

RSC Minutes - Preston, 14th - 15th July 2018

Saturday 14th - Attendance: 38 Members

Admin Committee Members: 6

Sam I (Acting Chair); Simon (RD); Mathew J (Alt RD); Chris (Treasurer);

Terry (Vice Secretary); Reese (Vice Resources)

Apologies – Sam K (Chair); Kerry (Secretary); Kiera (RCM Channel Islands); Isabel (RCM North East London); Ruth (RCM East & Central Lancashire)

RCM's: 16

Natalino (Dorset); Rahman (Farsi); Sandy (Greater Manchester); Hayley (Kent); Lynton (Norfolk & Suffolk); Lisa (North West England & North Wales); Faik (South East London); Charles (South West London); Craig (Surrey); Matt W (West Midlands); Martina (Yorkshire & Humberside); Robert (North West London); Peter (South Wales); Katharine (Scotland, Edinburgh & Lothians); Jennie (Hampshire); Brian K (The Shires)

Alternate RCM's: 4

Baz (Farsi); Bryan (Greater Manchester); Ellis (North West England & North Wales); Stuart (Dorset)

Sub Committee Members: 6

Andrew (UK Website/Helpline Chair); Micky, Benita, & Andy O (UKSO Directors); Steve B (UKH&I Chair); Aiden (UKCNA Vice Chair)

Visitors: 6

Francis; Peter; Darren; Wendy; Andy S; Rob (Archives)

Opened meeting with the serenity prayer & a moments silence.

Introductions.

RCM Count: 16.

Acting chair's opening remarks:

- Starting tomorrow's meeting earlier, 9.30am rather than 10am. Please think about it for now.

- The next region is in Manchester and would also like to start the meeting earlier. Suggestion from a member of the admin committee was to start at 9.30 am on the Saturday and at 9am on the Sunday because we always seem to run out of time. Please think about it for now.
- Birmingham is no longer the default venue due to room being split into two, so a future default venue needs to be found.
- In the RSC guidelines under CBDM there is a line that leaves too much authority to the chair. We will be discussing this later but, in the meantime, I will not be exercising that power.

Vice resource: Sends round contact list, also asks members who send in reports not to fill out the section on contact details as papers may be left lying around (GDPR). Please indicate in your report if you need a printed copy (to save trees).

Service prayer read.

12 Concepts read.

Tradition 6 read from 'Guiding Principles' followed by discussion of member's experience.

Approval of May's RSC minutes:

Approved.

RSC Treasurer's report:

Treasurer revealed opening balance of £17,518.62 with £11,020 as the prudent reserve.

Treasurer disclosed that they booked the hotel for this region for the admin committee and some RCM's before knowing of a special rate/discount code saying they were not made aware (though North West England & North Wales RCM said it was on the bid put in by them at previous region) the treasurer did not realise so. Treasurer said that they had booked the hotel at the best available rate at the time, tried to use discount code once known but unfortunately hotel did not allow them to do so. This resulted in the RSC paying an extra £448. The treasurer said that it was put to them by someone that they should pay the £448 and as you are the RCM's it is something for you to consider.

Acting chair: Asks members to think it over and will come back to it tomorrow during treasurer's report.

Bids to host Region:

None – Acting chair briefly states how areas can put a bid in to host region, vice resource to send out details to RCM's.

Positions vacant on the RSC Admin Committee:

Resources Chair (3 years clean time, No one put themselves forward)

Vice Secretary (2 years clean time) – Needs to go out to groups.

Vice Treasurer (4 years clean time)

- Andy S put himself forward for vice treasurer.
 - Andy S gave his NA CV.
 - Concept 4 was read out.
 - Questions regarding role and responsibilities were read out from the RSC Guidelines for Andy to answer, replied that there were no problems with any of the questions.
 - Questions from the body then followed.
 - Q) Does your sponsor know about this position (that you are putting yourself forward for)?
A) Yes
 - Q) Do you have the conscience of your ASC and do you have the support of that ASC?
A) Yes, and I was recommended by RCM at their area.
 - Andy was asked to kindly leave the room for discussion on the body where concerns were raised about relevant experience, endorsements, as well as clarifying guidelines around the position of vice treasurer.
 - Voting procedure and rules were explained by the Chair before voting slips were given out to voting RCM's.
 - Votes counted by Vice Chair & Alt RD
 - Result: 16 votes for, 0 against, 0 abstentions. Andy S voted in as the new vice treasurer and was given a round of applause on his return.
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Two motions brought by North West England & North Wales RCM at previous region as follows were discussed. Seconded by Kent RCM

Motion Number - 07-18 (1st Motion)

Topic - Illicit literature

Date - 12.05.18

Motion - For this regional body to apologise to the members of the meetings in York that were displayed as 'not an NA meeting' on the UKNA website, as a result of the RSC policy dated May 2017

Intent - To make amends to those members named above and restore unity.

Motion Number - 08-18 (2nd Motion)

Topic - Illicit literature/ website policy

Date - 12.05.18

Motion – For the policy regarding 'Baby blues' from May 2017 to be amended as follows.

Prior to any meetings being removed or marked as 'no longer an NA meeting' attempts to communicate this policy to any groups should be as follows.

1. two committee members of the meetings ASC to attend the meetings conscience to discuss the issue. If the literature is found to be unapproved, a discussion should be had as to why this should not be used, and the group asked to return to using only NA approved literature to stay as a recognised NA meeting.
2. If agreement is not found the group has the right to bring this to the ASC. A discussion should be conducted there to encourage the return to NA approved Literature. If there is still no agreement to do this the ASC can request support from the RSC and ask for the RD to attend to help facilitate the discussion and provide clarity as to why this literature should not be used in a hope of resolution.
3. If after 3 months the meeting is still using unapproved literature then the meeting will be marked as folded as it is no longer recognised as an NA meeting.

