

**MINUTES OF GAYWEST COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th AUGUST 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 as accurate apart from the items below.

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 The venue for Weston Super Mare Rainbow Cafe should read "Bar Cameo" and not "Cameo Bar".

4.1 The number of trifold leaflets recently printed was 500 and not 150.

7.1 "...LGBT staff at Leyhill....." should have read ".....GBT staff at Leyhill....."

4. **Chair's Report**

4.1 Colin reported that Weston Pride was well organised, well attended and had gone well. A lot of interest was shown in our group, it was a pity that we weren't informed beforehand that we didn't need to take our gazebo. The 2017 Weston Pride will take place 29 July 2017.

4.2 The complete set of GayWest magazines put in the Bristol Archive by Robert Howes will now form part of the GayWest archive.

4.3 Age UK's "Celebrating Age Festival", which aims to engage older people in a range of activities, takes place on Sunday 18th September at M Shed. Anyone volunteering to help out with the GayWest stall will be very welcome.

4.4 Colin has an idea for a fun game for the Xmas meal. Brian will check with Paul Wiltshire whether he would be happy for one or two "Butlers in the Buff" to serve the welcome drink and will also liaise on the menu for the meal.

4.5 We have been asked by the Theatre Royal Bath whether we would be interested in providing a volunteer to assist a project at Writhlington School, where a group of young people have started a support group for LGBT young people. They hope to make a film of the project and produce a DVD which other schools might use. We have offered to help where we can and have requested to be kept informed.

4.6 The fundraising event at the Tropicana in Weston Super Mare next April "Dress2Impress" will now run from noon to 9 or 10pm and seek to provide interest for all age groups. There will be live music, stalls, light refreshments and other attractions. The theme will be "Dressing Up" with prizes for various categories. It is proposed that the entry price is £3. Sponsors will be sought and John agreed to set up a one-page website for the event.

4.7 Although the Bristol social evening at the Phoenix went well, the general preference was to meet at the Old Market Tavern in future.

5. **Secretary's Report**

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

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6. Treasurer's Report

- 6.1 The latest bank statement dated 3rd August shows a balance of £4,738.41. Once outstanding bills and credits are taken into account, the balance is £4,579.61.
- 6.2 Our Building Society funds are unchanged at £2,140.88.
- 6.3 Lloyds bank have approved our on-line banking application and have sent us the relevant information and reader to register for on-line banking.

7. Outreach Officer's Report

- 7.1 Colin and John visited Leyhill Open Prison's Focus group, which meets every two months. They were made to feel very welcome and were invited to give a talk at the next meeting about GayWest. Robert and James will be asked whether they might like to participate. Ashley House, which is a hostel and another step prisoners take on their way to release into the community, was visited on 10th August. There was a suggestion that inmates at Leyhill be given a reduced cost of £2-50 to become a supporter of GayWest. It was agreed to give this further thought at a later meeting.
- 7.2 There has been no recent communication from Ashfield.

8. Events Co-ordinator's Report

- 8.1 The information put on each table at the cafe will be updated.
- 8.2 The picnic went well with good weather and was enjoyed by all those there. That it went so well was due to Michael's efforts and a formal expression of our thanks to Michael was made.

9. Membership Secretary's Report.

- 9.1 Our current membership stands at 90, with 4 enquiries received; 12 reminders to renew will be sent out with the September magazine.

10. Magazine Editor's Report

- 10.1 The next magazine is nearly ready and should be out 27th August.
- 10.2 Nomination forms to serve on the committee will be included with the next magazine and details put on the website.

11. Cafe Chief Host's Report

- 11.1 Our autumn auction date is 22nd October.
- 11.2 On 3rd September the Devon Partnership NHS Trust will come and advise on how we can improve our memories. On 8th October Bath Demetia Trust will visit the group.

12. Website Sub-Committee Report

- 12.1 It was agreed that the website should show "supporter" rather than "member" to reflect our agreed strategy and Newicon should make the necessary changes.
- 12.2 Once the AGM is over, Pip will be asked whether he would like to take responsibility for our Facebook page.

13. AOB

- 13.1 Nothing was raised.

14. Date of the Next Meeting

- The next two meetings will be held at 2 pm on Wednesday 14th September and Wednesday 12th October at Colin's home.