**Minutes of the Meeting of the Rotary E-Club of London Centenary on Thursday, 5 October 2017**

**Present:** Graham (chair), Anil, Bernard, Chris (minutes), Francis, Frank and Stamford.

**Guest**: Gabriela and Gopal

**Apologies:** Ghazala, James, Jo Ann and Stella.

President Graham opened the meeting at 20.05 and welcomed club members attending the meeting and especially our guests Gabriela and Gopal.

**President’s Business:**

1. **Foundation Recognition Event:** Graham reminded members that this event will be held on Wednesday, 15 November 2017.
2. **District Grant Application:** Graham reported that he had not yet been informed if our application for a district grant has been approved.
3. **President’s Chain** – Graham reported that he has received the 3 new bars to go on the chain. They are slightly different from the existing bars. They are about 2mm longer allowing 2 more characters than before and they can be attached more firmly.

**Members Announcements and Visits to Other Clubs**

Francis reported that on Wednesday, 4 October he had attended the District Council along with Anil and Stella. RIBI President Denis Spiller spoke at the meeting.

Stamford reported that he had held an informal meeting with Bernard and Graham to discuss the proposed link-up with other Rotary e-clubs.

**Vocational Service**

There was a discussion on issues relating to vocational service under the leadership of Anil and Stamford and using the RI slide show on vocational service as a prompt.

It was agreed that it was important that each Rotarian should use their unique skills to address the needs of the communities in which they lived and worked.

Anil’s former club in Kenya had organised a debating competition for local schools to teach young people how to put a case together to support a particular view. His club had also used the Four Way Test to emphasise the importance of integrity and high ethical standards. Rotarians can also give younger people career guidance and can help unemployed people gain some of the skills and knowledge they need to find a job.

Anil’s club had arranged for school students to gain experience of being interviewed for a job as had Stamford’s former club. This was becoming more difficult because of all the controls being introduced on who can work with children. Anil had also been involved with teaching young people how to complete application forms.

Rotary Fellowships allowed Rotarians to share vocational interests but this did not necessarily lead to vocational service. In contrast Rotary Action Groups permitted Rotarians to apply their skills and experience to serious issues across the world.

It is possible to assemble a GSE team of Rotarians with the skills needed to deal with a particular problem experienced in a deprived area. For example, you could send eye specialists to work in an eye camp in a developing country.

It was suggested that there was not a very strong interest in District 1130 in vocational service, despite the efforts of a few members to promote projects involving vocational service. It was recommended that our Club should try to organise something in this field online. Anil suggested running a competition online. He offered to sponsor the prizes, such as vouchers with Amazon. The competition could involve the countries in which we have members, but would have to be in English. The topic could relate in some way to the environment, such as the problem of litter and in particular plastic. Anil offered to put a proposal together that could be considered by the Club.

**Any Other Business**

1. **World Polio Day:** This is on Tuesday, 24 October. Frank suggested that London Centenary members should link up his Amateur Radio Station in the evening of 24 October as they are actively raising money for End Polio Now. Frank could make a video of the occasion. His club will not be looking for any money from London Centenary.
2. **Vocational Designations** – Graham recently found a relevant question on My Rotary. It was “When did your club last review your club’s vocational designations?” There were no support from those present to carry out such a review of London Centenary but also there was no objections either.

**Toast:** Club members drank a toast to “Rotary and Peace the World Over”.

**Close:** The meeting closed at 9.05 London time.

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