

Narcotics Anonymous NW England and N Wales Area Minutes

7th February 2009

Steering Committee

Treasurer will be handing in service in 2 months. To be announced. Will need Alternate Treasurer when Ruth takes up Treasurer. Other issue of clean time. ASC Treasurer only needs 3 years, but has recently been called upon to carry out position on convention committee which requires 5 years. Problem. Answer – it would be for the Steering Committee to take that role on.

H&I asked for clarification on budget, it is still £250. Requested £100 as a one off. For GSRs to decide.

Sally offered recommendations on Concept 10 meetings to the Steering Committee. Gratefully received.

PI finding communication difficult with convention committee, aim today to rectify this.

Web servant asked if the ASC could return to proper order for business to save time and utilise proactive discussion. Voted yes.

Area

Attendance

No attendance list sent round, but taken at introductions. Apologies for anyone missed off. Stuart (central Manchester), Graeme (Wythenshawe), Kelly (new GSR), Matt, Tuesday Ibbotson, Bill, Stuart (Preston Monday), Sunday Blackpool, Liverpool Wednesday, Jeanette, Andy (bury), Jimmy, Andy, Nicky, Gary, Steve (rawtenstall), Karl (St Helen), Accrington Friday, Louise Wigan, Wendy 12 Monkeys, craig, Gary (new GSR), Matthew Friday Manchester, Tony (Stockport), Phil Thursday sfternoon, Sue, Sally, Lisa, Warrington Wednesday, Alan Friday Warrington, Andy RCM, Rob, Ian, Lou, Nicky, Collette, Ruth, Adam D.

Apologies

Robbie, Julie

Opening Balance

£1500

Bill explained the way in which the ASC is to be conducted in business like manner, with written motions, seconded, 3 to speak for and against, vote. Plus, at any time anyone can move to vote, and if 75% feel ready to vote, it *must* go ahead.

Group Issues

Tony Stockport – his group wants to know how chit-friendly stamps/initials/signatures will be used in meetings. PI say its really up to the professionals how they decide to ensure that someone has been to a meeting.

Phil Thursday afternoon – Read minutes out from the group conscience with a motion for their meditation meeting to be put back onto meetings list. RCM had taken this to Region, they felt unable to comment and were taking it to EDM (felt meditation is a personal matter). Concern about using non-NA resources.

For the motion – Area is here to support, not govern; as we don't have NA meditation tapes the only option is external resources; newcomers keep coming back and find it positive.

Against the motion – endorsement of non-NA resources; dilution of the message; blurs the message.

Vote 13 against, 6 for.

Meeting to remain off the list.

Positions Vacant

<u>Position</u>	<u>Servant</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
ASC Chair	john	January 09
ASC vice Chair	Joanne	Oct 08
ASC Treasurer	Collette	April 08
ASC Treasurer Alternate	Ruth	March 08
ASC Literature	Adam	Nov 08
ASC Literature Alternate	lee	Nov 08
ASC Secretary	Julie	sep 08
ASC Secretary Alternate	Position Vacant	6mths
ASC Brew person	John H	July 08
Regional Committee Member	Andy	dec 08
R.C.M Alternate	Position Vacant	4yrs
CD & Tape Library	robbie	dec 08
Convention Chair 2008	Carl	june 08

Helpline Chair	Tony	Oct 07
Hospitals & Institutions Chair	Andy	May 08
Meetings List	carl	jan 09
Outreach Chair	Position Vacant	2yrs
Parents & Carers Chair + F&E	Position Vacant	2 yrs
Post Box Adam	Feb 09	
Prison Sponsorship	Leanne	July 08
Public Information Chair	Sally	Nov 08
Webservant	bill	jan 09
Alt webservant	Position Vacant	6 mths
Share Review Chair	Position Vacant	2yrs

Adam voted in as Post Box. Raised concer about how easy it is to access the post box.

PI Report

To follow. Main concern is about the miscommunication between convention and PI. PI waiting for time slot on the programme so that they can poster blitz and send out invitations to the professionals. Solution was given after H&I had also spoken.

H&I Report

Hospitals and institutions sub committee meeting

31st of January 2009

Opened meeting with a moments silence

Peter read traditions

In attendance: andy (chair) jimmy (vice-chair), lea, Steve, Chris, Colette, peter, Derek, mark (Manchester coordinator), Phil (lanc coordinator), clare (Kenyan house), Liz (styal), Stacey, Helen. Jeffrey (Kenyan house), Lou (secretary).