The website will then follow the normal process of folded meetings unless the meetings go back to using approved only NA literature in which case they will be reinstated on the UKNA website.

** considering that some groups may be young or less experienced than others, the above steps should be taken with the spirit of NA, compassion care and unity.

Intent - To bring unity and a clear solution focussed process to this issue.

To have a more spiritual process to deal with the use of unapproved literature within the UK NA meetings

Questions and members experience from the body regarding 1st motion:

Q) Why were the groups excluded?

A) All 4 groups were displaying illicit literature in meetings, were using the baby blues in the meeting that someone had given freely to them, but they didn't realise they weren't supposed to display it as mostly newcomers.

- Yorkshire & Humberside RCM stated that they were unable yet to discuss at their ASC and went on to describe what happened and the actions they took.

Q) What's the baby blues?

A) 3rd edition revised, 4th & 9th traditions.

- Alt RD: Informed body that illicit literature means that it's not produced under copyright, a book that contains NA related stuff that is not under copyright and is not conference approved.
- North West England & North Wales RCM: Stated that her motion has nothing to do with Yorkshire & Humberside RCM's actions. That they think it should have been looked into more and that it felt rushed.

Q) Acting chair: Asks North West England & North Wales RCM does the 2nd motion depend on the 1st motion regarding an apology and should the 2nd motion be the 1st?

A) Perhaps, maybe, I'm happy to. I do think that this body should apologise anyway, and I hope this body has enough humility to see that this policy needs changing.

- Books have been removed now & 4 meetings in question are now back up on the website.
- West Midland RCM: Thinks it should have been addressed at area level, was a rash decision and that we should carefully consider consequences of our decisions.
- RSC Treasurer: Maybe if these groups can't afford the basic text then maybe we can fund them to do so.
- UKSO Director (Micky): There's a difference between selling stuff because your belligerent and having stuff because you don't know that it's wrong and agrees that we should say something in the way of an apology or correction, so they can understand what happened and that they feel part of NA again.
- RD: It is clearly stated that when a new edition of the basic text comes out the previous edition is withdrawn so the new one should be used. It's wrong to wilfully distribute illicit literature. States that if we (NA) behave badly then we need to apologise for it but not always necessary to change policy every time we do something bad.
- West Midlands RCM: Feels that this body doesn't owe an apology, but an explanation as should have been addressed at area level first before coming here so there would have been that communication. Offers a friendly amendment to explain our decision but not an apology.
- North West England & North Wales RCM: By doing the above the groups would see us (RSC) as governing and we don't do that. Then says that they would like to make a friendly amendment to explain why this was done.
- Acting chair: Is ok to put 1st motion on hold and move on to the next one, which was agreed. Asks vice resource to read out the 2nd motion.

Point of information: Website/helpline chair reads out NAWS 'conflict resolution within NA fellowship, conflict resolution policy'

- RD: Copyright is only valid if it is affirmed, so if you don't assert your copyright it becomes invalid. RD goes on to say that maybe the RD & Alt RD could visit groups in question to share their experience to help them.
- Yorkshire & Humberside RCM: It should go back to the groups if the RD & Alt RD are being asked to go to these groups.
- Visitor (Wendy): Reads NAWS statement around the Basic Text approved literature.
- North West England & North Wales RCM: We know it's unapproved, it's just how we deal with it.

Point of information: Acting chair: The question is at region when we come across it how we tackle it, do we have the authority. A solution is put forward in this motion & is being discussed here.

- West Midlands RCM: The motion doesn't need to change; the due process needs to change.
- Website/helpline chair: The wording of the motion is the wrong way around.
- North West England & North Wales RCM says they are happy to change the wording.
- Acting chair: Reminds body that at this moment the existing standing conscience stands and that if we don't do anything, that conscience will stay.
- Vice resource reads out 2nd motion with the friendly amendments.
- Acting chair: Informs body that a consensus wasn't reached after vote by RCMs, 11 votes 'for' out of 15 voting (present) RCM's, but this wasn't the end of the process, so we need reflection.
- Vice resource: Sends out amended motion for members to look over during the lunch break.

Another vote by RCM's after lunch: 13 for, 2 against, 1 abstention.

- Acting chair: Asked to hear from the 2 RCM's who were against, both said that they wanted to take it back to their groups to gather their areas conscience first. Acting chair went on to say therefore current policy stands at this moment.
- North West England & North Wales RCM: Would like a time limit if it went back to groups to bring back their conscience.
- Dorset RCM: This is an issue for region and not for their groups.
- RD: RCM's don't have to ask their areas for their conscience if they feel ok about it.

The two RCM's voting 'against' removed themselves from the vote.

Result – Motion 08-18 (2nd Motion) passed: Please see motions at end of minutes.

Motion brought by Norfolk & Suffolk RCM from previous region as follows was discussed.

Motion Number - 10-18

Topic - Archiving

Date - 12.05.18

Motion - To form an ad hoc committee to inventory our archives

Intent - This is our heritage and it is vital to ascertain what is in there. We need to consider the financial implication of the current storage system

Archives representative says that an archives committee was formed 5 years ago. A large amount of NA material consisting boxes of files, tapes, pictures and much more was originally left in a house and then in a storage facility in Leeds where they remain. Guidelines were formed by the committee & ratified at region and therefore in place to be used if necessary. Some of this material has been archived but there is a lot still to do and would take some time to do it.

