

Social Care Support Network – Minutes of 2nd Annual General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 7th July 2015

Time: 6.40 pm start; concluded 7.20pm

Venue: Queen Mother Gardens, 6 Elm Tree Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 9AP

1. Present: Robin Beeson (Chair); Janti Champaneri OBE (Secretary); Andy Merker (Trustee); Maureen Bradley (Trustee); Liz Taylor (Member); Steve Kiekopf (Trustee); Helen Wilcox (Member); Nina Osborne (Member); Chiara Regan (guest). Ermine Ebo (guest).

2. Apologies: Daphne Statham; Steve Battley; Vic Citarella; Mike Walker; Janet Fox; Julie Talbot; Kathleen Lane; Heera Gowda; Safina Mistry; Sian Morton; Simi Akhtar; Christine Collymore; Anthony Barnett; Harbajan Rai; Krystana Cieslik; Anne Harris; Ralph Thomas; Pat Russell; Steve Eyre

3. Chair's Opening Comments: Robin Beeson formally opened the Second Annual General Meeting of the Network with a warm welcome to all the attendees. He asked for brief introductions, so that everyone could be familiar with people's background and interests. It was noted that all but 2 of the attendees were members of the Network. Non members were asked to consider membership as only members were able to vote.

4. Minutes of the First Annual General Meeting, 7th July 2014: Robin briefly went through the minutes for the benefit of all the attendees and asked for a proposer and seconder to accept the minutes as an accurate record for that meeting.

Proposed by: Liz Taylor

Seconded by: Maureen Bradley. All members approved the minutes.

5. Matters Arising: Robin thanked Janti for doing the minutes and circulating them last year. He highlighted that essentially matters arising were through last year's business discussion and this would be picked up in his report.

6. Report of the Chairperson: Robin Beeson as the current chair gave a verbal account of the activities of the Social Care Support Network, during the 2014 / 15 year. He reported that it had been a frustrating year with limited activity and that serious consideration needed to be given about the future of the network. Janti Champaneri, highlighted that it had been a difficult year however, the success of the network did not just depend on organised activities for the membership and non members. There had been a number of events proposed and quite a bit of ground work had been undertaken to set up things like after work seminars and workshops. In some instances speakers had been secured but the trustees decided not to go ahead with the event as it was repeating what other organisations were doing in the similar time frames. People needed to appreciate the significant progress in other areas e.g.: the development of the Website; ability to circulate invitations to events using the Event-brite Web site; development of better data bases for better circulation; continuation of the Trustees meeting as per the constitution and several social nights. The membership of the network has remained steady despite the difficulty to sign up online.

In view of the frustrating year for the network Robin asked for a clear steer from the membership through those present at the AGM. Full and frank discussion took place where members voiced their frustrations in not having been aware of the developments within the network particularly around the website and not making fuller use of this as a vehicle for communication. Action points are summarised below to form the work plan for the year ahead.

7. Election of Chairperson: Janti reported by the mid-day deadline today, no nominations were received from any person to stand to be the Chair. The attendees asked Robin if he would continue in the role of Chair to provide the much needed stability and continuity for the network. He agreed to continue but reminded the meeting that the constitution only allowed any person 3 terms of office and next year someone else would have to take over.

Proposed by: Liz Taylor

Seconded by: Andy Merker

Robin Beeson was duly elected by all members present, as the chair of the Social Care Support Network for 2015/16. Robin Beeson was congratulated on his appointment.

8. Nomination and Election of Trustees: Janti reported by the mid-day deadline today, he had not received any nominations from any one to stand to be a trustee. The 2014 / 15 trustees were Robin Beeson; Janti Champaneri OBE; Maureen Bradley; Steve Kiekopf; Andy Merker and Steve Eyre. It was noted that John Gordon was a trustee since the inception of the network; however, contact with him has been lost despite several attempts; including the chair writing to his postal address.

The chair asked if current trustees would like to continue in this role and they confirmed. Steve Eyre although not present at the meeting, had indicated he would continue. Robin asked if any members within the audience would like to stand as trustee. Liz Taylor was duly elected as a trustee making the total of 7.

9. Financial Report: Steve Kiekopf provided a statement indicating that the Network had received a total of £252.45 in donations giving the network a healthy start. The attendees requested that the Network set up a bank account so as it can start operating and functioning, as well as apply for and receive funds and donations.

10. Action Points from earlier discussions:

- Look at the West Midlands with a focus on Birmingham and then moving outwards
- Forging links with other organisations with a view to partnership working in promoting the network, support and participate in mutually beneficial events
- Advertise the SCSN Website to all members and further afield
- Look at what our USP is and promote this
- To explore funding bids opportunities in taking the SCSN forward
- Email an information page regarding who we are, what SCSN is and possibly about the Trustees
- Arrange social events including a 'Curry Club evening'

11. Date for next Annual General Meeting: Tuesday, 5th July 2016 - time and venue to published in line with the constitution.

12. Date of the Trustee's meetings:

- Tuesday, 11th August 2015; 6.00pm telephone meeting, please provide mobile numbers to Maureen Bradley who will organise.
- Tuesday, 3rd November 2015; 6.00pm face to face meeting, Maureen Bradley to provide address of the scheme in Northfield.
- Tuesday, 2nd February 2016 6.00pm telephone meeting Maureen Bradley to organise
- Tuesday, 26th April 2016; 6.00pm face to face meeting venue to be confirmed.
- Tuesday, 5th July 2016. AGM time / venue to published in due course.