Apologies: Gary (treasurer), Gary (Liverpool coordinator), ash (strangeways), lee (strangeways)

Positions vacant

Positions vacant

Panel leader Adelaide house

Panel leader HMP Lancaster

Panel member HMP Lancaster 1yr clean

Panel leader Kirkham 1yr clean

Panel member Kirkham 1yr clean

Panel leader HMP Garth

Panel member HMP Garth

Panel member HMP Preston

Panel leader HMP Preston

Panel member styal

Panel member Kenyon house

Literature report

Pete put himself forward for literature position. Mark seconded it. Gave his NA CV. He was successfully voted in.

Clare handed her service in for Kenyan house, she served at Kenyan house for 2 years thank you for all your service Clare.

Chris put himself forward for brews best job in the house.

Jeffrey put himself forward, Clare seconded it, for panel leader at Kenyan house, he is already doing panel member gave his NA CV. He was voted in.

Treasury report

232.50 owed to ukso for 3 orders.

94.30 expenses for Manchester area for last 3 months.

95 for lit this month.

Treasurer couldn't make it due to personal issues. We are in debt to ukso and owe the last venue £70, also we are due out travel expenses to amount off.

Forest bank needs a letter of thanks for allowing us the opportunity to engage with them also offering them a joint PI and H&I presentation for them, they no longer wish to engage with us in respect of going in to do presentations due to a security issues.

Mark gave Manchester report

HMP Manchester

2 presentations a month attendance is improving the lads have been putting flyers under the cell doors to inform them of the meeting, also the carat workers have been opening the cell door to inform the lads of meeting, usual literature order.

Kenyon House

Presentations are going well, well-attended message being carried, good relationship with staff, require a format and guidelines as they have been misplaced.

Liz gave report from styal ask question about expenses for two meetings at styal. The presentations are going well with 3 girls regularly attending, the prison governor has spoken with Liz and is very happy with what we are doing and how we are conducting ourselves in the prison; they have given us new chairs for the meeting room. Good relationship with staff.

Pete edenfield received a letter of thanks for service

Jimmy Liverpool repo

HMP Liverpool

All going well, well attended. Only two meetings happened this month as not enough trusted servants were available progress meeting has been asked for on Friday 13th Feb.

Adelaide house

All going well. Well attended good feed back from clients and staff carol a is standing in to position as panel leader has stepped down due to personal reasons

Kevin white

All going well good attendance well received by clients good feed back from staff at unit clients attending meetings on discharge from unit

Altcourse

All going well good attendance prisoners receiving meeting well good feed back from carrt worker all good

Phil Lancaster report

HMP Kirkham

Presentations fortnightly are going well. Prisoners are facilitating their own meeting when NA members cannot attend. 6 in attendance. Prison has approved share cd's. Good relationship with the staff. New clearance forms have been distributed. Kirkham has welcomed the convention link see Andy.

H&I link up at convention Sunday March 29th 09

That the share on the day attends the prison to share and link with the convention rather than the conventional way of convention to prison as we feel this is a great act of humility and keeping within our tradition 5 and step12.

Inmate reads card then person at convention reads the next one, then back to Prison etc.

Arrange visual graphic on disc with different NA H&I symbols and slogans to go on background of convention room where link up is

And can we have twenty basic texts to give out to the people attending the link up at a cost of £175.00 (paper back) What ever we do not give out we will return

OTHER INFO

1 Ian Peters of the Carat team is willing to attend the Prison for eight hours from early morning onwards to escort members and be point of contact on day for any help needed.

2 Prison will work with us on exact link up time if allocated by Convention Committee.

3 Main Share, Lawrence sound technician Dave Mac and two H+I members Andy m and Phil will have day clearance at Prison.

4 Room available for link up to seat twenty people with toilet, refreshment and external phone line facilities.

5 Sound technicians willing to go in before link up and sound check link up with Liverpool. Prison agreed to this (technician is security cleared for NA H+I)

6 Due to home leaves at Prison clashing with link up, Kirkham will be changing the home leave days that week by letting inmates go home the day earlier and coming back earlier so that the numbers will be in Prison for link up.

