

Debtors Anonymous UK Intergroup Minutes

28th May 2016

Attending – 12 people

JP	Temporary Acting Chair; European Intergroup Chair
JH	Treasurer
SC	Secretary
SL	Intergroup Service Representative
LD	Literature admin; GSR BDA Wednesday night Soho
CR	PI Committee rep
SL	GSR Cambridge
KL	GSR BDA
S	GSR Hinde St
NM	GSR Monday West End PRG group
RA	GSR Ogle St Tuesday
CE	GSR Westbourne Grove
RN	GSR Bayswater
MA	GSR Swiss Cottage Sunday 4pm
MW	GSR Monday morning BDA Notting Hill
JC	Visitor

Apologies for Absence

CT	Literature shipping
NS	Webmaster
JF	GSR Stevenage
DD	GSR Hinde St Saturday

Approval of Minutes

Approved

Open Service positions

Chair (2 years service)

This position involves co-ordinating the service committee, sharing communications, keeping in touch with people, creating the agenda and running meetings, and generally providing inspiration and leadership. Requires one year of solvency and two PRGs.

KL is interested and willing, but doesn't want to leave her group without a GSR. She will check with her group to see who will step into the GSR role. JP will act as chair today, the group voted to accept Kas Chair, pending discussions with her group.

UPDATE: KL's group supports her taking on the role of Chair, and will elect a new GSR.

Events Co-ordinator (2 years service)

Develops and proposes events that might be held through Intergroup or individual groups. (See full job description appended). Requires six months solvency and 1 PRG. Discussed further under AOB

GSR Reports

RN	GSR Bayswater Saturday 11:00 Tools, Steps and traditions. Stepping down after today. Steady at about 15-20 people. Attracting some new and younger people. 12 weeks prudent reserve. £30 donation as per spending plan.
MW	GSR Westbourne Park BDA Monday morning.. 40-50 members. Gratitude week raised £43.47. £519.47 donated since last intergroup.
LD	GSR Wednesday night Soho. Very active and fun meeting. 20 people a week.
NM	GSR Monday West End PRG group. Numbers have dropped over past few weeks. Now 3-4. Will make donation next week.
R A	GSR Ogle St Tuesday Needs to check with Treasurer re: contribution.
MA	GSR Swiss Cottage Sunday. £20 donation from one group member today. Group will determine donation at next business meeting. Healthy group, newcomers being drawn in,.
CE	GSR Westbourne Grove Friday 10am. Brings request for a DA daily meditation/reader. Donation £400.
KL	GSR BDA Swiss Cottage. Doing well. Some newcomers, 20 in group. £50 donation.
SL	GSR Cambridge. Just two in group now, but donating £321 from when the group was thriving some months ago.
S	GSR Hinde St Monday Lunchtime. Group is getting on its feet. Lots of personal recovery.
SL	Bringing Gratitude Week contribution from Hinde St Saturday 11:30 £42.93
SC	Salisbury. Group has dwindled to 3-4 dedicated members per meeting.

Discussion about making donations.

Group sponsorship is available through the US website.

Reminder to GSRs: All meetings are encouraged to register with the American website.

All GSRs please encourage your group members to get involved with intergroup – meetings are open to all.

Service Reports

Treasurer – JH

£850 was donated today plus £100 from Gratitude week. Following discussion and a vote it was decided to donate the Gratitude Week money to the European Regional Intergroup to enable them to bring literature to the convention in Italy next week and to develop and host a website in several languages for the next year.

The new bank account will be opened this coming week. Metro Bank will arrange transfer of funds from old NatWest account.

New account details will be posted on the website for group Treasurers to make online donations.

Matters arising:

MA raised an issue in relation to a bank account for a group that no longer exists, which now needs new signatories. She will bring the necessary forms to the next Intergroup meeting for officers to sign and the minimal funds will then be donated to Intergroup

Discussion about specific use for £100 of Gratitude Week donations and donations to the WSC. Spending plan allocates £50 donation to WSC.

Questions about how WSC uses funds. John H fund is ring-fenced for travel for GSRs. WSC funds are used for Trustee travel, admin staff, etc.

Question about donating to European Intergroup. We haven't ever donated, but could. Could use £100 to set up website and get literature to convention.

LD suggests focusing on where we want to put our money rather than who needs it.

Proposal: Donate Gratitude Week funds to European Regional Intergroup. Carried.

Webmaster's report

Website working fine. Nothing to report.