- North West England & North Wales RCM: No one stepped into previous commitment and thinks a sub-committee should be set up rather than an ad-hoc committee.
- RD: Suggests a professional advisor as this is our history and is extremely important to UKNA.
- Archives rep: The guidelines passed by this region enable an ad-hoc committee to archive properly.
- RSC Treasurer: To see if an NA member can do it (archive) before getting a professional in at a cost.
- Surrey RCM: Proposes that the archives are digitised to make them available to the wider fellowship.
- UKSO Director (Andy): He is against motion, to put out to wider fellowship to see what region needs/looking for.

Q) Visitor (Darren): Can the archives guidelines, roles & responsibilities be emailed to me please.

A) Acting chair, yes, as soon as vice resource locates them.

Motion withdrawn. There is information in the guidelines on how a previously folded subcommittee can be reformed.

RD Report: Read by Regional Delegate

Questions from the body

Q) RSC Treasurer: Would you be looking for money from this body to help towards the proposed twenty-thousand-euro budget?

A) The proposal would be to the EDM and would become an EDM budget to which we contribute through our contributions to the EDM.

Q) Yorkshire & Humberside RCM: Is the European service learning day in Prague linked to the European convention in Prague?

A) Is independent of the EDM meeting but supported by the EDM.

- Alt RD: Expands by saying the European learning day is organised by EDM to share experience and resources to less accessible regions. It was approved in Prague due to its accessibility, to around 10 to 14 NA regions for example, and can drive there.

Q) UKSO Director (Andy O): Regarding the learning day, did we not have one of those in Birmingham a few years ago, just would like to have the facts around that?

A) It was all planned to go ahead but this body (at the time) didn't give the go ahead because they felt that they didn't need a UK service conference.

Q) UKSO Director (Micky): I would like to know who said it was OK to give licences to individuals to sell merchandising and to keep the profits and why wasn't we asked?

A) Answered by Alt RD: Suggest sitting down with you (UKSO Director, Micky) and word this question and present it in 11 days' time to a world board member and a representative of paid special workers. We can then present that to the EDM and members of NAWS.

- RD: Conventions make decisions independently of this body, if we ask them that question then they have to consider it if not they will not.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Why are service learning days so popular in other countries, and what brings people to them?

A) My experience is that if you want to get people involved let them see what they are missing out on.

Q) South East London RCM: Are there already any elected zonal delegates or is the first?

A) Answered by Alt RD: This is completely new. A motion has just been passed at the last WSC to have zonal delegates.

- Members of the body shared their experience of learning days in the UK and their local areas.
- Alt RD: Adds clarity around regional assembly and its purpose, saying it's taken from the Guide to Local Services which clearly identifies its main function is in preparation for the World Service Conference.
- A CBDM workshop will be held at the September RSC to support the practical application of building a conscience.

RCM Reports:

Vice resource read section 3.4 from the RSC guidelines.

1) Greater Manchester – Sandy read report

- Questions for Region
1 Question for UKH&I (tomorrow)
- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) UKSO Director (Bonita): What's a fish-bowl meeting?

A) Professionals come into meeting to see how meeting works.

2) West Midlands – Matt W read report

Questions for Region:

1. Our ASC is asking for a more transparent and accountable H&I financial report in line with our concept 11 as we would like to know how our money is being used to further our primary purpose.

2. Is the world convention being held in Iran in 2021?

A) RD says that decision not yet made, not been released to delegates.

- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) Surrey RCM: You're over your prudent reserve, why no contribution?

A) A really difficult decision reached by the conscience of our area, they wanted to know where their money was going.

- UKH&I Chair: 'Prudent around merchandise' – can inform you all in my report.

Q) RD: Do you have a financial policy over your prudent reserve to send money to RSC?

A) There was a vote this time not to send money but may do so next time.

Q) Acting chair: Is it indefinite, or an expiry date?

A) I will report back to ASC and see what they say/discuss.

3) Dorset – Natalino read report

- Questions for Region

1 Question for sub-committee (tomorrow)

4) Kent – Hayley read report

- Questions for Region

1. Feedback from other ASC's regarding IP#29.

- UKSO Director (Bonita): Leave IP#29 for tomorrow (will cover in her report).

2. How do other ASC's or subcommittee's store their assets? (banners, marquees etc.)

- West Midlands RCM shared their experience on sharing assets.

5) North West London – Robert read report

- Please take back to groups - NA phonenumber needs help and the 12-step list has gone from 100 to 41 volunteers since GDPR came in, desperately need people to come forward to do service.

Questions for Region:

1. Can region please give us guidance on how GDPR affects our meetings?

A) Website/ Helpline chair: GDPR shouldn't affect meetings.

6) Farsi – Rahman read report

- Questions for Region

None

- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) UKSO Director (Bonita): Are you reaching out to other Farsi speaking meetings around the country?

A) We are reaching out to them, contacting them, selling literature to them.

Q) Edinburgh & Lothians RCM: Could the Manchester & Birmingham groups attend by Skype?

A) Hopefully yes in the future.

- Acting chair: One item of information that wasn't in the report, the PI committee have got NA banners in Farsi & English and put them on lamp posts in the Finchley area, doubling the number of phone calls.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: How did you get to put those Farsi NA banners up in Finchley?

A) Spoke to the local authority and they were fine with it.

- UHH&I Chair: We work with Farsi groups, PI, Prison Sponsorship etc. to do such things.

7) Scotland, Edinburgh & Lothians – Katharine read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Would Region consider holding an RSC meeting in Edinburgh?

A) Yes

- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) Yorkshire & Humberside RCM: Please could we have more detail on outreach?

A) We requested word of mouth in groups which rippled out.

Q) Yorkshire & Humberside RCM: How much was last convention to put on?

A) £2,600 for 2 days. Moved to February 2019.

Q) Website/Helpine chair: Are you Edinburgh & East Lothians?

A) No, Edinburgh & Lothians.

