

**Minutes District Council Meeting**

**4th November 2018**

**Sheffield**

1. **Call to Order**

Meeting opened 10.45am by Vinette Hoffman-Jackson and Red Skelton District 71 Director was introduced.

1. **Welcome, District Mission, Introductions, Apologies, Moment of Reflection**

Red welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming and confirmed what makes the District Council is made up of and its purpose.

* The District Leadership Team
* Division Directors
* Area Directors
* Club Presidents
* Vice Presidents of Education

The Toastmasters Mission and District Mission was read out.

**Recognition of Past District Governors/Directors International Visitors & DTMs**

All Past District Governors, Directors and International Leaders were introduced and recognised and applauded:

* Cecil Kirk
* Michael Collins
* Kevin Lee
* David Thompson

All DTMs were recognised and applauded

**Introduction of District Officers**

All the District Officers were introduced by Red Skelton.

**Apologies**

Sue Eastman (Admin Manager) was called to read out the apologies from

* Helen Spillane
* John Moran
* Francoise Henderson
* Michael Ferris
* Christopher Brown
* Siobhan Fitzgerald

**Moments of Silence**

Sue Eastman was then asked to read out our fellow Toastmasters who had sadly passed away since our last District Council meeting in May 2017.

Eileen Lever Dandalk Toastmasters

Gillian Phillips Ennis Toastmasters

Alison Douglas Perth Toastmasters

Annette Flanagan Carrick/Shannon

Shaun Haraghy Mullingar

Donal Hogan Tullamore

Oliver Cohan Unsensored Toastmasters

Mags Ode Viking Toastmasters

As a District a minutes silence was shared to reflect and show respect for those people who have been part of the Toastmaster family.

**The Protocol of the District Council Meeting was explained by Red Skelton including the election process.**

**3 Adoption of the Agenda**

Red Skelton ask for any objections to the Agenda and there was none so the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent

 **4 Credentials Committee Report and Appointment of Tellers**

 **Number of clubs 196**

**Quorum(1/3) 66**

**District Exec Committee Members 66**

**Votes Available**

**Clubs accredited 42 x 2 84**

**District Exec Committee Members 24**

**Total 112**

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**Simple Majority 57**

Confirmed by District Parliamentarian Cecil Kirk

**Cecil presents the report of Tellers**

Karen Brook

Colin Byford

John Brady

Bea Metzler

1. **Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the Council meeting in May 2017 were accepted by unanimous consent.

1. **2016-2017 Year End Financial and Audit Report**

John Cox Finance Manager presented the Year End Financial Report for 2016/2017 and the adoption of the Year End Report and was agreed by Council as a unanimous consent.

A vote of thanks was given to John by Red for his hard work by him and the Audit Committee.

1. **Adoption of 2017-2018 District Budget and Finance Manager’s Report**

Les Hodgson the Finance Director for 2017/2018 was asked to present the District Budget for 2017/2018.

It was agreed by Council with a unanimous consent.

Red gave a vote of thanks to Les with the view of having a provision in the budget with the announcement of Pathways being rolled out in the 2017/2018 Toastmaster Year.

Brendan Haughton – Power Talk Toastmasters talked about the marketing was £11.000 underspent and how it was key to developing the District. He also asked if there could be a monthly marketing plan for the District and if 3-5% could be spent on the community.

Red explained the Budget has to be discussed and approved by the DEC

Brendan suggested that the District needs to reassess where we are going.

Red explained it is DEC & District matter.

