



District 71 District Council Meeting

11:15 AM Saturday 12th Nov 2016

Regency Hotel, Dublin

#	Time	Duration	Item
1/2	11:20	00:10	Call to Order / Welcome <i>District Mission, Introductions, Apologies, Moment of Reflection</i>

Opening by SAA

Mobile Phones, Restrooms, etc.

Introduce Michael Collins, District 71 Director, as follows:

Mr. District Director, this meeting of the District 71 Council is in order, and I yield control of the meeting to you

Welcome / Purpose – Michael Collins

“I remember my first District Council Meeting...”

The district council includes the District Leadership Team (known as the DLT), Division Directors, Area Directors, Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education.

The District Council serves as the administrative governing body of the district, and as such is responsible for conducting and approving the business of our district.

Toastmasters Mission and District Mission

It is also important that we are reminded of why we are here

- The Mission of Toastmasters International
“We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders”
- The District 71 Mission,
“We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence”
- Our core values: Integrity, Respect, Service & Excellence

Recognition of Past District Governors in the Audience plus any International Visitors

First of all, I am delighted to recognise

- **Teresa Dukes, DTM, current International Director and our Past District Governor 2010/11**

I would also like to recognise the following past international leaders:

- **Ted Corcoran, DTM, Past International President 2003/04, and our Past District Governor 1994/95**

I would also like to recognise our past District Governors that are here today. I ask each Past District Governor to stand as I call your name, and fellow leaders, while I know they each deserve grand applause, could I please ask that you hold your applause until I've introduced every one.

- **Cecil Kirk, DTM**
- **David Thompson, DTM**
- **Kevin Lee**
- **Gary Sanders, DTM**

Did I miss anyone?

I also wish to recognise another visiting Toastmaster who is now in the UK and with us today:

Jean Gamester, DTM – a past District Director of D91 – UK South

District 71 Council, please could you show your appreciation for past District Governors?

Introduction of other District Officers

I'd now like to introduce those who have joined me at the Top Table. Again, please hold your applause until I've introduced everyone?

District Parliamentarian	Cecil Kirk, DTM
IPDD	Kevin Lee
District Finance Manager	John Cox
District Administration Manager	Sam Warner
PR Manager	Karen O'Donnell, DTM
Club Growth Director	Patricia O'Reilly, DTM
Program Quality Director	Red Skelton, DTM

Apologies

I now call on our District Administration Manager, **Sam Warner**, to read out apologies from those unable to attend our meeting today.

Roy Barber, Monica Tiernan, Kay Murtagh, Tommy Lannie, Patrica Luane

Moment of Silence

It is a sad but unavoidable part of life that we must say goodbye to friends, so at this time I'd like to remember our Toastmaster friends who have passed away since the last District Council Meeting.

Tom Noonan, founding member of Killarney Toastmasters, died in October 2016

Paul Cantwell - Greystones Toastmasters - was also a founding member of Dublin South - he died in October 2016.

Tom Connor, Speakeasy Toastmasters, who passed away in August 2016.

Would anyone else would like to mention others who have passed away.

David Cowhig, Div A Director mentioned Tom Quigley

Mary Burke

Could we now have a moment of silence to reflect on those people who have crossed our lives and added something special?

Thank you

Explain Protocol

We are now ready to begin business and I'd like to briefly explain the 'general' protocol for addressing the council and voting:

1. Only members of the District Council or their proxies are **entitled** to speak and vote. Members of the council are the DLT, Division and Area Directors, Club Presidents and VPE's or their proxies
2. If you'd like to speak, please stand up to be recognised (but not while someone else is speaking). **Once recognised, and this is important, please clearly state your name and club and your role—or proxy holder so that our secretary can record this correctly.**
3. Since we are on a tight schedule, I'll request that you please try to limit your responses and be as clear and concise as possible within the time allowed.
4. It is vital that any discussion should be germane to the question under consideration, and relevant to the members of council.
5. **Voting** - Regarding any items on which a vote may be required, there are three options that we may use.
 - a. In cases of business requiring approval, I'll request a vote by 'Unanimous Consent' whereby I'll ask if there's any objection to adopting the motion or proposal. If no one objects, then the motion or proposal is deemed as adopted. If even one member objects, then we will proceed to take a vote, first by show of the cards you were given when you registered with credentials, and if necessary, secret ballot.
6. There is one card per vote. If you are holding 3 cards, you have 3 votes.
7. If a show of votes is inconclusive, the Chair may choose, or anyone can move, to have a secret ballot vote.
8. Additionally, if any one would like to raise a motion in excess of 12 words, please write it out and hand it to our administration manager.
9. In order to ensure that the meeting runs smoothly, I may seek to organise things, or limit the time for discussion in a particular way. When that happens I will say "**without objection, I will now do X**". If you do object, then please raise an objection and the committee will vote. If there are no objections, we will move forward as I have described.