Q) Website/Helpine chair: Are meetings listed correctly on website?

A) No, we need to talk about that after this meeting.

8) Norfolk & Suffolk – Lynton read report

- Questions for Region

None

9) Surrey – Craig read report

- Questions for Region

Q) We are struggling to get people to come forward and do service at Area. As a result, we are discussing merging our PI and H&I in to one “Local Services Board”. What experience to members have that they could share with me re: A Local Services Board, both good and bad.

A) Various members shared their experience.

Q) Have elected literature secretary, are we in a position to move forward on the Website yet.

A) Helpline/Website chair says in a couple of weeks if all goes to plan.

10) South West London - Charles read report

- Questions for Region

None

- The date has been set for the 2019 London Convention. It will be held at The Friends Meeting House in Euston on 12th, 13th and 14th April.

11) The Shires – Brian read report

- Questions for Region

None

12) Yorkshire & Humberside – Martina read report

- Questions for Region

None

- Vice-resource: Reads RSC guidelines regarding accurate information and that an action list and all relevant information is sent out after region.

Q) Vice-resource: How else can we provide the information?

A) I honestly do not know how to improve it. It's in no way a criticism.

- Vice-resource: You can send questions between regions to keep the conversations going and if something was to come up that everyone needs the answer to we can send to everyone.

Q) RSC treasurer: Regarding HMP Leeds wanting NA steps & traditions banner in rooms also used by AA. Is that directed at us?

A) No, it was more of a question from our H&I to our area if there was some funding for those banners. Who would be responsible for funding that?

- UKH&I Chair: If your area can fund it then do so but if not come to UKH&I meeting and ask the committee.

13) South Wales & Swansea Area – Peter read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Can this body fund RCM to attend this region?

A) There were no objections from the body, so yes.

- Experience shared by body on helping an aggressive addict.

14) North West England & North Wales – Lisa read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Is there a shortage of the booklet 'An introduction to NA' as we can't seem to buy them from UKSO?

A) UKSO Director (Bonita) I will check with UKSO office manager.

- Kent RCM shared their experience of own area's website, easy to use, and up-to-date on meetings.

Q) RSC Treasurer: Just wondered what your prudent reserve was?

A) I can find out later and inform you as I haven't put it on here.

15) South East London – Faik read report

- Questions for Region

None

16) Hampshire – No report

Acting chair: Is anyone against starting at 9.30am tomorrow?

As not everyone agreed it was decided to start at 10am as usual.

Acting chair: We had a motion earlier (Motion Number - 07-18 (1st Motion) that we took as far as we could and then we stopped. We had all the discussion and now we need to make a decision. Is anyone against the motion?

- West Midlands RCM: Would like to make a friendly amendment to include an explanation to why we done what we done as well as an apology (as we were only following RSC Guidelines).
- North West England & North Wales RCM: I think yes both, if we were wrong then we need to say so.

Q) Acting chair: Is there now anyone against it?

- Body: No one was against it.

Motion Carried. Please see motions at end of minutes.

- Acting chair; The motion has been carried, it's now about writing the apology and the explanation and who would you like to undertake that task.
 - North West England & North Wales RCM: Would like to speak to vice resource, word it, then bring it back and put it to the body tomorrow.
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Motion Number - 11-18

Date - 14.07.18

Topic - H&I finances

Motion - That the UKRSC treasurer inspect the UKH&I finances for the last 12 months in line with our guidelines and concept 11. Report to be made back to body by November 2018 RSC.

Intent - Greater transparency and accountability on how our money is being used and if we are being prudent and managed responsibly.

West Midlands RCM expands on the motion that they brought.

To be continued tomorrow.

Sunday 15th - Attendance: 41 Members

Meeting began with a moments silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

In attendance also today were:

Ruth (RCM East & Central Lancashire)

Will (UKPI Treasurer)

Andy (Visitor)

RCM Count 17

Subcommittee Reports:

UK Helpline/Website Subcommittee Report – read by their chair

- Chair shared that a newcomer had got clean from listening to online shares from their website (7 days clean today) and would like to have more shares available.
- Website/helpline treasurer can't attend region to be ratified until November.

Questions from the body.

Q) Surrey RCM: Regarding meeting contact list, if scrapped do our area members have to re-register their contact details?

A) Yes, will put details in an email.

Q) South East London RCM: Is there a Distant Sponsorship committee or sub-committee?

A) At the moment there is only one member. Officially came under our remit in January and at first it wasn't a problem but in these past few months I am doing a lot more.

Q) South East London RCM: Why was you asking for a stipend?

A) Increase in the number of calls. Current stipend is £2,000 to per month and asking it to be increased to £2,260 per month (increase of 12.5%) plus asking for £500 float.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Do you have any ideas how we can support you?

A) Need people to help support the distant sponsorship committee by stepping forward.

Q) Alt RD: What length of term are commitments for?

A) Positions are archived. All commitments are for one year or you can do two terms.

Q) Alt RD: Do you feel that website/helpline committee is the best committee (for DS) to sit within?

A) Yes, as a lot is UK based.

- RD: Thinks it is a Fellowship Development issue and suggests speaking to EDM and ask them to take Distant Sponsorship on.

Q) Acting chair: Do they offer funding or require anything from website committee?

A) Memory stick and business cards that have been asked for.

- RSC Treasurer: Financially speaking we can afford website/helpline in stipend & float.

Q) Yorkshire & Humberside RCM: Who's funding dinner at Amsterdam convention?

A) He was going to EECNA anyway so said he was doing this.

Q) Dorset Alt RCM: Have you discussed Distant Sponsorship with your committee?

A) Yes, I have.

Q) Alt RD: Can you clarify then the current commitment that this Distant Sponsorship lead has; when did this commitment start; and when are the 12 months up?

