

MINUTES: 37th Derbyshire Intergroup

5th December 2009

AGENDA

- 1 - Apologies
- 2 - Matters arising
- 3 - PI report
- 4 - Telephone report
- 5 - Treasurer's report – Liz
- 6 - Insurance developments – Liz
- 7 - Any other business

1 - Attending:

Heather (Chair)- Long Eaton
Mac - Ilkeston, Friday GSR
Liz - Treasurer, Matlock, Wednesday
Nick - Webmaster, Long Eaton, Tuesday
Claire - Matlock, Wednesday
Wendy - Ilkeston
Roger - Sawmills

Apologies:

Val, Ashbourne
Geraldine - Derby, Wednesday
Jez - Derby, Wednesday GSR
Chas - Ashbourne
Glen - Long Eaton
Ingrid - Ashbourne, Thursday
Sue - Bakewell, Friday GSR

2 - Matters Arising

2.1: Intergroup dates for 2010:

3pm on March 6th; June 5th; September 4th; December 4th.
Meetings will continue to be held at the Flamsteed centre, Ilkeston.

Conference Questions

*IMPORTANT ACTION FOR GSR's: At the next Intergroup the main focus will be feedback from groups regarding the Conference Questions for 2010. These are now out, you will find them in the General Service News issues which have just been sent out to groups. Please make sure that your copies have been received by the group (sometimes these do not get delivered if the person receiving them from GSO has left the group and the name/address has not been changed with GSO. If you have not received them, contact GSO for more and/or make sure that the person receiving them for your group still attends and brings them in. Discuss as many of these questions as you can with your groups in January/February, and bring the responses with you to the meeting in March. You may need more than one conscience meeting to cover all the questions; your group may only be interested in one or two of the questions, all responses are important to the delegates.

This year the some of the Conference questions relate to issues we have been discussing at Intergroup already. This is your chance to develop your Fellowship.

3 - PI Report

For full PI report from Geraldine, please see the website.

Heather has given a talk in a school, and one pupil then attended a meeting, raising the issue of minors attending meetings, though he/she has not attended since.

There is a 'Health and Wellbeing' day at a Long Eaton school on 15th December and Heather asked if anyone was able to attend.

Heather commented that the AA DVD for young people, "Who me?" was excellent, and Nick suggested putting it on the website for people to play. Copyright issues were discussed, and it was felt it would be ok for schools to play the DVD but not copy it.

4 - Telephone Report

See website for TLO's full report.

The new list being compiled of telephone responders and 12 steppers was discussed. Groups have not yet responded many current responders onto the rota. The list can be added to later, as groups recommend new responders, and the TLO will be sending out forms at regular intervals to enable groups to sponsor people on.

Mac suggested laminating a copy of the guidelines re the roles of responders and 12 steppers and putting them on display on the literature table at meetings. This was felt to be a very good idea.

Wendy asked whether you could be a responder if you only have a mobile phone. The answer was yes, but that the responder must treat the mobile as a landline during their 4 hour shift, to preserve anonymity and the security to talk freely to the caller.

Heather raised the issue that the TLO was being encouraged by Region to move to 24 hour coverage on the phonenumber, she wondered where this impetus had come from and asked if Intergroup would consider posing a conference question regarding this – asking if the fellowship as a whole supports it. It was agreed that Heather would draft a question before the next Intergroup for consideration. Conference questions need submitting before August, one of the 2010 questions is about how questions are submitted and chosen.

5 - Treasurer's Report – Liz

The accounts have been audited as requested, and were found to be in good order.

Prison visits were discussed, re financing weekly visits to Foston instead of fortnightly. Costs would therefore double from approx £420 per year to approx £900, for petrol expenses. Mac asked what are the actual benefits of prison visits, and how many people do we actually help? Heather said that the benefits were unquantifiable as prisoners move frequently and we never know if they have been to meetings once they are released.

It was discussed if Intergroup should provide a breakdown for groups of what individual groups contribute to IG, but it was felt that this would lead to unfair comparisons. Discussion was held on how some groups struggle to cover the rent. It was suggested that the leaflet "Theo Pot" could be read in meetings re the pot and what it is for.

- **ACTION FOR GSR's:** GSR's should raise groups awareness of what the pot is for, and where the money goes, and ensure that the group has a copy of "The Pot" on the literature table. This month Intergroup has spent £500 on insurance for group public liability and a similar amount on carrying the message- GSRs should tell groups what is being done on their behalf,

Groups can contact Liz if they have any enquiries as to where the money goes. A receipt is sent to each group for cheques received.

We will be receiving an invoice from NLIG at the end of December for the WTF cards, which is now being produced every 4 months instead of quarterly, the number of cards printed at each run is going to be greater.

Liz raised the issue of the mileage rate paid by Intergroup for PI/12 step work. 35p per mile had been agreed previously to cover petrol plus wear and tear. It was agreed to change this to 25p per mile, which would still give enough for petrol and wear and tear. It was discussed that not everyone currently claims petrol expenses, but it was felt that everyone should claim, as per the Guidelines. A culture of not claiming could discourage those who want to do the service but cannot afford to. An individual then has the choice to put the money back into the pot if they want to. Heather stated that as everyone was going to be encouraged to claim, she would potentially need £580 before the next Intergroup meeting to cover Foston prison visits, and this was agreed. There was discussion about people who live at a distance doing prison service.

It was agreed to review the situation in March whether we continue going weekly to Foston, but it is funded until then.

6 – Insurance Developments – Liz

The amount quoted by Methodist Insurance was nearly double that which was expected. We couldn't join NLIG's policy as we don't have the same account. As we have fewer groups, it will cost us £20 per group. It was asked if we should still go ahead and pay for this as an Intergroup. It was agreed that we would, due to previous concerns over a GSR's personal liability and that groups that could least afford it may need it most.

7 – Any Other Business

Liz asked if we should put on the website which meetings are open over Christmas. The telephone service should be told, as well as Barney, the WTF coordinator.

The Alcathon will run at Sherwood Community centre from mid-day Christmas Eve to mid-day Christmas day, flyers were available at the meeting.

ACTION FOR GSRs

Please check with your group what is happening over the holiday dates and let the above know. You can phone the Helpline number and leave a message there about your group opening times over Christmas and New Year

Next mneeting- 3pm Flamsted centre March 6th