

From Zone Chair D – Colin Mansell

Report for Cabinet

14 March 2021

1.1 Decisions required of Cabinet: None required

1.2 Justification for decisions:

1.3 Objectives for the year:

- a) To keep membership as a priority
- b) To monitor clubs' financial status
- c) To monitor compliance
- d) To monitor clubs' achievements

1.4 Progress against objectives:

Membership

| Club | June 2020 | September 2020 | January 2021 | 8 March 2021 |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Abingdon | | 12 | 12 | 12* |
| Basingstoke | | 17 | 17 | 18 |
| Carterton | | 21 | 19 | 19 |
| Loddon Valley | | 31 | 31 | 30** |
| Newbury | | 18 | 17 | 17*** |
| Total | | 99 | 96 | 96 |
| Notes | * 1 prospective new member **1 member @ large ***1 new member to be inducted at Club's March meeting | | | |

Club reports

Club report from Abingdon

Membership: 12, we have a prospective new member.

Financial Status: We have sufficient reserves in our administrative and charity accounts, we have paid all our dues up to date

Meetings: During the summer we had a mix of Zoom meetings and we also met in the local park – out in the open, meetings are more focused and business like. We have had additional committee meeting and social Zoom meetings, including Club quizzes.

Fundraising: We have been frustrated in our efforts due to Covid, our major events (which are hybrid fundraising and service events) rely on us getting out in the community. We have had to rely on the use of donation buttons, using services such as Just Giving and PayPal donations.

At Christmas we organised a virtual Santa using Zoom to allow the little ones to visit Santa at the North Pole. The booking was accomplished using Eventbrite (it may just have been easier doing it via Facebook messenger!). It went well, it did not raise a huge amount of cash, but it did bring Santa to the kiddies.

We are also selling knitted chicks this year, they are easter chicks, we get volunteers to knit them, they we get shops to provide the Cadbury Crème eggs, that are popped in them and then we sell them – every little helps

Welfare/community: We have continued to focus on our local community, with regular runs for the local food bank, and provisions for Clic Sargent. We have updated our Grant form Application so that those applying are aware upfront that Grants are given from our general fundraising and it only given to those individuals in dire need of help (if a Grant application is completed by Social Services).

Exceptionally we will donate to other local charities. We will no longer donate to National Charities unless it is directly related to a local issue and certainly never to bolster a charities reserves, especially where they have chief executives on 6-figure salaries.

We have focused our funds on individuals in need examples:

- A patient at the local children's hospital that needs a profession blender to prepare food for a feeding tube.

- Harness for a special education needs child
- Gravel a wood for a local environmental project (part of a water harvesting system for a community allotment (a member volunteers for this as well)
- Christmas parcels
- Help 2 Read
- Oxford homeless (takeaway café)
- Christmas toy drive
- Spares for precinct defib
- Halloween sweets (via foodbank)
- Meningitis Society (in memory of a former member that passed to higher service)
- Fridge freezer and other items for a social care leaver
- Support for local Cub Scout group

Club report from Basingstoke

Membership: We currently have 17 members, we have unfortunately lost one since the last meeting but have a couple of new possibilities.

Financial Reasonable although like most our fundraising activities have been curtailed, we have recently received an anonymous donation which has been well received.

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month, now back to zoom

Fundraising:

- We have again collected some late contributions to our March Swimathon
- A further Zoom quiz has raised around £100 and we have another planned for 16th January.
- Set up with Amazon Smile, still awaiting our first payment although there have been some 40 items bought on the scheme
- Registered for the new Basingstoke community lottery. It has started and so far we have sold 15 tickets which equates to an annual income of £390
- We have manned a stall at a local pubs regular Saturday market, we sold books and made ca £150
- As we are now in tier 4 activities are even further curtailed.

Service/Welfare/Community: (donations/support etc.)

- We have agreed a donation of £500 to the women's refuge
- £500 to BVA for use on the Christmas hampers schema
- £250 to the Joshua Tree organisation.
- Several donations for white goods
- World Site Day event in Basingstoke town centre on 8th October was very successful again, Ann Vicars has delivered multiple Kgs of glasses.
- Some of the money raised at our Swimathon has contributed to providing T-shirt tops to the local disability swimming team.

Club report from Loddon Valley

Membership current membership remains static 30 members with one other 'Lion at Large' until July

Financial Status Charitable funds depleted in 2020 with virtually none of our normal activity able to take place. This resulted in us transferring c£10k from our operational account (which has built up over many years) into the charity account. Despite Covid restrictions we still managed to raise c£6k over the Christmas period (approx. 50% of normal years) and carry out most of our Christmas activities. With little activity at the moment, I'd describe our status as stable rather than healthy.

Meetings Holding business meetings via Teams on a monthly basis though attendance has waned with only about half of the club attending recently. Started to re-introduce social meetings again via teams.

Fundraising - Our biggest annual fundraiser the Treacle fair has been postponed from its traditional June slot until September and we are hopeful that it will be able to take place. We have not

purchased the 24 easter Eggs that we would normally do and at the moment we believe that we may not be able to run our annual fireworks display in November. (This is more to do with availability of product). A team is being set up to look at new ways of fundraising
Welfare/community again some of our standard things have been cancelled (eg pantomime) we are attempting to help with driving people to their vaccination appointments where they cant do this for themselves

Club report from Newbury

Zone report from Newbury

Membership: Currently stands at 17, with one application pending

Financial Status: In good standing

Meetings: Meetings are held regularly online via Zoom. Last meeting February 25th 2021

Fundraising: Limited due to lockdown. Christmas market stall and Santa Run donations were match-funded by Greenham Common Trust. Other online donations for craft items and face masks.

Planning to get a reduced number of Easter Eggs for raffling or donating to local frontline services.

Registered with Amazon Smile

Welfare/Community: Christmas Vouchers given to over 80 families

Further voucher donations to those in need

Requests for cooker and carpets fulfilled

Members volunteering at Covid Vaccination Centre

Local litter-pick organised

All clubs are in good standing and have managed to maintain some sort of contact both between themselves, thanks to Zoom and Teams, but importantly with their communities. The reports show that clubs have managed to raise some funds to support their work within the community and these efforts are to be congratulated and are starting to plan ahead. The Roadmap towards recovery will be difficult and probably have some casualties along the way but I feel that generally all of the Zone D clubs are well-equipped to steer themselves to safety and back to 'normality' whatever that might become.

Date of next zone meeting: None arranged by me. I have asked clubs to arrange one between themselves and inform me of the date.

C Mansell

Zone D

8 March 2021