

**MINUTES OF GAYWEST COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016**

**In Attendance:**

Colin O'Brien (Chair)

Michael Reid (Events Co-ordinator)

Brian Milligan (Secretary/Treasurer)

John Martin (Outreach Officer)

Jim Phimister (Membership Secretary)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

1.1 Antony Russell sent his apologies

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

2.1 These were agreed and approved as accurate.

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 Michael has not yet approached the management of "Lads Locker Room" about a possible discount because it has not yet been an appropriate time whilst various discounts have been in force. He will pursue it when he feels the time is right.

3.2 The DVD "Chemsex" has been purchased. It was agreed that members should be encouraged to learn about this subject by borrowing the DVD. A week's loan should be sufficient, with members encouraged to make a donation when borrowing the DVD.

4. **Chair's Report**

4.1 The booking form for Bristol Pride on 9<sup>th</sup> July has been received and is now ready to be sent.

4.2 The entry costs for Weston Super Mare Pride on 30<sup>th</sup> July will be £5 on the door and £3 in advance. It will return to its original venue, Grove Park; we await the booking form.

4.3 Unfortunately, Colin's presentation could not be given at Ashfield due to unforeseen circumstances. Colin is aiming to attend the civic reception for LGBT History Month on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February and together with James Whatmore will give his presentation on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 1-40pm. He intends for the two of them to speak for twenty minutes and to use the other twenty minutes for questions and discussion.

4.4 The Lord Mayor of Bath, William Sandry, known as Will, has been invited to the Rainbow Cafe. He will visit at 10-30hrs on 19<sup>th</sup> March. He has already been following us on Twitter.

4.5 Colin asked committee members to think about fundraising ideas and to seek suggestions from those attending the Rainbow Cafe.

4.6 A holdall has been purchased to contain the photos and documentation kept for the blue display boards.

4.7 Our "pub evenings" have now been re-named as "social evenings". However it is proposed to hold a couple of specific "pub evenings" for lovers of real ale, probably in June and August.

5. **Secretary's Report**

5.1 Another letter has been received from the person in a Care Home near Glastonbury, who is seeking someone to take him into their home and to care for him. Whilst the committee had every sympathy with the individual concerned, it was agreed he is very unlikely to find someone who can provide the support he requires. The secretary will send a response similar to the ones previously sent, not making any promises but expressing sympathy for his situation.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

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6.1 The latest bank statement dated 4<sup>th</sup> February shows a balance of £5,549-03. Once outstanding bills and credits are taken into account, the balance is £5,102-39.

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

**7. Outreach Officer's Report**

7.1 No response has yet been received from Dartmoor Prison.

7.2 The Ashfield visit was postponed by the prison authorities; we are awaiting a new date.

7.3 John visited Leyhill and had a useful discussion; they are keen to set up an LGBT group. Colin will visit this coming Tuesday.

7.4 "Recoup" is a support group which promotes the care, resettlement and rehabilitation of older offenders, especially those over the age of 50. They collaborate with other statutory and voluntary groups to support the rehabilitation of older offenders.

7.5 The Brigstowe Project appreciated our putting their advert in the February GayWest magazine.

**8. Events Co-ordinator's Report**

8.1 The information put on each table has been updated .

8.2 Michael has made enquiries about a visit to St Fagan's and has found that the indoor attractions are closed for a year. It was agreed that it would be preferable to defer a visit until the works are completed and everything is open to view. A visit to the National Museum of Cardiff instead might be worthwhile. Colin has made enquiries about the cost of hiring a minibus and it was agreed to seek the views of members about a visit to Cardiff.

8.3 Michael also gave details of boat trips which might be feasible and once again it was agreed to seek the views of members on these trips and their costs.

8.4 GMG committee members will be asked whether they wish to participate in ten pin bowling with GayWest.

**9. Membership Secretary's Report.**

9.1 Our total membership is now 91. This is made up of 3 honorary members, 15 concessions, 47 singleton and 26 with joint memberships.

**10. Magazine Editor's Report**

10.1 The March magazine is at the printers and will be available on Saturday at the Rainbow Cafe.

**11. Cafe Report**

11.1 Stocks of coffee sticks and herbal teas will be replenished.

11.2 Members should be reminded that the next auction will be 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**12. Website Sub-Committee Report**

12.1 Colin and Jim have produced instructions for various functions of the website. It details not only how to log on but how to add and delete things such as photographs, magazines, committee minutes etc. As members will only need to have instructions on how to log on, these will be held in the pink folder at the cafe so that they can be consulted by members.

12.2 Our domain name is due for renewal in April, Newicon will undertake this on our behalf.

**13. AOB**

13.1 We are looking to replace the tri-fold publicity flyers with bi-fold flyers. Members were invited to come up with ideas for both the look and content.

**14. Date of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 2 pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March. A provisional date of 14<sup>th</sup> April was set for the meeting after that.