



District 91 District Council Meeting Minutes

11:00 AM London 7th May 2016

The Grange City Hotel, 8-14 Cooper's Row,
London, EC3N 2BQ

1	<p>Call to Order / Welcome District Mission, Introductions, Apologies, Moment of Reflection</p> <p>The meeting was called to order and District Director, Jean Gamester was introduced.</p> <p>Jean Gamester, District 91 Director welcomed all to the District Council Meeting and explained the purpose and membership of the District Council.</p> <p>She recognised guests and past District Governors</p> <p>Past District Governor – Hilary Briggs DTM</p> <p>Past District Governor – Freddie Daniels</p> <p>Past District Governor – David Thompson DTM</p> <p>Past District Governor – Angus Galbraith DTM</p> <p>From District 74, Past District Governor – David Sutcliffe DTM</p> <p>David Thompson read the District Mission</p> <p>Introduction of the District Leadership Team</p> <p>District Parliamentarian – David Sutcliffe DTM</p> <p>Immediate Past District Governor – Hilary Briggs DTM</p> <p>District Finance Manager – Meg Heyworth DTM</p> <p>District Administration Manager – Helena Brewer</p> <p>Public Relations Manager – Sue Fish</p> <p>Club Growth Director – Dorothea Stuart DTM</p> <p>Program Quality Director – Vanessa King DTM</p> <p>District Director – Jean Gamester DTM</p> <p>Apologies</p> <p>District Administration Manager, Helena Brewer to read out apologies from those unable to attend our meeting today.</p> <p>Peter Alexsin, Maud D'Agnostini, Kate Harford, Richard Day, Rebecca Jackson, Paul Roger, Carol Maxwell, Martinin Barbati, Catalina Donoso, Karen Ince, Annie Fitzmorris</p> <p>Moment of Silence</p>
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The following Toastmaster members of our district passed away since the last Council Meeting and were remembered with a minute's silence.

- Margaret Emery – Mole Valley,
- Spike McKenna – Guildford Speakers
- Alex Waldrige - Basingstoke

The District Director explained the protocol and rules governing the Council Meeting, including the use of Toastmasters International's Governing Documents, Roberts Rules of Order as well as the expectation that we live up to our values of integrity, respect, service and excellence.

2	Adoption of Agenda
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There being no objections, the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

3	Credentials Committee Report and Appointment of Tellers
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District 91 Parliamentarian David Sutcliffe delivered the Credentials Committee Report and confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

134 paid clubs equates to 268 club votes available, a quorum of 90 club votes

145 club votes were registered, plus 30 members of the DEC, giving a total of 175 votes

For the purposes of voting during the meeting, a simple majority would require 88 votes, while a 2/3 majority (if required) would be 117 votes.

The following were appointed as tellers/observers (for the new voting system)

Sylvia Rasta – Canterbury Communicators

Rabinder Sohie – Windsor Speakers

4	Acceptance of Minutes of previous Council Meeting
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There being no objections, the Minutes were accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.

5	Confirmation of Appointed District Officers
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District Director Jean Gamester advised the District Council that since the last Council Meeting the following vacancy has been filled as follows;

Division H Director – Doug New

There being no objections, the appointment accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.

6 Alignment Committee Report and Assignment of Clubs to Areas and Divisions for the following year

Alignment Committee member Richard Murray delivered the report and recommendations of the alignment of club to areas and divisions, on behalf of committee chair Paul Walsh, as follows;

