



Phoenix Round Table Project

Background

The project was launched by Jim Smith, the 41 Club National Membership Officer at the 41 Club AGM in April 2010 following discussions with the Mansfield 41 Club. 41 Clubs are very aware that many Round Tables have closed over recent years and to ensure their own survival for the future it is necessary to have a viable Round Table. 41 Club is also acutely aware that genuine support for Round Table has been lacking in many areas in the past and that the survival and growth of Round Table is vital for the future of the Round Table family as a whole. This project and others are to give 41 clubs an opportunity to focus on Round Table.

The Project

Selected 41 Clubs, where the feeder Table has closed, will be encouraged and guided to set up a New Club. Initially it will be incubated within the 41 Club until such stage as it is determined that it is strong enough to progress to chartering as a New Round Table.

41 Club Action Required

Nationally and through the offices of the Regional Councillors volunteer clubs without a feeder Table will be called for who have both the numbers to support the project and the enthusiasm of its members. The project will be co-ordinated by the National Membership Officer of 41 Club in conjunction with the National Membership officer of Round Table and supported by the 41 Club Regional Councillor and the Regional Representative of Round Table

Process and Guidelines

Start of Project

1. The project is to be presented to the membership of the 41 club who must confirm in a minuted meeting that they wish to take part in "Project **Phoenix**"
2. Ideally the 41 Club should have a good catchment area, be active in its community and have at least 30 members who regularly attend.
3. Agreement will be given by the 41 Club National Membership Officer to accept a club to the scheme. 41 Club National Membership Officer will also confirm agreement with the National Membership Officer of Round Table.
4. The Regional Councillor of 41 Club and the Regional Representative of Round Table will be informed with a recommendation they get involved.
5. The 41 Club will appoint an interim committee to include a nominal Round Table President, Membership Officer and Secretary.
6. The new club will be called (club name) **Phoenix** Round Table.
7. The 41 Club using its local connections including other ex-Round Tablers will identify potential Round Tablers within its local community. Ideal sources will be large local companies, branches of National Businesses based locally, sports clubs and sons/relatives of existing 41 club members. 41 Club will use its Public Relations Company to assist with local media.

Initial Meetings

1. The committee will arrange an invitation night for potential members. It is recommended that this should be a minimum of 20 people who have confirmed their attendance. It should be made clear that

the people being invited will be there with the objective of informing them about Round Table with a view to re-forming a club. It is not recommended that the evening is populated by 41 Club members but a few to assist with arrangements and to make the evening go well should be invited.

2. The meeting should represent the elements of Round Table that are generally misunderstood by non-members and be based on fun and fellowship.
3. A follow up meeting should have been organised to invite the participants to. That could include a meeting with 41 Club providing it is an active fun based meeting but there should be at least one more follow up meeting of the fledgling new club in place. **Do not** invite potential Round Table members to a business meeting.
4. Meetings should initially be set at monthly intervals to alternate with 41 Club meetings progressing to fortnightly meetings when it is deemed appropriate.
5. Make sure meetings are balanced with some other social events for wives and partners to attend and after a period joint meetings with 41 Club.
6. Within 3 to 6 months a meeting should be held of prospective members to discuss the actual formation of a Round Table. At that meeting there should be a senior representative of Round Table to fully describe what will happen and the process they need to go through. The **Phoenix** members will by this stage be determining their own programme. They should also have received invitations to visit other local clubs or an Area function

Support

1. Support will be available in terms of information and membership materials from Round Table.
2. A local Round Table should be identified to provide support to the project and a member may be invited to be part of the initial committee.
3. The Regional Representative from Round Table, and a couple of members from another local Round Table should be invited to the first meeting plus the 41 Club Regional Councillor.
4. Support by buddying for those people interested after the first meeting should be given by members of the 41 Club, making sure they are aware of get togethers, have been booked in to meetings, collected to attend meetings and to answer any questions that might arise.
5. The National Membership Officer of 41 Club will be in regular contact.

Timescales & Numbers

1. From initial agreement of the 41 club through to the invitation meeting should be a maximum of 3 months.
2. The target for a **Phoenix** club to be in a position to start to stand on its own should be no more than 6 months from the inaugural meeting.
3. A new club will not be launched to Round Table unless there is a minimum of 10 prospectives with other people introduced by them coming along as guests.

The Handover

1. When a **Phoenix** club is deemed to be ready to progress to chartering by the Round Table National Membership Officer a date will be agreed. A committee will be formed to include the relevant officers of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership officer and any other posts deemed appropriate.
2. The 41 Club will hand over the **Phoenix** to Round Table at a charter night. The 41 Club will provide an inaugural honorary Round Table President and will appoint a Round Table liaison officer.
3. The 41 Club will continue to provide ongoing support to the fledgling club by continuing to introduce potential members.
4. 41 Club and Round Table will jointly announce the creation of a new club to their respective memberships.