

Committee Meeting - 3rd May 2017

Minutes

Apologies: Andrew - Region Rep, Kevin - Region Rep, Mark - HLO, Barbara - Archives

Attendance: Anne W - Conference Delegate, Bob S - Conference Delegate, Sue - ELO, Andrew - Schools LO, Tony - Treasurer, Ellie - ECLO, Zara - YPOL, Alice - Vice Chair, Tim - Convention Convener, Rob - Chairman, Peter - TLO, Lindsay - Share, Marie - Region Rep, Alison - Secretary, Lesley - Probation, Jonny - PILO

- 1. Feedback from Conference and how to manage it:** Bob felt that the Questions were 'a bit safe' and so were the answers this time. But the process was democratic and everyone had their say. Anne agreed with this. Anne was on Committee 1 and has been elected for Chairman of Committee 1 next year. She will be on the Steering Committee which can work to advantage as she can have some influence over the questions for next year. We hope this will inspire Mid Surrey to submit a question for discussion and get more involved with the discussion of Conference Questions 2018. Anne felt that the questions this year were not clearly asked which had an influence on the answers. She felt that the GSRs in Mid Surrey had a lack of understanding of the process of Conference, that if the understanding was better the GSRs would be much more enthusiastic around this topic. Rob felt that hopefully Mid Surrey GSRs would feel more encouraged to pass on information about Conference to their Groups if they knew we are more influential around questions submitted and accepted since Anne is now on the Steering Committee. Marie felt disappointed with the answers that resulted from the questions this time from the Groups in Mid Surrey. She felt strongly that the choice of questions should be addressed. Sue commented that we did well as an Intergroup as we have two Delegates on the team from our Mid Surrey and not to be discouraging about the questions to the GSRs. She suggested that Mid Surrey could come up with a more controversial type of question to be discussed next time that would spark interest among the Group members. Lindsay suggested that we should be encouraging the GSRs to submit a question and that this would inspire more interest. Marie felt that perhaps there aren't questions to be asked, all been asked before. Tony commented that 30 Groups out of our 60 plus Groups discussed the questions and submitted the answers this year which is pretty good. Some Groups just focus on surviving and don't have anything to contribute to Conference. Also it was commented that some of the questions aren't matters that involve the AA Group. Lindsay felt it would be nice for our AA Groups to have more fun around the questions and feel they have a voice. Bob suggested we should put positivity on the

Conference Questions by highlighting the results from past questions such as the 0800 telephone number etc. Anne pointed out the survival of the Groups depended on Conference. Alice suggested we could let the GSRs know at the June Intergroup that Mid Surrey will hold a Workshop about submitting a question for Conference 2018. The Workshop will include feedback from 2017 Conference; information about when and where Conference Questions are published for next year; the workings of Conference; the role of the GSR in Conference and discussing possible and or proposed questions that could be submitted for Conference 2018. The deadline for submitting a question is in August so the Workshop date will be between June and August. It was decided that Anne and Bob will have a 10 minute slot at the June Intergroup Assembly to give feedback from Conference covering, understanding of the process for Conference, talking about the questions and injecting enthusiasm by talking about their experiences. The answers will be coming out in more detail to be read soon.

Reports from previous Conference's can be found on the AA website going back as far as 1999. Anne has been given a CD with previous topics raised and questions asked which could be very helpful for inspiration and asking future questions.

2. **Workshops:** Alice announced a Workshop on the 4th November topics being, Role of GSR and Conscience Meetings. It will be held at Mellow. A flyer will be produced soon.
3. **Convention 17th June:** Tim reported that the team were coming down to the last details and everything was nearly ready. Venue booked, speakers chosen, flyer drop-offs nearly completed, all very positive. He will go to the Chelsea Convention on the 10th June and give them a load of flyers. Sue has organized wrist bands instead of stickers this year which will be much more efficient. Lindsay asked permission to buy 50 Share magazines to sell on the day with old magazines to give away. The costing for this occasion will come mainly after the event.
4. **PI Vacancy:** Jonny is wanting to step down as PI LO as it has become too much for him to cope with for family and job reasons. He has found someone interested in helping out but not taking over. It was suggested that if this person was keen to help he could act as an assistant for Jonny for a while so the position can still be filled. Then when Jonny's three years are finished perhaps the assistant will take on the full role.
5. **Vacancies at Intergroup:** Alice asked if we could have a down-loadable list of vacancies for GSRs to print off for their Group members to see, maybe printed off each week. Ellie could circulate this as an email with a link. Lindsay suggested creating a form for AA members to fill in if they are interested in helping out with any PI work with the Officers. Rob agreed to create a form to give to the GSRs next Intergroup.

6. **TLO:** No change but Peter is now looking after the rota and needs a new assistant. There are changes in process to the telephone responder personnel. Peter is talking to Zara about having a young persons 12th step list. He is refreshing the 12th step lists as they are out of date. The telephone service has grown 13% from last year.
7. **ELO:** Sue, our ELO has now taken on Regional ELO. She feels that as this service is not very busy, she can manage both effectively.
8. **Probation:** Lesley reported that the AA Meeting is running well at the Probation Offices although no users have attended. She hopes that as the meeting gets more established the word will get round and users will start to attend. She is working towards getting an AA Meeting in the Magistrate Offices also, as the Magistrate has a great influence over a user's sentence and can tell people to go to AA.
9. Someone reported the Brighton Intergroup are using small groups for discussion purposes during their Assemblies with a collective get-together at the end for a conclusion. It seems to work well for them and suggested we could do something similar at Mid Surrey.
10. **Share:** Lindsay has completed her round of visiting meetings that don't subscribe to Share. 47 meetings in total. She is going to take a two month break to revisit her own local meetings before starting the round again.
11. **Schools:** Andrew had someone approach him at the last Intergroup Assembly who is interested in taking over his role. Andrew will take him on some visits soon and get him to send his CV to Committee. We hope to vote him in at the June Assembly.
12. **Treasurer:** Tony has the accounts up to date and balanced to the penny! He asked if he could put £100 of his own money in petty cash for Intergroup expenses and pay himself back through the Mid Surrey Account. Agreed.
13. **Serenity Prayer and close.**

Please can all Officers get their reports in asap. Thank you.