7 Prison would like members to stay as long as they can before and after link up to have fellowship with inmates.

8 Back up phone to be taken in by sound man to link with sound man at convention during link up to make sure link is clear this has been confirmed and a phone can be brought in to the prison

9 Need a J PEG of convention flyer for graphic art.

10 All equipment will be searched at gate and cleared for link up on the day.

Peirpoint

Presentations going well, large attendance, no problems good feedback, and issues around finding female shares in the Lancashire area can it be announced at area that we need female shares for peirpoint

HMP Lancaster Castle

Presentations have gone well this month when we have attended, prisoners are facilitating their own meeting. Large attendance, good relationship with staff. Prison is reviewing the clearance list to try and get more people in to share. Struggling for service positions.

New business

Send an apology to Gail in Wales regarding our conduct at the how the hafon wen was left, will do that.

Passed for the meeting to be moved to Darwin in March a week prior to the convention 21st of March in

Next meeting Wythenshaw in Feb 28th 2009 2pm

CAN ALL GSR'S MAKE THEIR GROUPS AWARE OF THE SERVICE AVAILABLE ON THE H&I SUB-COMMITTEE

Requested £100 (in effect, only using half of last months budget). GSRs voted Yes. Suggestion for H&I to get Treasury report in order. Reasons for request is that Styal costs £60 in petrol doing round trip of visitors to the prison, may increase as Styal want two meetings a week.

One suggestion is that Area needs to trust its servants more.

Apologies given for not attending convention committee, and to the person doing service at Hafon Wen.

Convention Committee Report

CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETING 26th JANUARY 2009

Present: Carl (Chair), Gary (vice chair), Keith(secretary), Mick(alt. Treasurer), Joe(merchandise), Jonjon(programming), John(F&E), Jack(H&H), Carol(task force), Josie (merchandise), Keith, Sean, Andy.

Silence – Twelve Traditions read by Joe

Minutes read an approved

Treasury Report : - Collette £253.55 merchandise paid for – need to make reserve for literature to be ordered.

Need to put something aside for basic texts for newcomers

Committee want someone to put themselves forward to do vacant literature position (at area preferably)

(Committee would like to make literature available to 30 days and under on countdown, depending on finances)

Merchandise: Josie to get pens, keyrings and highlighter and needs some help organising a rota – (NWE/NWCNA-Liverpool 09 is to go on merchandise)

Misplaced receipt for T-shirts passed to treasury.

H an H: Jack has approached Formula One Abyss Hotel and been quoted £33 per night, per single room - £462 for 7 rooms for 2 nights, 3 per room.

Website has been changed – check if deposit required?

F & E £3513.68 total balance, report submitted.

Insurance to be clarified by Gary P if insurance covers DJs equipment (report back to committee in 2 weeks.) Is 5k enough cover for DJs equipment?

Event arranged in Blackpool, unity day with PI there, children welcome, food served all day and a dance in the evening. John enquired about a band someone from F & E knows could come and play some music.

Newcomers fund contains £439.30

Programming : Jonjon been in touch with sharers, topics ideas. Committee voted against sharers expenses being paid for over 100 mile travel. Jonjon waiting for rooms at venue to be arranged in order to produce rough programme for committee.

Task Force: Carol waiting to speak with Mick.

(Mick is looking for people with the cleantime for the registration desk.) Need plenty of stewards for around convention venue. Carol to speak with cleaners at venue to further discuss requirements. Discussed possibility of a separate place for refreshments.

Finance for refreshments for convention to be finalised.

Old Business: Room with internet access available at venue near registration desk, Jonjon suggested do we close this area off? Andy suggested the committee speak with venue and ask them to secure this property.

H & I link-up – servants haven't showed up.

Go to area re – H & I before decision is made.

Jonjon proposed H & I workshop for parents and carers, also UK H & I to come to convention to do a workshop. Committee decide to come back to convention meeting in 2 weeks time with an outline of the programme.

Any Other Business : Ozzy spoke of EST person known by him to attend.

Next Committee Meeting on 9th February 2009 at 6.30 at St. Anthony's and may be weekly after that. Please ring Gary for dates of meetings on 07981 037979.

At Area, the sub committees were invited to the next meeting, or a representative, and promised that a programme was ready for this coming Monday.

Asked if Area could supply the literature, and agreed. Suggestion that future servants taking on Literature position are made aware that part of the role is to supply lit. For the NW convention.

Prison Sponsorship

Report to follow.

