

NORTH WEST ENGLAND & NORTH WALES AREA NARCOTICS
ANONYMOUS

AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 2007

These are the full minutes as recorded at the ASC by the alternate secretary. They are collated from the event, and the reports that are emailed to the secretary for inclusion. The reports appear as sent by the sub committee, hence the differing formatting and appearance. Please email Webservant@nwna.info with any errors, omissions, errors, or further information. Please check our website notice board regularly for updates on information, latest meeting times and service committee information. <http://www.nwna.info/noticeboard>

ASC Steering Committee Report

There was some discussion regarding changing the order of items in the agenda so in order to make it more manageable.

Concern was expressed that there was no Chair for the Hospitals and Institutions sub committee. However, a representative of that committee will attend the ASC.

Apologies: Adam, PO Box, Bill ASC Sec

Concepts Read By Keith.

Last Month's Minutes: The minutes from last month were passed and seconded.

Introductions and Group Issues.

The Sunday Brow House group in Manchester would like to know if anybody has ever tried to set up a meeting in Macclesfield.

The Monday St Anne's group is looking for addicts who are willing to share their experience, strength and hope with newcomers at this meeting.

The Darwen group have been looking at various NA events throughout the world and do not think it's a good idea for groups to hold different events on the same day.

A treatment centre has asked one group to send members to them to hear client's step fives.

An NA member with a psychiatric illness has been told by someone that they are not clean because of the medication they take. As stated by Tradition 8, NA has no opinions on outside issues.....We also have an IP on illness in recovery.

Literature Report

The literature chair said that on the Inventory day of the ASC (held in October), she stated that every quarter excess funds would be passed back to the ASC. However, the figures are not yet ready and signatories to the bank account were not yet signed up. This will be done next month. To make the sub-committees work simpler, figures regarding purchases and sales will be given out the following month.

Positions Vacant

Alternate ASC Chair - 2 years clean time required.

Andy was voted in as Alternate RCM

F+E Chair - 2 years clean time required.

H+I Chair- 2 years clean time required.

Outreach Chair - 2 years clean time required.

Ad Hoc Committee Chair - 2 Years clean time required.

Attendance

Joe (ASC Chair), Cheryl (Alternate secretary), Sue (GSR Liverpool Friday daytime). Keith (GSR Liverpool Saturday), Chris (GSR Liverpool Tuesday Women's Group), John R (Prison Sponsorship Chair), John S, Mick M (ECCNA Chair), Steve G (Helpline Chair), Darren Y (ECCNA 24 Treasury) Sam G (PI Chair), Anthony A (Parents and Carers Chair), Charlene B (GSR Liverpool Monday), Sharon T (GSR Lancaster Friday), Neil S (St Anne's), David Mac (Webchair), Keith F (GSR St Anne's Monday), Scott G (GSR Stockport Friday), Kerry, Paul Q (GSR Blackpool Friday), Ray (GSR Manchester Friday lunchtime), Joanne (GSR Darwen Wednesday), Sharon (GSR Sunday Brow House).

Treasurer's Opening Balance £1050.39

Old Business

Division of the ASC

The ASC has not yet decided to split up. The **Ad-hoc committee** is being set up to study the feasibility of dividing or not. Some groups have been so worried about this that they are keeping hold of money that they would otherwise have donated to the ASC. NA members are reminded that any split will not be happening anytime soon. The Ad-hoc committee does not have a chairperson at the moment. As the ASC has grown very large the slow process of deciding if, when, where and how the split should happen will be discussed by all the groups. These discussions will be facilitated by the Ad-hoc sub committee. As yet, the Ad-hoc sub committee does not exist.

Prison Sponsorship.

The following report was read out. There was no discussion.

Public Information.

The following report was read out. Discussion points were as follows:

Re European Convention - The aim of the PI was to put on a presentation at this convention for professionals. Some of these agencies would like to bring some clients with them. Responsibility for this ought to be left to the agencies who intend to bring them (their behavior etc). Agencies also ought to be made aware that the only desire for membership is a desire to stop using. The number of clients brought by these agencies should be limited to keep the situation manageable. Concern was raised regarding the cost of overnight accommodation for these clients should they wish to stay for the whole convention and ought money from the Newcomers fund be used.