Literature Report

New book - *12 Steps/Traditions/Concepts* – will add to next order.

Prices will be revised to take account of changes in exchange rates.

See full report appended.

GSR's, please tell Literature person in your group about the new self-calculating order form available on the website.

Helpline (Newcomer/Loner/Fellowship Support)

Update since Intergroup meeting: Mimi W has agreed to carry on with this role for 6 months and will then review.

ISR Report SL and JP –

The General Service Board has requested that groups stop using the Closing Anonymity Statement as well as the Preamble, as previously requested. LD's group has chosen to keep the existing wording under the principle of autonomy. The Twelve Steps we have by agreement. DA has borrowed the Preamble and Closing Statement from AA and AI-Anon, which makes us debtors to their copyright. Long discussion on this subject.

Proposal:from ISR: Ask WSC to come up with alternative. ISR also asked to take to the WSC the possibility of asking other fellowships for permission, so there is no longer an issue about borrowing/debting.

It's possible for any member to bring up concerns with the WSC by submitting an Issues and Concerns request on the main DA website/Fellowship Services/World Service Concerns (scroll to the bottom of the page for an email link for Issues and Concerns).

Events Co-ordinator Report

Due to other commitments, PR has had to step down. We urgently need someone to step into this role.

The date for the convention has been set at 15th October at Central Westminster Hall.

Suggestion that we ask GSR's to ask groups which service activity they might be willing to take on. RN offered to be the point of contact and would like to work in partnership with someone with more technical expertise than she has.

Webmaster's Report – NS

Summary - In general the website is functioning well.

Public Information Committee Report – SL and CR

A5 posters now printed and available for distribution. All GSR's attending took as many as they can use. Please ask permission before posting these. Awareness cards (business card size) are also available for free. Helpful guidelines for PI are also available.

The committee did a survey at the last conference to learn what holds people back from doing PI: The PI committee will put together wording to help people overcome such blocks.

Media skills workshop. Will be arranged for some time after the WSC.

Suggestion to approach company HR departments so troubled staff can be directed to DA.

DA phone meeting. Have asked for help with service positions. Aiming for Thursday 7:30pm-8:30pm. Waiting for availability of those interested in service positions.

Any other business

Europe

2nd European Convention and face to face European Regional Intergroup meeting (Friday 3rd June).

Will have a European website in several languages.

Nominating JP Trustee

Proposed and passed. Nomination letter read to group. A few questions posed to Josie. Nomination proposed, seconded and passed.

Voting Procedure

MW raised a question about how decisions/votes are made in individual groups. In Roberts' Rules of Order, a vote with 10 in favour, 5 opposed, 5 abstentions, would not pass. JP offered input from the parliamentarian at WSC who pointed out that the spiritual element of the group conscience supersedes simple majority rules.

Clarification needed for next time: Who can vote for what – when can officers vote what can only GSRs vote on.

Manual of Service

This is an important resource for groups, and each group is advised to have a copy. The Secretary would like to hold a copy to answer questions sometimes posed to her. JP offered her copy.

Next Meeting:
Saturday 30th July 2pm
Broadbent Room
Central Westminster Hall

APPENDICES

Literature Report – LD

1 - Sales (Period Feb 1, 2016 – May 28, 2016)

Literature sales since 1 Feb 2016	548.35
Shipping and handling (enter as per order)	78.76
Donation (enter as per order)	4.10
Discount (enter- [negative] as per order)	-11.41
Total	619.80

This represents 9 individual orders

Notes: Discount is on one order: credit owed to DA Dublin from a previous order

2 – Accounts (Period Feb 1, 2016 – May 28, 2016)

3 – Bank account reconciliation

Total Balance in DA Literature Account £1062.07

4 – Shipping report: CT

Full report available

5 – Stock

Since 1 Sep 2015, we have sold 115 copies of the new *Twelve Steps* of DA Booklet and 38 of *Currency of Hope*.

Due to variations in orders compared to 2015, we are already out of stock on Fifteen Question cards and the 12 Promises cards. Other items are well stocked.

6 – Revised order form

At the last Literature PRG we agreed to revise prices on the order form to take account of changes in the currency exchange rate between Sterling and US Dollars. Previously UK selling price = US price * 0.89 - however given the rise in the cost of sterling we agreed to peg prices at £1:\$1 to restore the small margin which goes towards paying shipping costs from the US.

A new order form will be made available on the website as soon as possible.

Please advise the literature person in your group.