

## MINUTES OF GAYWEST COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017

### **In Attendance:**

Colin O'Brien (Chair)

Jim Phimister (Treasurer/Membership Sec.)

Michael Reid (Events Co-ordinator/Minutes)

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

1.1 John Martin sent his apologies.

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

2.1 These were agreed as accurate with the following matters arising below:

### **3. Matters Arising**

3.1 The 'Dress to Impress' event is now confirmed and planning details are underway. Further details under AOB of these minutes.

3.2 The Post Office box facility is now closed and all future correspondence will be sent to Colin & Jim's new address in Keynsham.

### **4. Chair's Report**

4.1 Our wheelchair user appears to visit the Café unaided with no sign of a carer. There seems to be no direct problem with this, but it is felt that in case of accident the Café should have a contact number. Colin will send an email about this.

4.2 Committee numbers continue to be of concern and Colin will include this in the notices on Saturdays. It is felt that the committee needs more support if only to give a range of views, rather than just the same four members making all the decisions all of the time.

4.3 Regarding the forthcoming Prides this summer, Weston-super-Mare is now booked, and Gloucester Pride is paid for, although that cheque appears not to be cashed yet. An application form has been sent to the Bristol Pride organisers and we are waiting confirmation of booking before we pay the £60 fee. Colin will chase this up. Roy Towler has kindly offered to help out at Bristol Pride.

4.4 GayWest has been invited to the Leyhill Prison Pride event on 29 May (Bank Holiday Monday), with the profits from coffee and cake sales shared between GayWest and Fflag (friends & family of Gays & Lesbians).

- 4.5 We are waiting for details to be confirmed of the Bath Pride celebration.
- 4.6 It was noted that the Midsomer Norton Pride will be on 10 June, which is the same date as the Gloucester Pride.
- 4.7 On Wednesday 15 March, James Higgins will interview GayWest for the Venue column of the '24/7' online magazine formerly known as the Evening Post.
- 4.8 Our website has changed over to a new server designed by Newicon for smaller websites. There were some teething problems but the website is now up and running. It was found that the domain contract with '1-and-1' was still active and not re-located to GayWest as previously thought, but this has been sorted out by Newicon. Colin now has the domain transfer status paperwork, and the fee for 2017 has been paid by Newicon.
- 4.9 There has been a change of wording on our facebook page, with Colin now described as the Administrator, and John Martin and Michael Reid as Editors.
- 4.10 Quotations have been received for proposed changes on the website. The committee felt that not everything needed to be done at once, but agreed to get the problem of downloading photos onto the gallery fixed at a cost of £75.00.
- 4.11 Colin noted that the old address is still on remaining literature but since stocks are running down we can amend by hand and display around local pubs. For the summer prides, we will get the new contact address printed for a minimum amount. Colin will get a quote for the printing.

## 5. **Treasurer's Report**

- 5.1 Jim is in the process of creating an easier-to-follow spreadsheet for Income and Expenditure now that much of the GayWest finances are automated. There are less cheques paid out, but any items that go in or out of the bank account are clearly explained, itemised and followed from the bank statements.
- 5.2 As at the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016, the starting balance was £4582.30. The current balance as at 14<sup>th</sup> March is £5387.73. Expenditure out of the account from mid-January 2017 came to £498.76. The deposit account still stands at £2140.88.

## 6. **Outreach Officer's Report**

- 6.1 Colin reported on John Martin's behalf that John is going to get in contact with Leyhill Prison regarding the LGBT Forum.
- 6.2 John will reply to Leyhill's invitation to GayWest to attend their Pride Celebration.

## **7. Event Co-ordinator's Report**

7.1 Michael Reid has drawn up a monthly events programme for most of 2017, suggesting two events each month. The dates for the three prides are now in the diary, and the committee looked at the events list and chose suitable dates for the remaining events. Ideas for October and November are still in the pipeline but Michael will report back to the committee at the next meeting.

## **8. Membership Secretary's Report**

8.1 There are 81 members, including 11 concessionaries, 5 honorary, 14 joint members and 37 singles.

## **9. Magazine Editor's Report**

9.1 The next edition of the magazine for May is being compiled now and article contributions from members are welcome.

## **10. Café Business**

10.1 Colin has ordered fresh supplies of coffee.

10.2 Robert Howes has kindly offered to open up the Café on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, and Roy Towler has volunteered to help with the serving.

10.3 Colin will organise the extra keys needed.

## **11. AOB**

11.1 Colin and Jim met with Nigel at Weston-super-Mare at their Rainbow Café. Details for the Dress to Impress event were confirmed. It will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> April from 2.00-5.30 pm. There will be a singer, Julie Sketchley as Star Performer, Bob's Disco, a 'Guess the Weight of the Cake', Raffle and prizes. Also a prize for the best dressed costume.

11.2 Colin will organise an updated poster.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

12.1 During the busy summer months, it was decided to go back to holding monthly committee meetings.

12.2 The following dates have been pencilled in to be held at Colin and Jim's new Keynsham address at 2.00pm: Tuesday 11 April; Tuesday 9 May; Tuesday 6 June; Tuesday 11 July; and Tuesday 8 August.