Area	Chartered Clubs*	Precharter Clubs*
	Division A South West of District	
1	Spinnaker, Solent, Wessex, Hamwic	Tech Data
14	Woking, Camberley, Guildford, Fluor, Farnham	Visa, Aldershot Speakers
42	Chaseside, Ferndown, Hallmark, Casterbridge	
46	Reading, Microsoft, Newbury, Basingstoke	Verizon, CDK
62	Armada, Bath Spa, South West, Northavon	Northavon II, Launceston
	Division B London South West	
6	Corinthians, Olympians, Sytel, Athenians, West London	Wellington
8	Cardinals, Ofgem, Phoenix, Victorians	Spanish, Italian
29	Discovery, Riverside, Toast Rack, Trojans	Portugese
52	104 Debaters, Grosvenor, Imperial, King's Speakers, Polish your Polish	
	Division C London Central	
2	Connected, ICF, Bloomsbury, Holborn	Lawspeak
5	City Limits, Covent Garden, JP Morgan	Amway
33	ACCA, Cass, CFA Institute, Ropemaker, St Paul's	
34	Clerkenwell, King's Cross, GS London, Tube Talk, Russian	
45	Early Bird, Society, Strand	Quantcast
	Division H South East of District	
32	Arun, County, Worthing	Horsham, Gatwick Communicators
35	Bromley, Speakers of Croydon, Croydon Communicators, Purley, Connected Bromley	
37	Canterbury, Toasted Sandwich, Kent, Tunbridge Wells	
53	Epsom, Mole Valley, Leatherhead, Surbiton	
55	Brighton & Hove, Eastbourne, Battle, Lewes	Pension Regulator
	Division J North West of District	
4	Leighton Buzzard, Berkhamsted, Swan, Aylesbury, Thame, West Herts Speakers* (*If they align from District 71)	

7	Bicester, Bardwell, Abingdon, Oxford Speakers, Oxford Orators, Croughton	Infineum
10	Voice of Wales, Cardiff, Porthcawl	Valleys and Vale
21	Maidenhead, Chiltern, Windsor, FM Global, Wokingham, Ascot	
22	Malvern, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Thamesdown	Thamesdown II, Ludlow
	Division K London East	
3	MLP, London Public, NZICA, RLC	
31	Canary Wharf, Credit Suisse, Stratford, WIBF Canary Wharf, Woodford Green	
58	1st London, Broadgate, City of London, PMI	
59	Citi Criars, Lewisham, Trustmasters, Meridian, Speakers Corner, State Street	
	Division L London North West	
9	Berkeley Square, Excalibur, Experience French, Speak Out, CB&I	
47	London Communicators, LBS, Northern Lights, Angel	Tottenham
56	WIBF City, Blackrock, Data Science, Deutsche Bank, Barings	
61	HOD, Harrovian, Watford, TJXpressions	
	<i>*Abbreviated club names shown here, Pre-charter status as at time of report.</i>	

Without objection, the adoption of the report and recommendations are accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.

District Director Jean Gamester thanked all the alignment committee members for all of their hard work.

7	Leadership Committee Report and Elections
Leadership Committee Report	
Leadership Committee Chair, Hilary Briggs presented the committee's report.	
Without objection, this report was agreed by the Council by unanimous consent.	
Nomination and Election of District Executive Officers:	
District Director Jean Gamester commenced the voting in of the District leaders for 2016/2017.	

Uncontested Roles

Where roles were uncontested, the District Administration Manager was instructed to cast one vote for the single candidate. The following were elected;

District Director, Vanessa King DTM

Program Quality Director, Pedro Casillas DTM

Division A Director, Steve Birch

Division B Director, Florian Bay

Division C Director, Dudley Flynn

Division H Director, Gordon Piggott

Division L Director, Steve Brewer

Contested Roles

Club Growth Director

There were three candidates George Chiesa, Andy Hammond and Graeme Phillips, each of whom delivered a 2-minute speech.

The first round of votes cast, however no majority was reached by one candidate. District Parliamentarian David Sutcliffe advised Graeme Phillips to be dropped from the second round of voting. The second round of votes cast.

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>1st Round of Voting</i>	<i>2nd Round of Voting</i>
George Chiesa DTM	75	89
Andy Hammond DTM	75	86
Graeme Phillips	25	

Having won a majority of votes in the second round of voting, George Chiesa DTM was declared as the incoming Club Growth Director.

Division J Director

There were three candidates Nick Bailey, John Christie and Rick Cooper, each of whom delivered a 2-minute speech.