A) I wasn't there when he started it and it's probably due about 3 years ago.

- West Midlands RCM: Distant sponsorship was under the umbrella of Fellowship development initially, maybe we need to speak to ex-sponsorship development chair.
- Alt RD: Distant sponsorship chair is going to EECNA in 2 weeks. Remit asked for.
- RD: If help is needed in distant sponsorship then EDM may be best place to ask for it.

To be continued in New Business.

[UKPI Subcommittee Report - read by Northern Trainer.](#)

Questions from the body.

Q) Kent RCM: Why is skype not available in your meeting.

A) No Wi-Fi

Q) Farsi RCM: When is your meeting time, time of day?

A) First Tuesday of each month, it's in report.

Q) Vice-secretary: £120 to rent a room (for future meetings) seems steep? I know that North London H&I got a much cheaper venue when they needed to.

A) Liaise with me.

- Acting chair: Farsi meeting place is an option, it has Wi-Fi and is cheaper, will give details later.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: What other things have you been doing rather than just the learning days?

A) Presentations to large bodies, government bodies, HMPPS, I think it's in the report.

- West Midlands RCM: Thanks for representing UKPI at our service learning day.
- RSC Treasurer: Request for stipend is fine. Thank you for being pro-active on getting on the bank account.

Q) RSC Treasurer: Training literature that you give out, is that just something that PI sell or UKSO as well?

A) We order a small amount of literature to do a presentation, £136 (average) so we can give out this literature to people that attend and leave whatever is left to that area who wouldn't otherwise see this kind of literature.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Can UKPI liaise with Farsi (groups) to see if they can do what they do?

A) Yes, will speak to their committee.

UKCNA Report – read by their vice-chair

- West Midlands expressed their support for current vice-chair to become chair of UKCNA 30

Q) Surrey RCM: If anyone steps up to do service on your committee do they get their expenses paid to travel to Birmingham?

A) We pay one set of fares per committee.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: There was an issue around buffet food running out.

A) The Hilton does catering per people attending. (Acknowledges that something needs to be done)

- RD: It's an on-going contract, talk to hotel, challenge them and maybe they will increase staff to serve etc.

Q) RSC Treasurer: When can we expect a spreadsheet?

A) Soon as possible.

Q) RSC Treasurer: Regarding transferring money back to RSC?

A) Speak to treasurer, probably £12,000 by next weekend.

Q) Alt Rd: Regarding leftover merchandise; send to EDM to sell?

A) Yes, good idea if we can sell them

Q) UKSO director (Micky): Maybe take stuff back that went unsold as (vendor) makes living from NA?

A) Better to move it on rather than paying return postage.

Ratification: UKCNA Chair: Aiden

- Concept 4 read out by vice resource.
- NA CV given by Aidan.

- Roles & responsibilities and question from the RSC guidelines read out by vice resource.
- Aidan: Don't have any problems or anything that stood out (with those).

Questions from the body:

Q) Farsi RCM: Does your sponsor know (about putting yourself forward)?

A) Yes

Q) Edinburgh & Lothians RCM: Do you have an action plan, vision?

A) To put on convention in the spirit of NA, to carry the message, accountable to region, and financial prudence.

- Aidan left the room for questions from the body, there was however none and voting RCM's cast their vote.
- Acting chair & Alt RD counted votes.
- Unanimous decision to vote in Aidan as the new UKCNA chair.
- Aidan was given a round of applause on his return to the room.

UKSO Report – Director (Bonita) read report

- The UKSO will stock both IP 29 and the UK version – ‘What to expect at your first NA meeting’ hereafter.

Q) West Midlands RCM: Is the normal operating procedure that any profit over any financial year that a certain amount goes back to the fellowship?

A) Don't know when it came to region originally but that wasn't a proposal from the current set of directors.

Q) West Midlands RCM: Wasn't it the director's that brought 3 options to this body for the RCM's to take back to their areas (as I did) and now all of a sudden something's changed.

A) It wasn't clear that region was given two parts, it was just discussed as a surplus fund. On discussion with the UKSO office manager it was identified that there are two very different parts.

- Vice resource: clarifies new RSC guidelines regarding surplus funds to the old guidelines.
- Discussion had by body around surplus funds (after various members expressed confusion).

Q) Website/Helpline Chair: Are you thinking of becoming a registered charity or getting charity status with HMRC?

A) Believe it was for registration. I will clarify that with UKSO director (Lucy)

Q) Website/Helpline Chair: Where are your meetings held, director's and office meetings?

A) Currently it's alternate, but I will take that back, at the moment it is a bit of a tight turnaround.

Information: Vice resource:

- 1) Regarding report deadline, due 4 days before your meeting.
 - A) Will take back if it is a clash at the moment.
- 2) The UKSO directors did bring options to us, but the motion to take things back to groups only referred to £13,250 rebate, it didn't refer to the trading surplus which is already covered in the guidelines.

Q) South Wales RCM: Our area would like complete transparency around the UKSO accounts.

A) As far as I'm aware the last two regions there's been financial reports, so I don't really understand the question of visibility being provided.

- UKH&I chair: At UKCNA 29 due to changing our time slot with yours UKH&I paid your excess fares (will bring to region in report for clarity).

Q) South East London RCM: Regarding travel expenses, says on here (report) that information is available on request, how do we request it?

A) What was agreed is that anybody travelling to board meetings would get their travel expenses paid within reason. Part of that policy is buying standard tickets, agreed hotel expenses of maximum £80 per person per night (if needed).

