



**41 Club**  
CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP

MINUTES OF THE 215<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
NATIONAL COUNCIL  
SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2011. 10:00AM  
LANSDOWNE PLACE HOTEL, BRIGHTON

The National President welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Health & Safety Notice was read by the National Secretary.

A welcome was extended to Ken Boden – Past International Officer and member of Billericay 41 Club who was an observer.

National Council Jewels were presented to:

Ken Donald	Region 2
Andy Waite	Region 6
Barry Durman	Region 15 Caretaker
Jon Sage	Region 18

#### 1. APOLOGIES:

Hugh Milward	National Sales & Marketing Officer
Richard Pattinson	Region 5 National Councillor
Mike Garner	Region 7 National Councillor
Paul Cammiss	Honorary Solicitor

#### 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 214<sup>th</sup> meeting on 15th April 2011 at the Novotel, Ipswich were approved. The approval was proposed by Dick Stanley and seconded by Lawrence Bamber. All agreed.

#### 3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

#### 4. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

##### **NATIONAL PRESIDENT – VAUGHAN HARRIS**

As circulated with the following additions:

The funds raised for RTCW had now reached £2,000.

A thank you was recorded for the work that Mike and Jan Turner and Dave and Pauline Campbell had carried out to organise the weekend.

##### **VICE PRESIDENT – DAVID SMITH**

As circulated.

##### **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – MALCOLM LOCKEY**

As circulated with the following additions:

Malcolm thanked all of those who had completed the Club Risk Report. This identified some very important data for everyone to work with. Those who had not completed one were asked to do so. The document was a 'living' document and should be regularly updated. It had been agreed to retain the criteria for a year. Members of the Operations Committee would be contacting Councillors for an update as to progress.

Lawrence Bamber asked if a consolidated report would be available. Malcolm said not – but it would be summarised.



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### **NATIONAL SECRETARY – MARTIN GREEN**

As circulated with the following additions:

Martin once again reminded Councillors of the importance of submitting their reports on time and in the correct format. This time he had needed to enlist the help of the National President to chase reports. He noted that one Councillor had produced nine versions – only one of which was valid.

The meeting was updated on the progress of scanning the archives and David Addison advised the meeting that the first batch would be completed in the next few months.

### **NATIONAL TREASURER – MIKE TURNER**

Mike had circulated a current status of the accounts.

Somewhat out of character Mike advised the meeting he was 'relatively happy' with the state of our financial affairs!

Capitation collection had so far gone well but had now slipped back to how it was last year with 131 Clubs still being outstanding.

He stated his concern that Councillors Expenses were running ahead of budget and asked that everyone consider car sharing or using public transport.

Colin Steen asked if anything could be done to avoid the 'bloodletting' that occurred over our finances at the AGM. Mike Turner said the timetables were very tight so it was difficult to issue things any earlier.

### **NATIONAL COUNCILLORS REPRESENTATIVE – DONALD WATSON**

As circulated with the following additions:

Donald stated that most matters had been aired already and Councillors were now more convinced over the use of the Risk Report. He indicated some concern amongst Councillors on the content and quality of the Sales Boxes.

### **NATIONAL SALES & MARKETING OFFICER – HUGH MILWARD**

In his absence his report was taken as read.

Concern was once again expressed over the content of the Sales Boxes. Some of the newly appointed Councillors wanted a box.

Frank Venables felt that looking after a box at a meeting was difficult as you had to stand and guard it.

Barry Durman felt Councillors should only carry badges as the website postage and packing prohibited web sales of single badges.

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The meeting then recognised the arrival of John Payne – National President of Round Table – accompanied by Nigel Vines his PLC Chairman.

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### **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OFFICER – DICK STANLEY**

As circulated with the following additions:

David Addison corrected Dick by stating that Llandudno had previously staged a conference. It was agreed that they had not staged one before in this century!

### **ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL OFFICER – DAVE CAMPBELL**

As circulated with the following additions:

Phil Douce asked if the recent Channel Trip would be expanded. Dave said he hoped to. David Hewitt for some reason asked us to remember Agincourt!

Lawrence Bamber reported he had visited the Swedish and Norwegian AGM's and accordingly presented the President with banners.

Andy Waite also presented a banner from Cyprus.

Dave commented that he felt he had had a brilliant start internationally with lots going on. He was currently working on improving the international element of the website.

## **NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER – RAY HILL**

As circulated with the following additions:

Ray gave details of cost savings he had made in printing and postage. He was looking to a more informal approach to the magazine with less 'gongs' and more casual look. He then declared the magazine a 'gong free zone'.

David Hewitt then demonstrated Google Maps that would be added to the website. This gave opportunity for information to be added and changes to be made by almost anyone. Martin Green was concerned (naturally) at this and asked if that meant Edinburgh could be moved to the Seychelles to Ken Donald's delight! The concern was also noted by David after Dave Campbell said he too had reservations on possible abuse.

Ray reported that a magazine would now be sent out with every letter sent to retiring Tablers. He urged Councillors to give out some of the excess magazines whilst on their travels.

## **NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION OFFICER- JIM SMITH**

As circulated with the following additions:

Jim advised us he was having a 'big push' on new Clubs.

He was working with John Kilshaw (IPP RT) on the problem of too many Honorary Members in RT.

