

**MINUTES OF GAYWEST COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 21st JANUARY 2016**

In Attendance:

Colin O'Brien (Chair)

Michael Reid (Events Co-ordinator)

Brian Milligan (Secretary/Treasurer)

Antony Russell (Cafe Host)

Jim Phimister (Membership Secretary)

John Martin (Outreach Officer)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

1.1 There were no absences.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

2.1 These were agreed and approved as accurate.

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 There has been no response from the "Lads Locker Room". Michael will speak to the management when he next visits.

3.2 Naomi, from the Eddystone Trust, will replenish the condoms on 13th February.

3.3 Colin is pursuing the repair of the banner, which he will take to his LGBT History Month presentation.

4. **Chair's Report**

4.1 Colin reported that it has been a busy time with lots of emails and enquiries.

4.2 Preparations are in hand for the LGBT History Month presentation, which Colin and James Whatmore will give on Sunday 21st February at 1-40pm in the M Shed.

4.3 We have had an initial email from Freddie Drew about Bristol Pride on 9th July.

4.4 North East Somerset Forum is continuing to plan for the Weston super Mare Pride on 30th July.

4.5 Colin has invited Hannah Jaine, Ben Howlett and others to contribute articles for the magazine.

4.6 We have been invited to participate in drawing up the LGBT Manifesto, which seems to be a campaigning document on issues such as gay marriage in Northern Ireland and rights for asylum seekers. It was agreed that our current support role does not extend to direct campaigning on such matters and that we would decline this invitation to participate.

4.7 SingOut Bristol have invited us to advertise in the programme being produced for their Bristol concert. It was agreed that we would fund a quarter page advert at a cost of £30.

4.8 Once again our publicity fliers need replenishment. We will need to decide at the next committee meeting whether to continue with the present format or whether we should devise something different. We will also need to decide whether to continue with the business cards, as these too are running out.

4.9 The committee agreed to the purchase of a DVD about ChemSex, at a cost of £12-99.

5. **Secretary's Report**

5.1 There have been no matters which need to be brought to the committee's attention.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

6.1 The latest bank statement dated 4th January shows a balance of £5,414.31. Once outstanding bills and credits are taken into account, the balance is £5,251.93.

6.2 Our Building Society funds are unchanged at £2,140.88.

7. **Outreach Officer's Report**

7.1 We have had a tweet from Nigel inviting us to meet up to discuss WSM Pride and to their Night Out Auditions, which will also raise money for WSM Pride.

7.2 We have had quite a bit of interest on Twitter and to a lesser extent on Facebook. We have built up a good rapport with the Weymouth Gay Group.

7.3 John is waiting to hear back from Leyhill, who have invited us to visit. We are also waiting for

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a response from Ashfield, who have invited us to visit during LGBT History Month.

- 7.4 We also have an invitation to visit Dartmoor Prison. Since they wish to discuss primarily prisoner rights and transsexual matters, it was agreed that there are other organisations which are better placed to deal with the specifics of these matters. John will liaise with these groups.
- 7.5 It would be ideal to have a support information pack with all LGBT info in one place.
- 7.6 The Brigstowe Project advert will appear in the February issue of our magazine. Colin will email Lauren to introduce himself, with a view to sending our mag to them and receiving theirs in return.

8. Events Co-ordinator's Report

- 8.1 The information put on each table has been updated.
- 8.2 Now that we are no longer able to hold our picnic at Camers, we need to replace it with something else and need to gather ideas for what this could be. Possible outings were discussed, such as Stourhead, St Fagan's Welsh National History Museum, Hanham Woods and the possible hire of a mini-van.
- 8.3 Michael will liaise with Russell and Tony of GMG about a joint foray to the Two Tunnels and a joint bowling night.

9. Membership Secretary's Report.

- 9.1 We have had 13 new members since the AGM, 2 have re-joined and 2 recent resignations. The current membership stands at 88.
- 9.2 It was agreed to give Peggy Hancock an honorary membership in view of her long association and support of the group.

10. Magazine Editor's Report

- 10.1 The February magazine will be at the Rainbow Cafe on Saturday and emailed on Tuesday.

11. Cafe Chief Host's Report

- 11.1 It was established that there is a first-aid box in the kitchen which we can utilise if needed.
- 11.2 Some herbal teas have been donated.
- 11.3 The next raffle is 13th February. We will supply the prizes. The auction will be 23rd April.

12. Website Sub-Committee Report

- 12.1 Following the hacking of WordPress, the password has been changed, all instructions updated to reflect the changes which have been implemented.
- 12.2 Colin will check on the renewal of the domain name.

13. AOB

- 13.1 Nothing was raised.

14. Date of the Next Meeting

- The next two meetings will be held at 2 pm on Thursday 18th February and Thursday 17th March at Colin's home.