- Acting chair: Sorry (to interrupt) but when you say within reasonable limits, for example; for petrol this region has a policy of only charging for petrol. Do you have the same policy, or do you charge the national rate (45p per mile), what is reasonable?
- Answer: We had agreed the government guidelines of 45p per mile for the first 10,000 miles. If region thinks that's unfair we can take it back to the board. We took maintenance and insurance of vehicles on board in making our decision.
- Acting chair: We should all be working from the same policy that we have here at region and not have your own.
- UKSO Director (Andy S) We will take that on board.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Regarding the £13,000 rebate, if you did decide to give it back how would it given back; would it be in the form of a credit note, though I've been informed that because UKSO is a limited company there are tax issues so would like some clarity around that.

A) It's always been done in the form of a credit note to areas based on a percentage of an areas sales were to make it fair across the board. We will see what comes back from the recommendations that were sent out.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Can we refrain from mentioning the office managers name?

A) Will take that on board.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Where is the contractual obligation to give a pay rise?

A) The pay rise was agreed by the previous directors (that was our understanding).

- Kent RCM: There was a motion made and passed at this region in January that asked for a suspension of a pay rise.
- UKSO Director (Bonita): Pay rise was deemed fit within pay scale and has gone ahead.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Your Wednesday morning meeting is not accessible really to anyone so was wondering if we can access that by Skype or facilities like that?

A) Will review but they are available to connect on-line. Will take back.

Q) RSC Treasurer: Policies that have been agreed and the existing ones and the procedures, once you have them finalised will it be possible to get a copy to resource?

A) Yes

Q) Yorkshire & Humberside RCM: Are we talking about charitable status for UKSO, Service Office, or for the Fellowship?

A) Looking into it as UKSO is a company.

- Acting chair: To the body - Why can't UKSO give out free literature to UKH&I & PI to give to their sub-committees out of the surplus funds rather than region funds? Questions welcomed.
- RD: My understanding of locally produced literature, long as it says so and not say it's conference approved is entirely legitimate for us to distribute and even sell it within our region because it is regionally approved literature.

Acting chair: asks for a show of hands on how many areas have come back with a conscience on what to do with UKSO surplus money.

Result – 7

Acting chair: Wants to hear from those that haven't got a conscience from their areas and asks if they are happy to form a conscience here today.

Discussion and views heard from the RCM's.

Vice Resource: Reads out options that areas were asked to bring back a conscience on regarding the £13,250 rebate.

Option 1 - £13250 in UKSO rebate surplus to be given back to the fellowship as literature credit.

Option 2 - £13250 in UKSO rebate surplus to be held by Service office to offset literature price increase.

Option 3 - £13250 in UKSO surplus rebate to be held by Service office to be used for the relocation of service office in the future.

Voting: 15 RCM's (Present at time of voting)

Option 1: 4

Option 2: 4

Option 3: 7

- Some RCM's said they didn't want to take part in a new vote when they already had their conscience from their area.
- Alt RD & RD both shared their experience in the process of CBDM and how it works.
- Further discussion on the 3 options by the body

Motion deferred until next region for RCM's to gather their respective ASC's conscience and bring back to region in September.

UKSO Vision Report – Read by Craig

Questions from the body:

Q) North West London RCM: What month is the new lease due?

A) June 2020 (3 months' notice), October 2020 is when the rent goes up.

Q) RSC Treasurer: Is there a cost involved regarding 'Blue jeans'.

A) No cost implication.

Q) North West England & North Wales Alt RCM: Is 2020 when you can start moving?

A) There is no new lease, it's a 5-year lease, rent goes up in 2020. We only have to give 3 months' notice.

UKH&I Report – Read by their chair

- UKH&I Chair: Apology. Before I start I would like to make an apology to West Midlands RCM for breaking their anonymity. I was talking to the treasurer this morning and they overheard me, and I broke their anonymity by using their surname, so I want to apologise for that.

Highlights prison sponsorship.

- They are doing so well, they are working with New Zealand.
 - That they (UKPS) are the lead in the world and has been noted from the RD's from World (NAWS) and were the ones that got Europe into it.
 - Would like the RD to take back to the EDM and ask if they would like Prison Sponsorship to come to the next European learning day and do a workshop on Prison Sponsorship as they carry (I Believe) message that Europe should hear about.
-

Questions from the body.

Q) Are you asking for any money?

A) No, while there is an audit on I think we should just run on what money we have in the bank.

- RD: Encourage you to use the term institutions rather than institutes as they are fundamentally different things.
- I (RD) and the Alt Rd have spoken about prison sponsorship at EECNA and will try and raise that question at EDM.
- West Midlands RCM: Regarding apology from UKH&I Chair. I don't expect somebody to mention my name in a hotel corridor. I will accept the apology under duress but it's not OK.
- UKH&I Chair thanked West Midlands RCM for accepting his apology.

Q) West Midlands RCM: Why in your own report was it £455 to attend a region in January?

A) This is a mix-up and is not correctly put on the spreadsheet as it was actually to attend somewhere else as well, I'm not sure where, I'll have to have a look.

Q) West Midlands RCM: In report it says £320 for purchasing merchandise but you've just said that if you pay by cheque it's £380.

A) The £320 was what I was given to get the T-shirts, however I was away, and another member had to pick them up and I had to pay on my card and because it was on my card they charged me £380. I then had to get the excess money back.

Q) West Midlands RCM: Why was a person that has nothing to do with merchandise anymore given £300 of NA's money?

A) Chair alleges to do workshops. I did 4 workshops and a member from prison sponsorship did them with me, our treasurer covered the selling of T-shirts during the UK convention.

Q) West Midlands RCM: Why is NA's money being used to the expense of £731 for people to attend the UK convention to do workshops, also roughly £500 to attend the London convention. Is this prudent use of NA funds?

A) Felt intimidated into giving the money. No, it is not prudent use of NA money.