He was also developing the culture of 'cluster clubs'.

There was a major focus on Ireland due to the very failing numbers. 41 and RT were working together on this.

David Yardley admonished the other Councillors for the lack of effort on encouraging retiring Tablers to join 41 Club. He stated that only 49 members were reported out of 389 to have joined 41 Club.

Manny Martins outlined the new Membership Brochure. Martin Green asked if the same theme would be followed with the Display Boards. Jim confirmed this.

Jon Sage asked many to be conscious of the fonts used in the brochure for those with failing eyesight. Those without serifs were preferred.

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At this point John Payne – National President of Round Table updated the meeting on the activities of Round Table. These included:

- The progress of the new CEO
- The updated website
- The average age lowering to 38
- Members were joining at 31
- The new split roles on the Board for membership
- 47,000 hits on the new website
- The use of Barcello Hotels
- A new impetus with the BBC on Children in Need.
- The success of their Workshops.
- The support being given to the Clubs in Ireland.

It was felt that this was a very motivating speech.

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## **5. COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

All National Councillors reports were taken as read with the following additions:

### **REGION 17**

Sean McCormick gave details of the new Breckland Poets Round Table

### **REGION 20**

Frank Venables updated progress on Newbury 41 Club.



## REGION 24

Manny Martins gave details of the new Wimbledon Round Table and Storrington 41 Club. He now had a second Deputy National Councillor.

## HONORARY WEBMASTER

Nothing to report

## HONORARY SOLICITOR

Not present

## HONORARY ARCHIVIST

David Addison asked that Councillors search for important documents that should be archived and to let him have them as soon as possible..

## 6. STRUCTURE PLAN UPDATE

A lengthy and detailed discussion took place on the proposals for re-structuring. David Smith presented the details (as per his report) and asked Councillors to feed back to him any comments by mid-August. These would then be discussed by the FP Committee and a firm proposal brought to the October Council Meeting.

The following is a summary of the comments made:

- Manny Martins suggested we should consider having nominated Councillors as Officers. He asked what the 'strategy' was as he was unclear. He said the direction was confused and asked if the Executive was trying to run 41 Club down? He felt more people were needed not less.
- Barry Durman was not in favour of 3/2 year terms. He was concerned that anyone doing a poor job would be there for a long period. Malcolm Lockey said there was evidence that a matter like this had previously been resolved. John Payne stated that this was needed for continuity. Jon Sage agreed that people could be 'removed' if a problem. David Hewitt reminded the meeting that the Newcastle AGM had agreed not to give the Secretary a three year term.
- David Smith told everyone that the tools would be provided to help manage the bigger Regions. Having larger Regions was no longer 'catastrophic'. We should encourage deputies and local committees. The local teams could reflect those on RT Areas.
- Jon Sage felt that we should not limit visits to 'risk clubs'. Good Clubs also need a visit.
- Manny Martins asked John Payne if there were any plans for RT to change the Area Structure again. John said to the best of his knowledge there were no plans to do this.
- Colin Steen felt we should have a structure to achieve our Objectives – not just for cost-saving.
- Phil Ellis felt another change of Regions would cause another lot of confusion.
- Barry Durman felt this was a 'change too far'. The Council should stay strong and ignore the request for cost saving.
- Jim Smith outlined the benefits of aligning with Round Table. He felt we needed to communicate with Clubs using different methods other than visits. We could not ignore the direction from the AGM.
- Phil Ellis said it was time we stood up and be counted!

## 7. APPROVALS

The change in Item 10.4 of the National Council Standing Orders was approved by the meeting. This now reads:

*Each Committee should transact the business assigned to it by Council and the National Executive having due regard to the annual budget and the effective use of modern conferencing technologies. Such meetings shall as far as is practical to be concluded prior to meetings of Council.*

The meeting approved the Secretary's request to retain our existing Trademark Lawyer – Alan Venner. Alan had left his previous practise to set up on his own.

The following Clubs were proposed for disaffiliation:

- Abroath
- Biddulph
- Chester
- Willenhall
- Torquay

The following Clubs were proposed for affiliation:

- Richmond and District
- Bollin Valley
- Vale of Evesham
- Locksbottom
- Lanston Active

The meeting approved all of these.

## 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jim Smith asked each member of the Council if they knew anyone between 18 and 35. Most indicated they did, so he challenged everyone to introduce a new Round Tabler by the next Council Meeting.

Barry Durman asked that it be minuted that he wanted the e-mail verification process turning off and all those pending verification automatically verified. Also anyone who was not ticked as 'post' or 'email' should be automatically changed to e-mail contact. The Secretary felt that this was illegal and unethical. John Payne supported Martin's view and offered assistance to clarify the rules from the National Secretary of Round Table who had recently studied this matter.

Phil Douce stated he was supporting Children in Need in Region 25 - this was a 'quick win'.

Dave Campbell asked if the Clubs could be numbered. Martin Green said they had an index number in the database.

Ken Boden thanked everyone for allowing him to attend and said it had been an 'eye opener'. There was a degree of de-ja-vu in what had been discussed. He said he had enjoyed everybody's company.

The meeting closed at 13:22.



The next National Council Meeting will take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011 at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff, starting at 10:00 am after Committee meetings.

Signed as a true and accurate record:

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National President

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Date