#	Time	Duration	Item
3	11:30	00:02	Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of agenda

1. Our first item of business is the adoption of the agenda for this meeting.

- **Are there any objections to the adoption of the agenda? No**
- **I declare the adoption of the agenda as agreed by the Council by unanimous consent**

#	Time	Duration	Item
4	11:32	00:02	Credentials Committee Report and Appointment of Tellers

Credentials Committee Report and Adoption of the Tellers

1. I'd now like to ask our District Parliamentarian, Cecil Kirk to present the Credentials

Committee report.

Number of Clubs Eligible = 185

Quorum (1/3) = 62

District Executive Committee members = 58

Votes Available:

Clubs Accredited: 54 x 2 votes per club = 108 club votes available

District Executive Committee (DEC) Members = 30

Total Votes Available = 138

Simple Majority = 70

Quorum was not met.

Cecil also presents the report of tellers: Kieran O'Halloran, Andrew Munn

- **Are there any questions regarding the Credentials Report or objections to the appointment of the tellers? No**
- **I declare the Credentials Report to be accepted as stated, and the tellers are appointed, as agreed by the Council by unanimous consent.**

(In the event that any business is transacted at any district council meeting at which a quorum is not present, the action shall be deemed as valid as if a quorum were present if it thereafter is expressly approved in writing, personally, by mail, fax, email, electronic transmission or other reasonable means, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the member clubs in the district on the basis of two (2) votes per club.)

#	Time	Duration	Item
5	11:34	00:01	Acceptance of Minutes of Council Meeting on 9 th May 2015

Our next item of business is the acceptance of the minutes of the last council meeting.

- **Are there any objections to the acceptance of the minutes of our previous council meeting? No**
- **I declare the acceptance of the minutes of the previous council meeting to be agreed by the Council by unanimous consent**

#	Time	Duration	Item
6	11:35	00:10	2014/15 Year End Financial Report

2014-15 Year End Audit Report

I call John Cox, 2015/2016 Finance Manager, to the podium to present the 2013/14 Year-end Audit Report.

Treasurer asks, and answers, any questions before yielding control of the meeting back to Michael.

- **Are there any objections to the acceptance of the Treasurer's 2013/14 Year-End Audit Report? No**

- **I declare adoption of the 2013/14 Year-End Audit Report to be agreed by the Council by unanimous consent**

I'd like to thank the members of the Audit Committee, for their hard work in auditing and managing the finances of the district during 2014/15.

#	Time	Duration	Item
7	11:45	00:10	Adoption of District 71 Budget and Finance Manager's Report

Adoption of District 91 Budget and Finance Manager's Report

Each year, district leaders at all levels work on success plans designed to move forward our district mission "to build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence". Those plans relate to activities like training, club growth and retention, supporting clubs in their membership growth efforts, promotion of the educational programme, as well as communications, recognition, governance and leaders' travel.

We then put together a district budget to fund those activities. This year's budget has been put together and reviewed and approved by District Executive Committee (known as the DEC). It has also been approved by Toastmasters International to ensure that what we have budgeted for ties in with existing financial rules, priorities and protocols. And now we would like to present it to you, our council.

- I now call John Cox, 2015-16 Finance Manager, to present the outcome of these discussions and our new budget.

- **Are there any questions regarding our budget? Yes**

Steve Wellman, Huntington Speakers - where is the reserve amount at currently?

John responded: €31,276

Lorna Bruce, Inverness Toastmasters: What's the thinking on the PR budget value as it's double last years amount?

Karen O'Donnell, PR Manager responded. The budget was increased so that Division Directors could put forward ideas for local PR up to €6000

- **If not, are there any objections to the acceptance of our budget? No**
- **I declare the adoption of our budget agreed by the Council by unanimous consent?**
- Thank you John Cox and all our district leaders for your hard work in putting together our budget.

#	Time	Duration	Item
8	12:15	00:02	Confirmation of Appointed District Officers

Confirmation of District Officer Appointments

Our next item of business is the confirmation of District Officers. The appointed officers are as follows:

- **Administration Manager – Sam Warner**
- **Finance Manager – John Cox**
- **Parliamentarian – Cecil Kirk, DTM**

Are there any objections to the appointment of these officers? No

I declare these officers to be agreed by the Council by unanimous consent.

#	Time	Duration	Item
9	12:17	00:03	Confirmation of Vacancies Filled by District Executive Committee

Confirmation of District Officer Appointments

Whilst our Division Directors and Area Directors are elected by area councils in District 71, a vacancy in any elective office shall be filled by the district executive committee based upon the recommendation of the District Director.

