

IRONBRIDGE & SEVERN GORGE LIONS CLUB CIO

Minutes of the Annual general meeting held on 11th March 2021

LP Charlie welcomed Lions Graham, Carol, John Marsh, Jill, Vic, Colin, Pam, Kevan, Jane, Pete Bragg, Peter Derham, Martin and prospective member Jim Philbin. Lion John Toll joined the meeting at 8.15pm

Election of Officers: Given the existing Covid 19 problems, all existing office holders had agreed to stand for election for a further term. This included the President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and 1 Term Trustee.

Colin confirmed that all original nominators had confirmed their willingness to repeat their nominations and all existing office holders were then re-elected on the basis of a block vote proposed by Peter Derham, seconded by John Marsh and carried unanimously.

Approval of 2020/21 Accounts. The 20/21 accounts were presented by Jill and those present indicated that they were content for those relating to the Ironbridge and Severn Gorge Lions Charitable Trust to be submitted to the Charity commission.

Resolution: Colin presented a resolution designed to allow the urgent approval of up to £1000 in an emergency such as that experienced recently when Lion Graham had needed to use his own funds to hire dehumidifiers to support those affected by the flooding in Ironbridge. Graham was subsequently reimbursed from club funds, but at the time of the transaction there had been no club approval and he had needed to proceed at his own risk. *(see details of proposal attached as an appendix to these minutes)*

The resolution was proposed by Graham, seconded by Martin and carried unanimously.

Questions from members – John Marsh raised a question about the Immediate past President's award. Colin confirmed that he was still holding the award itself and it was agreed that this should be presented again at a suitable social event later in the year.

There being no further business, the president closed the AGM at 20.20

Appendix 1 to the agenda for the AGM 2021

Proposal for the creation of an emergency fund to meet urgent support requests.

Background: The club has an existing arrangement under which the President is authorised to spend up to £200 on his/her own initiative, to meet urgent needs. However, there is no provision to meet needs beyond this limit without a full vote of the club. In January this year, our Community Service Chair faced the problem of an urgent requirement for dehumidifiers to meet the needs of residents affected by the floods at a time when stocks available for hire were diminishing too rapidly to permit a member vote, even by email. In this situation,

Graham had no alternative but to commit to a spend of around £600 on his own authority and at his own risk.

Problems of this kind will arise only very rarely – particularly as we now have funds to buy a number of dehumidifier units. However, where they do arise, it is clearly not fair on individual members involved that they should be expected to take the risk of spending money in advance of a club commitment. This proposal is intended to provide a relatively swift means of securing approval.

The Proposal: It is proposed that the club should reserve the sum of £1000 as an emergency fund to be used to enable a swift response to appropriate needs that are seen as being too urgent to allow the time required for a full vote of the club members. Where such a situation arises, it is proposed, subject to the notes below, that the member sponsoring the spend should be authorised to proceed provided that the proposal is supported by the President and the Treasurer.

Note 1: Where either the President or the Treasurer are acting as the sponsor for the spend, the support of an additional trustee must be obtained.

Note 2: Where either the President or the Treasurer are unavailable, another Trustee may substitute for them.

Note 3: It is essential that support by any of those involved should not be given automatically. All proposals should be examined critically and If anyone requested to give support has doubts about whether the spend is either appropriate or sufficiently urgent, they should request that the matter be put to an email vote of club members.

Colin Thompson Secretary February 2021