Q) West Midlands RCM: Point of clarity: Are you saying you paid somebody's expenses that hasn't done service, is that what you are saying?

A) Yes, but that wasn't known at the time, it is now alleged they didn't do the workshops.

Q) Farsi Alt RCM: How long do you need to do a workshop and any specific day in mind?

A) Presentations are usually an hour on the date that you want.

Q) South West London RCM: It's not just about prisons it's about institutions as well. Would like to know what plans you have to include institutions?

A) We are doing it already

Q) South West London RCM: Regarding the communication between UKH&I and local H&I, what can we do to help you with that communication?

A) Speak to me, can Skype, come to our committee meeting in London.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: The cost of T-shirts and expenses for people attending to sell them out-weighs the cost of just buying the Basic Text's, to begin with.

A) The chair of UKH&I said it is something that needs to be looked at.

Q) North West England & North Wales RCM: Regarding money handed over to attend convention, do you feel bullied?

A) Chair asks for more support as he feels unable to refuse expenses to certain committee members and agreed that funds may have been misappropriated.

- West Midlands RCM: Can the motion that was brought and seconded yesterday be actioned today?

Acting chair: Is anyone against this motion going forward?

No one objected so consensus was reached.

- RSC Treasurer: As we are not giving any money to UKH&I something might come up in the next 2 months that has to be paid, are you going to give me the authority to make the decision on that.
- Acting chair: After no objections from the body, yes.
- Dorset Alt RCM: Asks in general why can't local H&I cover conventions in their areas rather than UKH&I travel all that way and stay in hotels.
- RD: It's clear that change is needed and shared their experience of when being involved in the EDM some 10-15 years ago around change.

RSC Treasurer's report: Read by Treasurer

- Suggests donations from region to EDM & WSC of £9,334.94 each (£18,669.90 total) be paid into their (treasurer's) personal bank account and transferred straight out again whilst here.
 - Discussion had by the body on the implications of doing this and possible alternatives.
 - Body agrees to suggestion made by the RSC treasurer.
 - Treasurer states that the process has been successful at 4.46pm.
 - Body agrees to Website/Helpline request for increase in this month's stipend.
-
- After donations and stipends sub-total is £16,717.90
 - We give 20% donation over our prudent reserve to both the EDM & WSC which this region would be £1,139.98 to each, which body agrees to pay.

- Discussion had by the body regarding booking and payment of hotel by the RSC Treasurer for this region (As disclosed yesterday by RSC Treasurer).
- RSC Treasurer tried to recuperate money but was refused by hotel.
- Consensus reached for the treasurer not to have to repay money themselves.

Amends by RSC Treasurer: Repaid £54 personally as amends for not asking 2 RCM's if they were happy with the cost of the room (difference in deal).

- Discussion had on whether RD should pay the difference of having a single room to a double for the 2 nights at this region.
- Result: No, after Acting chair sked if anyone was against.

Closing Balance	£14,394.34
Prudent reserve	£11,020.
Available funds	£3,374.34

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- Vice resource reads out letter that has been written regarding the apology and explanation over the 4 meetings in Yorkshire. Motion Number - 07-18 (1st Motion).
 - Discussion had by body on how to deliver it.
 - West Midlands RCM: Wants the motion that they brought to be a stand-alone motion.
 - Vice resource reads out the motion brought by West Midlands RCM

New Business

Motion Number - 09-18

Topic - Decision making

Date - 12.05.18

Motion - That the body take an inventory about the way decisions are made and whether sufficient time is allowed.

Intent - To ensure a loving higher power is invited into our decision-making process.

Discussion had by the body on possible solution. Some ideas by the body were:

- RD Workshop.
- Time slot for a discussion.
- Workgroups around decision making process.

- RD shares their experience around workshops and using upcoming material from WSC due to be released in next few months.

Further discussion had by the body.

RD & Alt RD will be doing a CBDM workshop in September.

Skype Ratification: Discussion

Acting chair: Clarifies current policy of this body. That no one gets ratified or elected without being present here.

Discussion had by body to see if they would like a change in policy to allow members to be ratified of sub-committees via Skype or remotely without physically having to attend.

Acting chair: Concludes that if anyone feels strongly about change then please write a motion out and bring to next region to put into old business.

Inventory taking for this body

Discussion had by the body.

- An inventory Ad-Hoc committee to be formed.
 - South East London RCM, Farsi RCM, and Website/Helpline Chair all put themselves forward for this Ad-hoc committee.
 - Inventory questions will be sent out shortly by the newly formed Ad-hoc committee.
 - There will be a centralised email address to return all responses. Please do so as soon as possible so that they may collate information for the September RSC meeting.
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South East London RCM Reads out a motion that they have just put together.

Motion 13-18

Topic – distance ratification

Taking into account in some circumstances such as disability, geographical location, or similar, NA members are unable to attend UK RSC to be ratified for service position the UK RSC will allow for a video link (Skype facility to be used for this purpose).

Motion seconded by Farsi RCM and put into old business for next region.

ACTION FOR RCMs:

*Please let your local area H&I Chairs know it is suggested that part of their service is to attend the UKH&I sub-committee meeting where possible. Your presence and input would be greatly appreciated.

*Could RCMs highlight to members who fulfil the necessary requirements, the fact that we have people in prison willing to work the NA steps who need sponsoring.

*Please can we have feedback of a negative nature where members who have been previously cleared and have now been refused, and members with no criminal record or court history who have also been refused. This is an on-going request, we hear of these negative happenings, but can we please have some personal evidence.

*Please ask your local H&I Chairs to forward their 'positive prison access' contacts, these will be CARAT workers or Prison Governors details who we can approach for positive feedback about the introduction of NA into their facilities, where security has been relaxed.