Webservant

Committee now meets with PI. Some feedback from a meeting around how user friendly the website is, or could be. Bill encouraged the sub committees to use the website more frequently.

Note – some of the sub committees had already left Area at this point so any chance of helpful discussion with Bill did not happen.

Region Report

RCM REPORT TO ASC NORTH WEST ENGLAND AND NORTH WALES

7TH FEBRUARY 2009

Position vacant

- A Regional Chair person is required - 5 years clean time 1 year commitment.
- Alternate Secretary is required – 2 years clean time 1 year commitment.

March Region

14/15th March 2009

Will be held at:

St. Michael & All Angels Parish Church
St. Michael's Road

Headingley
Leeds
LS6 3AW.

I am requesting a provisional budget of £100.00

- A discussion took place around the issue of Meditation Meetings. There was mixed feedback ranging from groups of this kind existing all over the world and the right of the autonomy of each group to the use of non approved NA material.
- Suggestions were made that ranged from using non guided meditation music to reading the Just For today Book
As there is no real policy around this issue, the Regional Delegate was asked to take this to the next European meeting for discussion. My feeling however in this matter is to find a way that this group can be included on our meetings list rather than excluded. It was brought to the attention of Rcm's that they ask Gsr's in their Areas to be more aware of the safety of meeting places in relation to checking toilets during breaks and checking buildings at the end of meetings to ensure nobody was locked in the buildings or had been using or overdosed. This was for the protection of the meeting place and the groups.
- In relation to Cd and Tape Libraries it was felt that the materials kept in them was the responsibility of the Areas.
- The Keighley meeting is now on The North East England meeting list and is donating to that Area. Can we please ensure that they are taken off our meetings list? This was for practical and geographical reasons.
- The planned Service Conference has been again postponed to October 2009. There has been a lot of unmanageability within the committee and loss of money at fund raising events. A proposal was put forward to disband the committee but it was suggested that perhaps something could be salvaged from all the time and energy that has been put in to this. One of the suggestions was that it link in with the UK Convention Committee to maybe do workshops at the convention.
Can GSR's please take this back to your groups for some discussion and feedback as this will need to be addressed at the next Regional Meeting.
- Some discussion took place around the World Convention in Barcelona this year. The registration is 90 euros (approx £90.00).
The issue of what is the Covention Committee doing in relation to its focus on the newcomer.

The Regional Delegate will be asking this question at the next

European Meeting.

- A survey is online to gather fellowship input for the book project "Living Clean" you can participate by going to – <http://www.naws.org/survey/index.php?sid=69453&lang=en>.
It has been asked that members with some substantial clean time to please participate in the input for this book?

In service and fellowship.

Andy. O.

Area discussion – appropriateness of asking GSRs to be commenting on the service Committee.

Sensitive issue around money touched on, the RCM wishes to make himself transparent around this, not because he feels he has to.

Literature report

Sold £850

Order cost £1044.14

The transfer between the old separate Lit. Account into Area Treasury has gone smoothly.

Meetings List

Needs correct post codes for meetings.

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT

PI MINUTES : Date – 23.02.08

Venue: Holy Trinity Church, Traverse street, Parr Mount, Fingerpost, St. Helens.

Contact: Chair - Rob 07900577209 Vice Chair – Lisa 07886573342.

POSITION FILLED:

Chair - Rob Vice Chair - Lisa Literature - John Secretary - Sally

Co – ordinates in most areas, of NWE & NW – Rob, Emanon, Paul, Steve Brews
person – Jack Alternate Co –ordinate - Peter

POSITION VACANT:

Treasurer - 2 years clean time needed.

Co – coordinators for - Manchester & North Wales

Alternate position to all other commitments need only have 6 months clean time if doing a 2 year position.

ATTENDANCE SUB – COMMITTEE:

Rob, Lisa, Steve, Sally, Lee, Tony, John, Jack, Peter, Paul, , Robert, Michael,

CONCEPTS:

Concepts read by John – Literature

APOLOGIES:

Emanon – Cheshire Co-ordinator:

Tony - phone line

LAST MONTHS MINUTES:

Reviews the convention PI Presentation:

John seconded minutes:

Committee to read minutes before coming to next sub-committee meeting.

TREASURER OPENING & CLOSING BALANCE:

Opening Balance: - £200.00

Closing Balance:- £07.46

INTRODUCTIONS & Q & A SESSION:

All visitors welcome: Q&A session was read out of the PR hand book and used for the training of PR sub-committee with regards presentations & phone line. Rob read question and John and Lisa & Peter answered. Everyone loved it.