Parents and Carers

The following report was read out. Discussion points were as follows.

There is difficulty in getting relevant information regarding child friendly meetings from groups. Universal acronyms will be used.

Fundraising: The P+C Chair suggested that this committee be allowed to take over fundraising as part of its remit. This was agreed.

P+C have not been approached by the European Convention Committee re supplying a crèche. The crèche last time was very successful. It was pointed out that the Social Services requirements in Wales have to be met. The UK P+C Chair have said that a European Convention member has said that children are not welcome at the convention by either the location or the committee. In reply to this, the European Convention Chair said that he had not been approached by the P+C to put on a crèche. He agreed to sort something out.

RCM Report

The following report was read out. Questions for the RCM should be brought to next month's ASC

Questions for the RSC

Motion:

To Change the Word from “Mans” to “Our” entire History In We Do Recover, Basic Text, Just For Today, How and Why, Step Working Guide and All IP's

Intent: To remove the word Man and so remove sexual gender allowing for greater fellowship unity.

Answer:

Due to the Basic Text just being revised, A decision was made at World that no further changes would be made to the Basic Text for 10 years. I mentioned the reading Cards, it was pointed out that the cards are in the Basic Text.

There is a monitorial in 2 years to look at future changes. Because of this I withdrew the motion. It can be re-submitted in 2 years.

If the ASC want to pursue this then I will at the next RSC. However it is very unlikely that it will be seconded by a RCM due to the above.

No Vote on Motion from the RD – Whether areas want to have a UK convention at the same time as European Convention

Sub Committee Reports

Vacancies: (as of Sunday)

Alt. treasurer: clean time 4yrs

Alt. secretary: clean time 2yrs

Resource committee: clean time 3yrs

Literature committee: clean time 3yrs

Treasurers Opening £16076.74 – £3000 (ring fenced UKCNA 2008)

Opening: £13076.74 Cash flow forecast attached but obviously very estimated due to nature of NA funds. If have same income and outgoings as this year will be £600 below prudent reserve by November.

Questions:

1. Advice asked by RCM west country and south wales about general trend in UK of low finances at moment.

Reply:

1. Take it back to groups, grassroots issue. **GSRs emphasis importance of treasury reports at business meetings, focus on passing money along the service structure. Try to really consider finances before we make decisions, make sure we try out all options.**

Treasurer looking at trying to standardize a spread sheet for all treasurers of sub-committees to use. Keeping things simple

UKPI – Phone box trials have been done and gone – there were two in Manchester. Waiting to see if there is any feedback. Looking for media representative, lit person, co-ordinator of PI news.

PSA's now available across the UK. This is sending info about our helpline number to tv screens in drs surgeries, post offices, hospital a&e's, Phone box posters project was a pilot and when feedback available, will look at doing it in other areas. Invitation from website committee, to make more use of the space UKPI have available.

Region voted against increasing UKPI budget by £100 per month. For 2, 9 against, 2 abstentions, 1 rcm removed from vote.

UKH&I – Area H&I chairs should attend the UKH&I meetings – expenses can be paid.

Reaching out contact has been passed to our area Chair.

UKH&I want all GSR's to emphasize to addicts to go through the local H&I sub-committee when contacting a prison or institution. Not to make contact on their own.

Link-Up – there is still no link up coordinator. Local H&I do NOT advertise a link up as this is not possible at the moment. Cliff will train anyone who wants to take on this position.

Action

RCM's announce we do not have a link up equipment co-ordinator Cliff willing to train anyone willing to take on

this commitment.

Vacancies

Need treasurer, 3 years clean time and 1 years experience of H&I. Secretary, 2 years clean time requirement and 1 years experience of H&I.

Springhill prison

Report: Prison is open prison, runs NA meeting self supporting through stamps. Have restrictions in prison but made by staff of prison rather than NA members: women have to dress appropriately and all attending have to be clean. If look like you've been using the prison authorities won't let you in. Hit all the requirements for what constitutes an NA meeting in NA group booklet. Do have restrictions BUT are imposed by the establishment not the members.

