

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Social Perspectives Network held at the Resource Centre, Holloway Road, London on Monday 21st March 2016

Present: Jane Shears, Chair of Trustees, Peter Cohen (Treasurer), Terry Bamford (Secretary), Ruth Allen, David Blazey, Peter Ferns, Suman Fernando, Nic Hervey, Alleyn Wilson.

Apologies were received from Daisy Bogg (co-chair, Executive Committee), Richard Peacocke (co-chair, Executive Committee), Claire Barcham, Helen Barnes, Vicki Coppock, Stephanie de la Haye, Lisa Morris, Andy Nash, Patsy Staddon, Jerry Tew, Judith Varley, Catherine Pestano, Mike Young.

Minutes: The minutes of the AGM held on 18th February 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

Chair of Trustees Report: This was circulated (attached). The joint conference with BASW had been successful. Discussions had taken place about consolidating links with the former Mental Health Faculty of the College of Social Work and with Basw's Mental Health Reference Group. These would figure in the planned joint meeting between Executive Committee and Trustees.

Executive Committee report: No report was available. Concern was expressed about the lack of activity of the Executive Committee. It seemed that decisions, for instance the decision to invite Tom Burns, were taken without reference to the Executive Committee. It was agreed that the structure had not worked as planned and by default executive decisions had been taken by Trustees. The decision to invite Tom Burns had been taken at the last meeting of the Trustees.

The planned joint meeting for which expenses of Executive Committee members would be reimbursed was designed to revive the organisation. As some Trustees wished to resign there were vacancies to be filled among the officers. It was suggested that the whole membership should be asked to consider taking on these roles.

Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts: These were presented by Peter. He noted the stable financial position compared with 3 years ago but it was important that the resources were used. The current balance was around £4800. He wished to resign as Treasurer as his work commitments were increasingly onerous but was pleased to leave a secure legacy. The accounts were received.

Election of Officers, Executive Committee co- chairs and Executive Committee: In view of the pending joint meeting subsequently confirmed for July 12th it was agreed to defer the elections.

Any other business: Disquiet was expressed about the invitation to Tom Burns and the process followed. Suman and Peter Ferns indicated that they would withdraw at the end of the AGM. It was reiterated that the invitation had been agreed by the Trustees. Suman felt

that the Executive Committee should meet in advance of the joint meeting to discuss their role.

This request would be passed to the co-chairs of the Executive Committee.

The business was concluded at 2.55pm