VISITORS REPORTS / REQUEST:

No visitors reports or request.

CHAIRS REPORT:

Rob has been to the convention committee meeting this month and the convention committee have been able to help with a laptop for a PowerPoint presentation. Tea's and coffee are being provide as the guild lines state and the convention committee was happy to do this. All jobs have been for filled and support has been given to all the PI sub-committee over the last month. We have also arranged a pi workshop for 12.30 - 14.00 on the Saturday of the convention to talk about the chit system and the phone line.

LITERATURE REPORT:

No written report but verbal – poster have been posted out. Lit order OK for convention but we need to order £120.00 this month. John put it forward to the committee that out of this order would it be ok to order NA books for the stand and convention table. We hope to get £50.00 pound from the convention budget to do this that has been voted on by PI and this money is to come out of the A.S.C donation. A convention budget of £150.00 to be paid out month 01.03.08.

CO-ORDINATORS REPORTS:

Emanon put on a presentation to a prolific offenders group for Warrington CRI.

Steve – Liverpool handed in a report. 14.02.08 at Georges Hall. Lots of interest about NA over a thousand posters & cards were given out, as well as 30 professional packs. No presentation, on the day due to lack of time with so many other organisations but a lot of request for the next few months. Big life company apologised in person regarding the no presentation with an announcement. Stand went well with a lot of support from NA members doing service. We did 9am to 5pm with 500 people attending the day. We had a laptop with information on the stand and a lot of interest in NA website.

Robert – Presentation did a verbal report. Blackpool Drug line presentation to 25 people and was very good. On the 04.02.08. A request for help with a new presentation in March. This service was filled on the day by Sub-committee members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget for the co-ordinators and the amount of call they make to get members to do service for PR presentation. A request was asked for £45.00 budget which is realistic but we are unable to for full from the A.S.C pot. Each co-ordinates is to keep a diary of all call on day and look at their own personal billing and request funds that way. £5.00 per month would seem the average. This will also be for the Literature person. This budget is set to go onto the two year plan and is setting a precedent for others to do service, in the handover of the committee.

PR hand books to be ordered for Jack & Peter to do service. The whole committee know has a PR hand book and should be reading it and bringing it to the sub-committee. These books will be handed in when the person has finished their service, for the next committee year.

Co-ordinators to be responsible for printing out NWE&NWA Meeting list, making sure they are up to date and taking them to presentation.

The finer details of all the jobs that need doing for the convention. Everyone knows what service they are doing for the weekend. A pre-convention meeting around service is happening at the A.S.C for any additional support or requests. Workshop room has been confirmed by convention committee and the stand is only running from Friday to Saturday. The stand will not be running when the workshop is on because we all want to be involved but a single will be posted.

Steve co-ordinator has requested help and giving more information to the Soften organization on starting up a meeting at this venue. A presentation will be first to show them what we can and can't do for them.

OLD BUSINESS:

A very good day in Manchester, Moss side local area. Nearly all the sub-committee spent the day walking round Moss side and visiting all the local service handing out flyer and putting up poster and leaving invitation letters to the presentation for the convention.

“*Back to basic*” two year plan of service and handover for PR in the NWE&NWA, to be read & brought back to the next committee meeting, with any new ideas or amendments. Report to be ready for April A.S.C. Back to basic, two year plan to be implemented into action as from April.

SERENITY PRAY: Closed the meeting with Serenity pray & “thank you” to all, for your service.

NEXT MONTHS MEETING DATE & VENUE:

Date:- 29 / 03/ 08

Time:- 1pm until 3pm

Venue:- St. Helens – Holy Trinity Church, Traverse street, Parr Mount, Fingerpost.

New Business

Karl asked for starter packs for Darwen, he is only passing on a message. Discussion around this, voted Yes.

Policies folder – apparently Neil (previous Chair) had this folder. John to speak with him.

Wendy reminded Area to have group reports included in introductions. **Plan** – put GSR questions on the bottom of the agenda for next Area. Change on the agenda to “Group Issues and Reports”.

Wendy asked for discussion on how to include GSRs, better support, explanation etc. to be put on next months agenda. Voted Yes.

Treasurer Closing Balance

£1856.78

Donation of £1028

Next ASC 1.00pm 7th March 2009