Proposal: That the NA meeting taking place in Springhill Prison is added to the Where to Find with an appendix specifying the restrictions on access imposed by the prison.

Intent: To allow the meeting to feel part of the fellowship and so that people know it exists.

For: 5, Against: 7, Abstentions: 4

Motion failed

UKCNA – There was concern over money being returned to region – there is 2K too much with no account of where it came from. A proposal was passed to ask for the books back by the end of January. The treasurer will go through the books to try and sort it out. The new UKCNA Sub-committee will be at the next RSC for ratification for the 2008 UKCNA.

Proposal: That all accounts, records and cheque book from UKCNA19 are returned to UK region steering committee by 20th January.

Intent: To ensure a financial report is produced before new committee is ratified.

For: 15, Against: 0 Passed

Clean Times – I have several Clean Times issues if anyone wants one.

Committee standing down. Notices have been put on website announcing vacancies. It is a regional conscience that before clean times is printed, it be passed to the regional steering committee for approval and suggestions.

Suggestion of asking meetings to make annual subscription to clean times. What do you think ?

Has the outstanding money owed to region been returned? Concerns raised about the possibility of causing disunity. Clean times is not regionally approved literature. She said she had written the article and had not realised this was an allegation the article was written on, rather than based on fact. The money owed has not been paid back to region. Proposed it would be paid back in instalments. Concerns raised around the money owed to region not being paid back. Regional treasurer announced she had attended last committee meeting and felt the committee were working very hard and doing everything they could to produce and sell Cleantimes. Concerns around lack of accountability from chair of clean times.

Proposal Seconded by Richard, RCM Cornwall. For3, against 1, abstentions 7.

Proposal2 for7, against2, abstentions 1

Parents And Carers –

Laura sends apologies, could not be here. Tasha read report.

Vacancies

vice chair, reps for ne London and nw London, treasurer.

New merchandise being made. All existing meetings going well. Issue of child safety is still being discussed.

London convention has booked 2 larger rooms than last year for crèche facilities at convention. NW London holding 1day convention and will be providing crèche facilities. Concerns have been raised about there being no crèche facilities at the European convention. Does the hosting area have any further info on this?

Questions

1) Information from ECCNA, the steering committee had never said that there could not be a crèche at the forthcoming convention. If there was to be a crèche facility, it would have to be organised by UKP&C and the local P&C committee.

ECCNA

Marie stood down as treasurer. Darren ratified as treasurer. Plans on schedule, and committee has been meeting monthly. Have only had 2 registrations for convention, please start registering. Programme to be agreed next week. www.eccna24.org is the website for the convention. There is currently no room available at the venue for a crèche,

however a request could be made for additional space at the venue, should UKP&C decide to help provide a crèche. Registration is encouraged to be made in £'s sterling but will also accept euros.

NA Helpline -

Vacancies available: secretary and training coordinator, training coordinator very important 1 yr clean time requirement, Alternate where to find coordinator.

New computerised system is nearly complete going well .

Not much to report from last month. All positions are currently covered on the helpline.

We still have the £35.00 budget.

Apologies for being unable to attend last month's ASC.

R.E. The outstanding £233.65 owed by Pipex Homecall.

Although it is not documented on recent bills Pipex assured me that the account has been credited with above figure and to date our outstanding balance is £0.00.

CAN ALL PHONELINE VOLUNTEERS PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY LOG ON AT THE CORRECT TIME AND IF UNABLE TO COVER THE SHIFT CAN YOU PLEASE GIVE ME SOME NOTICE TO ARRANGE A REPLACEMENT?

In fellowship

Steve G Phonline Chairperson
Any enquires phone 07966235025

UKF&E

Concerns raised about the letter being sent out to treatment centres. In breach of tradition 7. Concerns about maintaining accounts.

