

Area Executive Meeting

Tuesday, 17th November 2006

The Greyhound, Ipswich

Present: William Notcutt (Area Vice Chairman), Guy Hume (Area Treasurer), Sean McCormick (Immediate Past Area Chairman) Rob Adams (Area Secretary) and Tim Bates (Chairman, Colchester 367)

Apologies: Will Coe

Circulation: All Area Executives and all tables.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS

Chairman

The big news since the Area Exec last sat was that Phil Smith had resigned as Area Chairman. Immediate Past Chairman Sean had checked out the normal constitutional position, in so much as normally the Immediate Past Chairman (i.e. himself) would go back into the Area Chair. However this would then present a conflict with Sean's current position of National Sales Officer.

William Notcutt had sent round an email to all Table Chairmen making them fully aware of the situation and asking for their support and from Area 41 Exec to allow him to move from his current position as Area Vice up to Area Chairman-so effectively to hold the position of Area Chairman for 18 months. William said that he had received the whole hearted backing of his own Table, Ipswich Greyfriars 854, to become Area Chairman and also took the view that "better a volunteer than a pressed man".

Of the Tables represented at this Exec meeting Rob said that Ipswich 240's Chairman, Neville Branch, had circulated all members of 240 and given William unqualified backing. Guy confirmed that this was the case also in Sudbury. Sean said it had been discussed the previous evening at Saffron Walden and William had been given Saffron Walden's full backing. Tim confirmed that there had been absolutely no objection from Colchester 367, Woodbridge had also given him their support as had Colchester Colne. No response had been received from Newmarket, Haverhill or Bury St Edmunds.

The Area Executive voted unanimously and William was elected as Chairman of RT Area 41 (South Anglia) with immediate effect.

National is to be informed.

Action SM

The Chairman's Jewels, President's Jewel and area sales box are to be recovered from Phil Smith **Action WN**

William advised of the visits to individual Tables he has already made. These being his home table, Greyfriars, Ipswich 240, Woodbridge, Colchester Colne and is off to Saffron Walden on 18th November. A visit to Sudbury on 21st December and a visit to Colchester 367-was scheduled for 8th January. He has yet to get himself organised with a driver for these events.

William will try to get to all tables before the AGM and in particular will make contact with Newmarket, Haverhill or Bury St Edmunds. **Action WN**

Vice Chairman

A new Area Vice Chairman will be needed, both with immediate effect and for next year. **Action WN**

Also the Exec stressed that new blood was needed on the Exec itself. We should think of members of our own Tables who would enjoy Area and would be very good for it. No experience necessary, just a willingness to have a go and a desire to make a difference.

Immediate Past Chairman

Immediate Past Chairman Sean was able to advise from his new role as National Sales Officer that the proposal to charge honorary members was defeated-but only very narrowly. It still raises the question of how funds are going to be provided if we don't charge the 18-21 year olds.

Sean advised that two National posts-those of Sports and Social Officer and Conference Officer-are to be lost. Also Marketing and Media will now be merged together. These types of moves could save up to £5,000.

Losing a couple of staff members from Marchesi House is also being looked at. Marchesi House could cost up to £30,000 to keep and it needs redecorating and updating.. Leeds won the vote for Conference in 2008 and Nottingham won NSW 2008.

Sean had badges for the 80th Anniversary of Table next year and cunningly managed to sell them to all members present tonight!

Area Treasurer

Guy produced a written report and the current balance sheet, which was up to date save for the recent sale of badges.

Chairman William said that he had been to a meeting with Colchester Colne 842 and had spoken to their Chairman, Kevin Bentley, about the payment of the outstanding £75 dating back to the 2005 Area AGM. William will advise further but is endeavouring to resolve this matter. **Action WN**

The £52.50 that Felixstowe owe will be written off as Felixstowe are no longer in existence.

Ipswich 240 still owes £196 in terms of Area capitation. Secretary Rob gave Treasurer Guy Mark Riley's (Ipswich 240 treasurer) details. In the same light Bury still owe £140. **Action GH**

No honorarium had been paid to Phil Smith. William volunteered to place his Area Vice Chairman's honorarium back "into the pot", having returned the cheque at the last meeting in September. However the Exec made the point that the travelling/food/drink (especially) costs involved in attending events throughout Area 41 can make a hole in a personal budget. The value of any honorarium for William for stepping up to the vacancy is to be decided by the Exec before the AGM.

The members of the Exec present said that in order to save money they didn't need Area Exec jewels for this year. This is a small but potentially useful saving of £8 each.

Area Secretary

With emails now coming directly from Marchesi House, there was nothing new to report.

Rob mentioned that the RT Media course run by Kevin Bentley's firm, Mosaic Publicity, was very good.

Area Social

William stressed that in terms of booking for the Area Ball on January 27th Tables need to book via

Area Sports

2 events have been well supported to date in
2nd October 2006 – Area Pool, (Colchester) this was won by Colchester 367.
2nd November 2006 – Area 5-a-Side Football (Ipswich) this was won by Woodbridge

25th January 2007 – Area Ten Pin Bowling (Bury St Edmunds)

15th February 2007 – Area Snooker & Darts (Sudbury)

Attendance at these events is to be pushed.

Action All

William is keen to get sporting events booked for March, April and May.
Colchester 367 (Tim) could organise a go-kart evening.

Action TB

Any Other Business

None

Next Meeting

The next Area Exec Meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th January at The Hare, Long Melford.

There will be another meeting on 15th March.

The proposed date for the Area AGM is Thursday 12th April, though the venue identified could only hold about 40, and if a better attendance is achieved this could be too limited. Alternative venues are to be considered.

Action WN

RTBI

Occurred at 10.10pm