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>1st Round of Voting</i>	
Nick Bailey	19	
John Christie	57	
Rick Cooper	95	

Having won a majority of votes Rick cooper was declared as the incoming Division J Director.

Division K Director

There were three candidates Wole Ososami, Peter Varholak and Robert Wyatt stood from the floor, each of whom delivered a 2-minute speech.

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>1st Round of Voting</i>	<i>2nd Round of Voting</i>
Wole Ososami	85	105
Peter Varholak	8	
Robert Wyatt	79	60

After the first round of voting, a winner was declared and then the declaration was withdrawn because the person with the highest number of votes did not have a clear majority. Following the second round of voting, there was a winner with a clear majority, and Wole Ososami was declared as the incoming Division K Director.

There being no objections, District Director Jean Gamester extended the meeting completion time was extended to 13:40.

8	Mid-Year Audit and Finance Manager's Report
<p>Finance Manager, Meg Heyworth DTM delivered the mid-year Audit and Finance Report.</p> <p>No questions were raised and there being no objections, the finance report was accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.</p> <p>District Director Jean Gamester thanked the members of the Audit Committee, Helen Green, Shola Salako and Chee-Hoong Wong for their hard work in auditing the district's finances. Meg Heyworth was thanked for her hard work in managing them, particularly given her late assumption of the role of D91 Finance Manager and the effort required to pick up the role at that time of the year.</p>	

9	Division Director Reports
<p>Division reports were delivered by the Division Directors (further report information to be found in the Council Pack)</p> <p>Division B Director - Neil Coleman Division H Director - Doug New Division J Director – Richard Blackman Division K Assistant Director – Samir Malak Division L Director – Barry Greenan</p>	

10	District Leadership Team Reports
<p>Reports delivered by the District Leadership Team;</p> <p>Immediate Past District Governor – Hilary Briggs DTM District Finance Manager – Meg Heyworth DTM District Administration Manager – Helena Brewer PR Manager – Sue Fish Club Growth Director – Dorothea Stuart DTM Program Quality Director – Vanessa King DTM District Director Jean Gamester DTM yielded control to Program Quality Director Vanessa King and then delivered her report. Control was yielded back to District Director Gamester.</p>	

11	Revitalised Education Programme Report
<p>Program Quality Director, Vanessa King DTM, delivered the REP report and advised Council members that further details were in the Council Pack as provided by Chief REP Ambassador Sandra Lawes. Vanessa King thanked the Chief Ambassador Sandra Lawes and her team of REP Ambassadors for all their hard work.</p>	

12	Toastmasters International Update
<p>Having yielded control of the meeting to Vanessa King, District Director Gamester reported on the change of fees from Toastmasters International. By way of reminder these changes are effective from September 2016 and there will no longer be a grace period. In other news, there is now the option for virtual toastmasters' clubs. Control of the meeting was yielded back to District Director Gamester.</p> <p>There being no objections, District Director Gamester extended the meeting completion time was extended 14:00.</p>	

13	Bids for District Conferences
<p>The bids for future district conferences were as follows;</p> <p>November 2016 – Flippe Vadid - conference at Gatwick Airport Hilton Hotel</p> <p>The District Council gave the team permission to investigate the option, which was agreed by unanimous consent.</p> <p>May 2017 – Richard Blackman – consideration for a conference in Southampton.</p> <p>The District Council gave the team permission to investigate the option, which was agreed by District Council by unanimous consent.</p>	

14	Motions
<p>District Director Jean Gamester, advised that no advance motions had been received. If there were any motions now was the time to for them to be raised. No motions were raised.</p>	

15	Any Other Business
<p>District Director Jean Gamester, thanked Program Quality Director Vanessa King DTM and the ICT Committee Lead Tracy Miranda for trailing the electronic voting system.</p> <p>Finance Manager Meg Heyworth made an announcement calling for members wishing to volunteer to join the Audit Committee for the coming year to contact her directly.</p>	

16	Announcements and Adjournment
<p>District Director Jean Gamester adjourned the meeting at 13:45 declaring that the next meeting of the District 91 Council would take on 5 November 2016.</p>	