Action

Katie to take guidance from committee and UKH&I, UKPI for guidance on writing letters to treatment centres and come back to next region. Discussion tabled for old business at next region

WebSite

Looking for new moderators 2 year clean time. Training new greeters currently. Three online meetings a week

Make contact via the online meetings

Committee meetings take place 6 times a year via skype. Anyone may join in, skype can be downloaded onto your pc.

AdHoc

The Service IP was passed by all areas – potential copyright problem with the IP looking like a world Services IP – when it is in fact a UK region approved literature.

Proposal: Providing World Services give their approval at the EDM to the design region will spend £300 on printing the pamphlet for free distribution in NA meetings.

Intention: To promote NA service For:12, Against: 0, Abstentions: 2.

UKSO

Asking for new committee members. RCM's please announce at area. Recommended clean times are 2 years. 5 years for fellowship liaison. 4 years for vice chair. Committee meeting held 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at UKSO. Request made UKSO would take on selling the service leaflet as approved NA literature, if so how much would there charge and also take on responsibility for printing and distribution. Will take back to committee about printing and selling service pamphlet. Committee considering paying travelling expenses for members outside London to attend committee meeting.

Action

R.C.M.'s to announce at areas ukso service office needs new committee members. Committee meet 2nd Tuesday of month at 7pm, at UKSO.

Regional Delegate

Next world convention takes place in Texas, from 30th September- 2 October. For first time, 15% discount for anyone coming from outside north america. Details available on world website www.na.org Only regional delegates can upload area guidelines on website. For first time, entire basic text is available online. It can be downloaded but not printed. There is no set clean time for na members talking to colleagues within their profession about na. Areas please update your information on world website before end of February. WSO looking for people to do service. Minimum clean time requirement is 5 years. Fill out form online. Feedback taken on consciences

from areas on motions 1&2 re conventions. It is up to individuals, service committees and other workshops on recommendations on content of the basic text.

Treasurer's Closing Report:

Opening balance	£16,076.74
Frozen for UKCNA20	£ 3,000
Incomings	£ 5,161.18
Outgoings	£ 5,341.57
Total	£12,896.35
Additional donation to ws/edm	£ 1,260
Closing balance	£11,636.35

Concept 10

Keith addressed region on concept 10. Suggestion from Keith that we all read local services in the guide to local services. Suggestion that we come up with a document informing the fellowship that all regions across the world, subsidise literature for other regions. Feeling there is a lack of understanding around the work of UKSO, rather than a lack of trust. We have in the UKSO a limited company with a turnover in excess of £100,000 run very efficiently and effectively. UKH&I offered their support for UKSO and expressed concern their relationship had been affected over the issue of postage and package for literature being sent into prisons. Kath also pointed out that the sending of literature into prisons, could not happen without the work of UKSO. Concern was raised by another member that they had a redress with region had not been allowed to be heard. Suggestion UKSO produce more of the leaflet they had produced, explaining the work of UKSO. Suggestion that region needs to look at the points raised by Keith and look at their behaviour and look at is there an amends to be made and if so how should this been done. Region agreed to look at this.

LIF paul RCM January 2007.

Website

The following report was read out. Discussion was as follows:

What do people want from the NA website?

New laws have been brought out regarding access to the website by mobile phone.

The events page has not worked for 3 years.

It was suggested that NA seek professional help for the website.

We decided to change the name from web servant to website committee and we would like GSR's to take back to meetings a few questions to help us improve the web site.

1. What does our website need to do?
2. Who does it serve?
3. What content do we need?
4. What do we need?
5. Who is responsible for content?
6. How does our site meet the needs of all sections of society?
7. What do we need to change?
8. What about the look and feel of the website?

The website committee would appreciate your help with this and don't worry if you didn't get all of this as it was in last months minutes and will be in this months minutes.

Sunday 18th February, 12pm at Green Lane Community Centre, Blackburn, all welcome.

Helpline

The following report was read out. There was no discussion.

European Convention

The following report was read out.

Will GSRS please note and announce to their groups -

- ★ Service positions at the European Convention are available at the main desk. 5 years clean time is required.
- ★ The EDM wants this ASC to choose a topic for a workshop at the convention.

Hospitals and Institutions

The following report was read out. There was no discussion.