The following vacancies have been filled since the May meeting of the District 71 council

- Area C10 Director – **Alec McAlister** (Gerry French stepped down)
- Area D8 Director – **Margaret Hyde** (Frances Cahill stepped down)
- Area M2 Director – **John Doyle** (Francis McCabe stepped down)

Are there any objections to the appointment of these officers? No

I declare these officers to be agreed by the Council by unanimous consent.

#	Time	Duration	Item
10	11:55	00:20	Motions

Motions

A motion is a formal proposal by a member that the council takes certain action. A main motion is one whose introduction brings business before the council.

There was a call for motions in the notices of this meeting on:

16th September

18th October

No advance motions have been received.

Are there any motions from the floor? No

#	Time	Duration	Item
11	12:20	00:08	District Success Plan Status and District Leadership Team Officer Reports

I now call on those DLT members required by TI policy and protocol to give a 2-minute report on how their work is contributing to the district's success plan.

- Immediate Past District Director, Kevin Lee
- Public Relations Manager, Karen O'Donnell, DTM
- Club Growth Director, Patricia O'Reilly, DTM
- Program Quality Director, Red Skelton, DTM

I would now like to yield control of the meeting to our Program Quality Director, Red Skelton so that I may participate in the next agenda items.

Red Skelton

- *I call Michael Collins to provide his report as District Director.*

Michael delivered his report

#	Time	Duration	Item
12	12:28	00:05	Toastmasters International Update

- Proposal A: To move to another location. It will be within the US. Investment in a new building in Colorado. Cost of operations will be cheaper. Orange County is just too expensive. **Legal domicile still in California.** 20 year investment.
- Proposal B: 2 past international presidents sit down with auditors each year. 2004 Non-profit act. **Solidifies this position to maintain non-profit status.**
- Autumn 2018 onwards there will be no Autumn District Conference

Are there any questions? Yes

David Thompson, Spa Speakers – What's the difference between a training weekend (Toastmasters Learning Initiative (TLI)) and a conference?

Michael Collins responds– The District Conference has to be underwritten and is insured by TI. A separate Learning event will not be insured by TI.

Magaret Hyde – How will we hold our Humorous and Table topics finals if we only have one conference? Will we have all four in the May conference?

Michael Collins responds – We may choose to do that, it needs to go to committee, we are only required to have International Speech finals, all the other contests are optional. We also have the International Speech semi finals which may be coming to us (rather than taking place at the International Conference).

Teresa Dukes responded also to confirm that the new arrangements have not been cast in stone yet.

#	Time	Duration	Item
13	12:33	00:07	Future Conferences Update & Bids

- I understand that there are a number of potential bids to either run or investigate running future conferences.
- Are there any specific proposals for the following conferences?
 - May 2017 Manchester (already fully approved) Jim Gregory
 - Nov 2017 Sheffield – Phil Heath
Question from Noel - Will there be wheelchair access? Phil - Yes
- Are there any objections to the acceptance of Phil Heath’s Team to proceed with the delivery of the Nov 2017 Sheffield conference? None – now fully approved
 - May 2018 Cork (already fully approved) Sharon O’Neill
- I declare that these conferences are able to continue with the delivery of this conference, as agreed by council by unanimous consent
 - May 2019 Norwich – Sue Eastman
Question – is the date conditional because of the football calendar? Sue – yes, we have to work around the football calendar which may make the conference a week or two later than usual.
- Are there any objections to the acceptance of Norwich to proceed with the investigation and to build their business case for the May 2019 conference? None
 - May 2019 Dublin – Sandra Losty
- Are there any objections to the acceptance of Dublin to proceed with the investigation and to build their business case for the May 2019 conference? none
 - May 2020 Killarney – Gerard Mannix
- Are there any objections to the acceptance of Killarney to proceed with the investigation of the May 2020 conference? none
- I declare that these conferences are able to continue their investigations into hosting future conferences, as agreed by council by unanimous consent

#	Time	Duration	Item
14	12:40	00:07	Any Other Business

Would any committee member like to raise any other business, relevant to our District 71 Mission, for the good of Toastmasters within District 71?

Noel – We must ensure that if we are using slides on screens that everyone in the room can easily see it, and any figures displayed should be big enough to see. Also, where are the club banners, usually we are surrounded by them?

Michael Collins responds – yes, and we will ask future conferences to ensure this is

addressed. The bringing of banners is optional and often difficult for those flying in to conference.

Caroline O'Halloran – Please will you check with TI about banners being brought in to conference to represent clubs

Michael Collins responds – Yes I will check with TMI.

#	Time	Duration	Item
15	12:47	00:05	Announcements and Adjournment

I declare this meeting adjourned at 12:54. The next meeting of the District 71 Council will take place in Manchester on the 13th May 2017.

#	Time	Duration	Item
16	12:52		Close