

District 91 District Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes 5 May 2018

Meeting started at 15:52



Coppid Beech Hotel, John Nike Way
Bracknell, RG12 8TF

1	Call to Order / Welcome District Mission, Introductions, Apologies, Moment of Reflection
<p>The meeting was called to order by District Director Pedro Casillas DTM who welcomed all to the District Council Meeting and explained the purpose and membership of the District Council.</p> <p>Vanessa King DTM read the Toastmasters International and District Missions</p> <p>District Director Pedro Casillas DTM recognised past District 91 Directors, Vanessa King DTM, Jean Gamester DTM, Hilary Briggs DTM & Tuire Vuolasvirta DTM, Past District Director D95 Toastmasters International CEO Dan Rex DTM was also welcomed to the meeting.</p>	
Introduction of the District Leadership Team <p>Acting District Parliamentarian – Vanessa King DTM</p> <p>Immediate Past District Director – Vanessa King DTM</p> <p>District Finance Manager – Beauty Zindi</p> <p>Acting District Administration Manager – Div J Director Alison Morris DTM</p> <p>Public Relations Manager – Nigel Oseland</p> <p>Club Growth Director – Florian Bay DTM</p> <p>Program Quality Director – Andy Hammond DTM</p> <p>Division and Area Directors were also acknowledged by Division as well as Club Presidents and VPEs.</p>	

Apologies

Acting District Administration Manager Alison Morris advised the apologies will be in the minutes and if there are any other apologies to be added by members of the Council to advise her after the meeting.

Apologies received:

Paul Rhys Taylor, District Administration Manager; Joanna Szoska, Division B Director; Shola Kaye, Area C2 Director; Dave Longley, Area C33 Director; George Smith, Area A62 Director; Ian Upton, Area H53 Director; Dee Alimi, Area H55 Director; Tom Fletcher, Area J11 Director; Matt Parker, Area J7 Director; Ga Lok Chung, Area K58 Director; Richard Collyer, Area L47 Director; and Emillie Raaberg, President of Mindshare.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was spent to mark the passing of Eric Elliott, since the autumn Council meeting. Eric was a member of Maidenhead Speakers (Division J).

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

There being no objections, the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

3 Credentials Committee Report and Appointment of Tellers

Acting District 91 Parliamentarian Vanessa King DTM delivered the Credentials Committee Report and confirmed that the meeting was quorate and that the decisions taken in this meeting would be binding on the district. Thanks were given to all the members of the credentials team for their help and support.

To achieve a quorum at a District Council meeting, a third of the district clubs must be represented, requiring 107 votes in total. Each of the district's 160 clubs carries two votes. Out of a possible 320 club votes, 146 were registered. This is the largest number of club votes registered at a meeting.

Additionally, but not part of the quorum decision, there were 28 district officers present out of 47. A total of 174 votes were able to be cast at this meeting. A majority vote is more than half the votes cast by members entitled to vote, this will be advised after each vote.

The following were appointed as tellers/counters:

John Morris, Lyn Cantor, Clifford Hurst and Mike Burrows

Without objection the Credentials Committee Report was accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.

4	Acceptance of Minutes of previous Council Meeting
<p>There being no objections, the Minutes of 4th November 2017 were accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.</p>	
5	Confirmation of Appointed District Officers
<p>District Director Pedro Casillas DTM advised the District Council that since the last Council meeting the following leaders have been appointed to vacant offices:</p> <p>Division L56 Area Director – Marcin Tolysz</p> <p>Division J11 Area Director – Tom Fletcher</p> <p>There being no objections, the appointments were accepted by unanimous consent.</p>	
6	Assignment of Clubs to Areas and Divisions for the following year
<p>District Director Pedro Casillas invited Paul Walsh DTM, Align Committee Chair, to present his report and recommendations for alignment of clubs to areas and divisions.</p> <p>The DEC had agreed for the proposal to be put to the Council.</p> <p>There being no objections to the adoption of the alignments, the motion was carried by unanimous consent of the Council and one vote was recorded for these Minutes.</p> <p>District Director Pedro Casillas DTM, expressed his thanks for the hard work undertaken by the Alignment Committee.</p>	

7	Leadership Committee Report and Elections
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Leadership Committee Chair, Vanessa King DTM presented her report.

District Director Pedro Casillas DTM accepted the report on behalf of the Council without objection.

Nomination and Election of the District Executive Officers

Candidate	Role
Andy Hammond	District Director
Florian Bay	Program Quality Director
Seema Menon Arnaud Sartre	Club Growth Director
No nominated candidate	Division A Director
Brad Revell	Division B Director
Taz Miah	Division C Director
Stuart Field	Division H Director
Helena Brewer	Division J Director
No nominated candidate	Division K Director
Marcin Tolysz	Division L Director

District Director Pedro Casillas DTM commenced the voting in of the District leaders.