Traditions: Read By Jon Jon

Attendance: Mike B, Chris, Matt, John, Andy M, Andy T, Jon Jon, Lee, John, Anthony, Sue

Apologies: Alex, Mike, Steve, Sharon

Positions

Literature: Andy M (07737 131 867)

Panel Coordinator Liverpool: Jon Jon (07727 235 787)

Panel Leaders: Alex, Sue, Mark, Mike D, Andy T, John H, Chris H

Treasurer: Sharon (07738705257)

Secretary: Anthony (07985 664 567)

Refreshments: Steve (07842 607 729)

Positions Vacant

Panel Coordinator (Lancashire Area): 1 year clean time

Panel Coordinator (Manchester Area): 1 year clean time

Panel Coordinator (Merseyside Area) 1 year clean time

Panel Leader Kirkham: 1 year clean time

Panel Leader Lancaster Castle 1 year clean time

Panel Member (Summergrove)

Panel Member (Birchwood)

Positions Filled

Vice Chair (Jon Jon), **Panel Member Pierpoint** (Matt),

Panel Leader Prestwich (Mark), **Panel Member Birchwood** (Lee)

Literature report

Waiting on last order to be delivered but there is still some literature for this months subcommittee. Requesting £50 for next month.

Treasurer Report

Brought forward from Area £ 77.00

Total Balance	£150.00
Travel to committee from Liverpool	£ 9.00
Literature	£ 50.00
Refreshments	£ 1.00
Travel to Lancaster Castle	£ 20.00
Travel to Prestwich	£ 10.00

Requesting £90.00 from ASC

Facilities

Merseyside Area

Birchwood: Panel Leader unable to run meeting for two weeks due to a client knowing him. The facility do not have an issue with H&I going in again now the client has left, but had to respect the clients wishes as he felt there could have been a breach of confidentiality risk. No other issues and a new panel member has been voted in.

Summergrove: Fortnightly meetings going well but only same two members attend. No turn over of clients for the possibility of newcomers. Good relationship with staff

Kevin White Unit: No Attendance by clients at last meeting, but did get chance to have a brief chat

Lancashire Area

Pierpoint: Meetings going well, no concerns

Lancaster Castle: As there is no Panel Leader a H+I member is went in with another NA member.

Female Focus: All going well at facility, still need to find panel member as the panel leaders position is now up but will assist with H+I remaining in the facility. Sharon covered last week but the person who should have been sharing dropped out and replacement could not be found so presentation had to be cancelled.

Manchester Area

Prestwich: Meetings going well, new panel leader voted in

Strangways: No concerns reported, requested some literature.

NEW BUSINESS; Stamp for Literature blitz has been provided, also panel agreed to write an inventory of what there role the position involves. This is to reduce any mix up and help committee run smoothly. **The next panel meeting will be in Liverpool.**

OTHER BUSINESS: After a discussion it was agreed that a supporting letter will be typed up and if passed by the committee will be sent out with literature to the agreed facilities. Time to be taken at next panel meeting to decide which facilities will receive literature for there client/patients/inmates.

Venue, date and time for next H&I sub-committee meeting:

24th FEB 2007 3pm until 5pm at At Saint Margarets Parish Centre (next to St Mags Church) West Derby Road L6 4AD (corner of Belmont Road)

The committee would like to thank all those that have been involved in service this month and we welcome any new members of the committee.

**ALSO CAN ALL G.S.R's INFORM THEIR GROUPS OF ALL THE SERVICE THAT THERE IS AVAILABLE ON THE H&I SUB-COMMITTEE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
CAN GSR'S ALSO ANNOUNCE NAMES ARE NEEDED FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS.**

Treasurer's Closing Balance

<u>Money in -</u>	£372.10
<u>Money out -</u>	£312.19
<u>Donation to</u>	
<u>Region</u>	£111.30
<u>Closing</u>	
<u>Balance</u>	£1,000

The Next ASC will be held on Saturday March 3rd at:

The Pensioners Hall

St Albans Road

St Anne's

FY8

At 2pm. Steering committee members to start at 1.30pm.