DS said that there was no reason why National Council could not amend their own resolutions if they wanted to before bringing them back to an AGM. SJ suggested a Zoom call with new councillors, and BE and TA would look at doing this. TA encouraged all newer National Councillors to refer to the minutes of the National Council meeting of February 2020.

TA thought that we should do the resolutions in the AGM, but prioritise what needed to be done and what could be left. He was concerned that lengthy debate could cause an online meeting to be inquorate. BE agreed that we should strike a balance between what could be debated and what could be left.

GL asked if it would be an idea to use the running order from a previous AGM and time-limit the debate on each agenda item. BE thought this would be impractical, and lead to complaints that we were trying to stifle debate.

It was noted that our rules allowed for clubs to submit resolutions to the National secretary by 1st February for consideration at the next AGM. It was agreed that we would not ask clubs to submit anything, and PS added that we may get some "kneejerk" resolutions if we did so. However, there was always the possibility that a club may submit a resolution anyway.

8. **Elections for Contested Posts** KC asked if we were allowing any new candidates to stand for the elected posts and BE confirmed that we would not be. There were no other elections to be held beyond Vice President and NCLO.

(At this point, DK and JC rejoined the meeting)

9. **41 Club Connects** SJ made all aware of the 41 Club Connects meeting on 11th February, which would be a "cookalong" from LuBan Chinese Restaurant in Liverpool. This would be the Chinese New Year. It was agreed that the 4 Club Family would be invited, and all profits would be divided between the President's charity and Leukaemia Research.



41 Club
CONNECTED FRIENDS

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10. Nomination for International Treasurer. AV informed the meeting that our past National Treasurer, David Leach, had submitted his nomination for International Treasurer for the meeting in Verona.
11. CAS2 DM informed National Council that we had been asked for our personal e-mail addresses in order to set up our log-ins. It was emphasised that it was our personal e-mail addresses we were being asked for, not our role-based ones.
12. Millennium Way GL mentioned the Millennium Way in the Midlands, which was a walking trail sponsored by 41 Club. He sought agreement to have some new leaflets prepared, giving more prominence to the 4 Club Family. The cost of £200 was agreed for this.
13. Other Items
- GL asked all National Councillors to submit their grading reports, appropriately colour-coded.
 - GL reported that we had opened four new 41 Clubs in lockdown, and here was likely to a further new one, Corinium 41 Club based in Cirencester, to be approved at the net National Council meeting.
 - PMcB brought greetings on behalf of Reigate 41 Club, who were very appreciative of 41 Club Connects and the Buddyline.
14. Next Meeting Saturday 6th February 2021 at 11:00 am

Signed:

Dated: 06/02/21

Peter Good – National President 2020-22