Samir Malik VPE, Connected Speakers Bromley (C75) queried the nominees on the PPT, District Director Pedro Casillas DTM advised the PPT was incorrect and he would confirm the nominees as they go through.

Uncontested Roles

Where roles are uncontested, the District Administration Manager casts one vote for the single candidate. The following were elected:

District Director, Andy Hammond DTM

Division A Director, Janet Alkema (from the floor)

Division B Director, Brad Revell

Division C Director, Taz Miah

Division H Director, Stuart Field

Division J Director, Helena Brewer

Division K Director, Barry O’Connell (from the floor, in his absence nominated by Sam Fergus and seconded by Tomasz Kropiewnicki).

Division L Director, Marcin Tolysz

Contested Roles

Programme Quality Director

There were two candidates: Steve Vear DTM and Florian Bay DTM, each of whom delivered a 2-minute speech.

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Number of votes (172 cast, majority 87)</i>
Florian Bay DTM	89
Steve Vear	83

Having won a majority of votes, Florian Bay DTM was declared the incoming Programme Quality Director.

Club Growth Director

There were two candidates: Seema Menon and Arnaud Sartre, each of whom delivered a 2-minute speech.

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Number of votes(173 cast, majority 87)</i>
Seema Menon	74
Arnaud Sartre	99

Having won a majority of votes, Arnaud Sartre was declared the incoming Club Growth Director.

8 Mid-Year Audit and Finance Manager's Report

District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, called upon Finance Manager Beauty Zindi to give the finance report (Details available in Council Pack).

No questions were raised and there being no objections, the Finance report was accepted by the Council by unanimous consent.

District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, thanked Finance Manager Beauty Zindi and the members of the Audit Committee for their hard work in managing the finances of the district.

The District Director asked to extend the meeting by 35 minutes, Chris Boden from the Conference Committee advised that to allow time to set up for the evening we really needed to finish by 17:45 at the latest, a vote was taken, by a show of hands, there were no objections.

9	Division Director Reports
<p>Division reports were delivered by the Division Directors (further report information to be found in the Council Pack), to facilitate finishing on time the reports were reduced to 45 seconds per Division</p> <p>Division A Director – Steve Vear Division B Director – Brad Revell (on behalf of Div B Director Joanna Szoska) Division C Director - Robert Wyatt Division H Director – Arnaud Sartre Division J Director – Alison Morris DTM Division K Director – Tomasz Kropiewnicki Division L Director – Seema Menon</p>	
10	District Leadership Team Reports
<p>Reports delivered by the District Leadership Team:</p> <p>Immediate Past District Governor – Vanessa King DTM Acting District Admin Manager – Alison Morris DTM PR Manager – Nigel Oseland Club Growth Director – Florian Bay DTM Program Quality Director – Andy Hammond DTM</p> <p>District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, yielded control to Program Quality Director Andy Hammond DTM, then delivered his report.</p> <p>District Director Pedro Casillas DTM then resumed control of the meeting.</p>	
11	Toastmasters International Update
<p>The CEO of Toastmasters International, Dan Rex, gave a report on Core Values and Pathways that related to District 91 and congratulated us on our hard work making District 91 one of the top regions for Pathways visits and adoption of Pathways. As well as our great hospitality and excellence in the conduct of our council meetings.</p>	
12	Bids for District Conferences
<p>Programme Quality Director Andy Hammond DTM gave details of the bids for future district conferences as follows and asked if there were any other bids:</p> <p>May 2019 - Ashford May 2020 – London – potentially Canary Wharf May 2021 – M4 corridor (Swindon-Cardiff) May 2022 - London</p> <p>There being no other bids the District Council gave the teams permission by unanimous consent to continue their investigations into the delivery of the next two conferences.</p>	

13	Adjournment and reopening of the Council meeting
<p>District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, asked if there were any objections to adjourning the meeting until 08:30 the following morning; there being none the meeting was adjourned. The meeting closed for the day at 17.42.</p> <p>The meeting started again at 08:35 on Sunday 6 May 18. It was clear that the meeting was not quorate and therefore District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, advised he will write to members of the outcome of any motions or AOB that needs to be voted on.</p>	
14	Motions
<p>District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, 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>Samir Malik, VPE (Connected speakers Bromley) asked if there were any plans to add a Tall Tales Contest to the repertoire of speech contests. Division Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, advised this will be looked at and he will report back if it is deemed to be of benefit to the members.</p>	
16	Announcements and Adjournment
<p>District Director Pedro Casillas, DTM, adjourned the meeting at 08:38 declaring that the next meeting of the District 91 Council would take place at a date to be confirmed in September 2018, which would be a virtual meeting.</p>	