*Please put Prison Sponsorship out there UKH&I needs you.

****ACTION – RCMs to get conscience from their areas for the next RSC****

Please see below:

Motion Number	Topic	Motion	Intent
05-18 11.03.18	UKSO	That all RCMs take back the following options to their ASCs in order to gather a conscience on which of these the RSC shall direct the UKSO subcommittee to action: Option 1 - £13250 in UKSO rebate surplus to be given back to the fellowship as literature credit. Option 2 - £13250 in UKSO rebate surplus to be held by Service office to offset literature price increase. Option 3 - £13250 in UKSO surplus rebate to be held by Service office to be used for the relocation of service office in the future. This conscience is to be returned at the May RSC	To allow the UK fellowship to guide the RSC and through it, the UKSO

The first two options relate to literature, either credit (which only supports the ASCs that order literature separately) or offset of price increases;

the third option refers to holding funds to await the conclusions of the ad hoc VisionUKSO committee, tasked by the RCMs to examine to future and function of the UKSO and where that service might best take place.

If a decision cannot be made in September, the directors will act as trusted servants to allocate these funds.

ACTION for RCMs - FD need a new chair and treasurer please put these positions out to the fellowship and the ASCs

ACTION FOR RCMs – Please take back to your ASCs and ask GSRs to announce the positions vacant at Distance Sponsorship.

ACTION FOR RCMs - Please take back to your ASCs and ask GSRs to announce the many opportunities for doing service within the subcommittees. Some of these committee meetings can be attended via skype and members are welcome to attend to observe as well as taking commitments.

Region – September 2018
Sat 8 th & Sun 9 th July
Phoenix Mills, 20 Percy Street Manchester, M4 7HY:
Region – November 2018
Sat 10 th & Sun 11 th July
63-75 King Street, Norwich NR1 1PH

ILS Terry (Vice Secretary)

Motions passed at the July RSC

Motion Number	Topic	Motion	Intent	Made/2nd	Resource implications	Action if any:
07-18 12.05.18	Illicit literature/ website policy	<p>For the policy regarding 'illicit literature' from May 2017 to be amended as follows.</p> <p><i>When it is discovered that a meeting has been using 'illicit literature' (non-conference approved literature)</i></p> <p>The meeting shall only be removed from the website provided the following steps have been undertaken, in keeping with FIPT bulletin 5 conflict resolution. FIPT 5</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two members of the appropriate ASC to attend the meeting's conscience to discuss the issue. If the meeting is found to be using non-conference approved NA literature, a discussion should be had as to why this should not be used, and the group asked to return to using only conference approved NA literature to stay as a recognised NA meeting. 2. If agreement is not found the group has the right to bring this to the ASC. A discussion should be conducted there to encourage the return to using only conference approved NA literature. 3. If there is still no agreement at the ASC meeting, the ASC can request support from the RSC for the RD to attend, in order to help facilitate the discussion, and provide clarity as to why this literature should not be used, in a hope of resolution. 4. If after 2 regions the meeting is still using non-conference approved NA literature then the meeting will be marked as folded as it is no longer recognised as an NA meeting. <p>(should the meeting return to using only conference approved NA literature, they may request to be reinstated on the website)</p> <p><i>** taking into account that some groups may be young or less experienced than others, the above steps should be taken with the spirit of NA, compassion care and unity.</i></p> <p><i>This supersedes the following policy:</i> <i>(It is policy not to recognise meetings that do not use conference approved NA literature as NA meetings in accordance to NAWs conscience and not to list them on any WTF or NA Website. May 2017 In regards to the baby blues it was the consensus of the body that no, you don't have them on the meetings list if using non-NA approved literature November 2017)</i></p>	<p>To bring unity and a clear solution focussed process to this issue.</p> <p>To have a more spiritual process to deal with the use of unapproved literature within the UK NA meetings</p>	<p>NWENW ASC Surrey ASC</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Possible discussion time within the ASC and/or RSC time and possible travel expenses of ASC / RCS members. Website time</p>	<p>Supersedes motions from May/Nov 2017</p> <p>To be amended in RSC guidelines and website guidelines</p>
08-18 12.05.18	Illicit literature	<p>For this regional body to reach out to the to the members of the meetings in York that were displayed as 'not an NA meeting' on the UKNA website, as a result of the RSC policy dated May 2017; in order to explain and make amends.</p>	<p>To make amends to those members named above and restore unity.</p>	<p>NWENW ASC Kent</p>		<p>Passed – 2RCMs to take to next ASC; explanation of policy to be shared with all RCMs 13</p>



Motion Number	Topic	Motion	Intent	Made/2nd	Resource implications	Action if any:
09-18 12.05.18	Decision making	That the body take an inventory about the way decisions are made and whether sufficient time is allowed. That the RDs hold a workshop on CBDM That the body reflect on the process by which we invite a loving higher power in.	To ensure a loving higher power is invited into our decision-making process.	WMASC, NWENWASC		This is already in motion – the RDs will take the lead on this.
10-18 12.05.18	Archiving	To form committee to inventory our archives	This is our heritage and it is vital to ascertain what is in there. We need to consider the financial implication of the current storage system	NASASC WMASC	£100.00/month	Motion withdrawn. There is information in the guidelines on how a previously folded subcommittee can be reformed.
11-18 14.07.18	H&I finances	That the UKRSC treasurer inspect the UKH&I finances for the last 12 months in line with our guidelines and concept 11. Report to be made back to body by November 2018 RSC.	Greater transparency and accountability on how our money is being used and if we are being prudent and managed responsibly	WMASC NWENWASC	Treasurer's time; expenses for UKH&I treasurer to attend Region	Passed unanimously

Approved