1. **Confirmation of District Officer Appointments**

The following appointments were announced by Red since the last District Council meeting in May and are as follows:

District Finance Manager Les Hodgson

District Administration Manager Sue Eastman

District Parliamentarian Phil Heath DTM

All theses appointments were agreed by the Council by unanimous consent

1. **Confirmation of Vacancies Filled**

The following vacancies have been filled by the DEC and recommendation by the District Director:

Division D Director Jane Mooney

Area 22 Director Dawn Browne

Area 57 Director John Brady

The 3 above appointments were agreed by the Council by unanimous consent

Another 2 appointments had been made which did not require a vote which are

Sheila Fraser DTM Leadership Committee Chair

Dermot Carey DTM Alignment Chair

Red wished everyone all the best in their appointments

1. **Motions for Discussion**

No motions were received and there were no Motions from the floor

1. **2017-2018 District Success Plan and District Leadership Team Officer Reports**

Red called upon the following District Officers for their reports:

Michael Collins Immediate Past District Director

Laura Bruce Public Relations Manager

John Cox Club Growth Director

Program Quality Director Patricia O’Reilly

The reports included:

* May Conferences
* All the PR & Marketing Promotion and incentives running…
* DCP Reports and how clubs were progressing.
* Clubs Trained
* Educational Awards to date
* Up to date Club Growth and new clubs chartered and pre-chartered clubs
* Club Member Renewals & New Club Toolkit
* Club Growth and the DCP success in 2016/2017

Red expressed of how proud he was that the District had already achieved so much and congratulated the DLT and all the members on their hard work to date and how he couldn’t do it without all involved and how much his vision was to leave the District in an even better place from when he took the role on. He also acknowledged the good work that had been done in 2016/2017.

1. **Division Director Reports**

All the Division Directors had a great opportunity to give a comprehensive 2-minute report on the great work being achieved to date. Acknowledging their successes in the Divisions, the challenges and most of all their vision to make their Divisions the best they can be by the end of the 2017/2018 year.

Division A Ted Mellamphy

Division B Gerard Mannix

Division C Brenda Lannon

Division D Jane Mooney

Division E Angela Scott

Division F Siobhan Fitzgerald (DNA)

Division G Robert Brooke

Division H Daniel Sandars

Division M Ciara O’Halloran

Division S Euan Bayliss

1. **Toastmasters International Update**
* From 2018 we will no longer be in region 11 but will move to Region 10
* Pathways will be coming March 2018
* All motions that were voted on at the Business Meeting was approved. The one that could possibly affect D71 is the ability to pay individually the semi-annual dues. IMPORTANT TO NOTE: This only gave the Board of Directors the permission to look at this. Nothing firm yet.
1. **Future Contests**

Future Conferences was discussed at the DEC on 10 Sept 2017. We unanimously agreed with no objections that we would continue the rotation of conferences between Ireland and the UK as this was in the best interest of the District. Odd years the conference will be held in the UK and even years, in Ireland. Currently, the only conference that has been cleared to proceed is Cork 2018. We have one bid for 2019 for Norwich, UK and if there is anyone else that would like to bid for 2019 please contact a member of the District Leadership Team. We will be making the call for future conferences two years out so in Cork we will be looking for 2020 which currently has one bid; Killarney

1. **Future Contests**

The Question has been raised concerning what we will do about contests at future conferences as we will only have one conference per year. We know that we will need Semi-finals and there is interest in adding the Tale Tales Contest into the mix. There are several possibilities and I am going to appoint a committee to look at all the options and come to the next Council meeting in May 2018 with a proposal.

1. **Any Other Business**

Francis McCabe Dublin – raised concerns on how to reach DTM now Pathways is coming in.

It was explained you have 2 years after roll out to complete your DTM under old educational system

Noel O’Beara expressed his concerns with the IT system with Pathways for some people.

Brendan Haughton asked about the way forward to maintain the standard and good work of the Youth Leadership Scheme/ committee and how it would be financed.

Ciara O’Halloran suggested that it would be beneficial to have more Education and Training 90 days prior to the roll out of Pathways.

Ciara also felt it should be good for certain collages and universities to obtain credits for their work at various levels

1. **Announcements and Adjournment**

The next District Council meeting will be on the 12th May at the Cork Safe Haven Conference and the meeting was adjourned and closed at 12.24pm