

RSC Minutes – Birmingham, 12th – 13th May 2018

Attendance: Saturday

Saturday 12th – 44 Members Present, 19 Voting RCM's

Admin Committee Members: 6

Sam I (Acting Chair); Simon (RD); Matt J (Alt RD); Chris (Treasurer); Kerry (Secretary); Terry (Vice Secretary)

Apologies – Sam K (Chair); Theresa (Vice Resources); Carlos (RCM, North East England NA)

RCM's: 18

Natalino (Dorset); Ramon (Farsi); Sandy (Greater Manchester); Hayley (Kent); Gary (Merseyside); Lynton (Norfolk & Suffolk); Isabelle (North East London); Lisa (North West England & North Wales); Faik (South East London); Charles (South West London); Craig (Surrey); Steve (Sussex); Liam (The Shires); Gareth (West Country); Matt W (West Midlands); Martina (Yorkshire & Humberside); Robert (North West London); Ruth (East & Central Lancashire)

Alternate RCM's: 6

Baz (Farsi); Az (West Midlands); Jade (West Country); Jan (South West London); Brian (Greater Manchester); Hardeep (South East London); Rachel (Channel Islands, Voting Alt RCM)

Sub Committee Members: 7

Andrew (UK Website/Helpline Chair & covering Resources); Micky (UKSO Interim Director); Steve B (UKH&I Chair); Mike (UKSO company Secretary); Massimo (UKPI Chair); Ian (UKCNA Chair); Aiden (UKCNA Vice Chair)

Visitors: 6

Francis; Lucy; Andy O; Tania; Earl; Stevie D

Opened meeting with the serenity prayer & a moments silence.

Introductions.

RCM Count: 19.

Service prayer read.

12 Concepts read.

Tradition 5 read from 'It Works How & Why' followed by discussion of member's experience.

Approval of minutes:

March 2018 RSC Minutes were approved.

Treasurer revealed opening balance of £11,286.25 with £11,020 as the prudent reserve.

Positions vacant on the RSC Admin Committee

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

Vice Treasurer (4 years clean time) No one put themselves forward)

Ratifications

1) UKPI Chair:

- Massimo put himself forward.
- Concept 4 was read out.
- Massimo gave his NA CV.
- Questions regarding position were read out from the RSC Guidelines for Massimo to answer.
- Questions from the floor then followed which all were answered.
- Massimo was asked to kindly leave the room for discussion on the floor.
- Voting procedure and rules were explained by the Chair before voting slips were given out to voting RCM's.
- Votes counted by Vice Chair & RD

Result: Massimo voted in as the new UKPI Chair and was given a round of applause on his return.

2) UKPI Treasurer

Request for ratification via Skype of a candidate who is unable to attend this region due to their disability.

- Vice Chair: RSC guidelines state that candidates have to be present for ratification.
- It was noted that RSC previously refused a Website committee member to be ratified via Skype and who has now stood down.
- UKPI Chair said candidate is Kevin, 68 years old, 33 years clean, and requires wheelchair access.
- Discussion had on exceptions of allowing ratification via Skype.
- UKSO Secretary suggested that Kevin could be named as interim treasurer for now which would not require him to attend region. Kevin could then attend region in the future when able to.
- Proper discussion regarding exceptions of allowing ratification via Skype put onto 'New Business' for next region.

Bid to host Region:

- Norfolk & Suffolk RCM brought a bid to host Region in November 2018.
- Venue: Church hall in Norwich
- Cost: £100 donation for the 2 days
- RCM's voted in favour.
- Please see attached bid for more details.

RCM Reports

1) Channel Islands – Rachel read report

ASC wanted to thank Region committee for their endeavours in assisting our local Fellowship whilst in Jersey.

- Questions for Region

Q) Help with CINA domain and email establishment for RCM correspondence.

A) Resources will help in this request

Q) Diverting the local Helpline to the UK helpline number.

A) Website/Helpline Chair said he would help in this request.

2) Dorset – Natalino read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Women's Unity Day is not on the website?

A) There is a link on the website to read the guidelines first.

- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) Can you break down your closing balance for next Region?

A) Convention £3,000; Out-going expenses £3,000; Cancelled campout £3,000 (which will now probably be brought to Region in July)

3) Farsi – Ramon read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Request for lobby space at UKCNA 29.

A) Chair of UKCNA said that they will find Farsi a space.

- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) Where & how do people order Farsi literature?

A) Contact Farsi RCM, PI, or from others that are on RCM report.

Q) Where do you buy your literature from?

A) Iran & Europe.

4) Greater Manchester – Sandy read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Is it appropriate for AL-ANON to be present at this year's convention?

A) Helpline gives out family anonymous number to help family members.

5) Kent – Hayley read report

- Questions for Region

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

A) No answer was given.

Q) We received flyers from another area posted to our ASC venue. What is the normal procedure for this? Do they need to send to UKSO and then UKSO send out to relevant ASC?

A) Interim Director said it is something that can be done but needs to speak to the Office Manager and will bring it back.

Q) We have 2 members, who are willing to be meeting contacts for a meeting on the website, but they don't have email addresses, or they don't use them. Can they be contacted verbally for authorization to use their details on the website?

A) No.

*RCMs to take back to their areas for feedback on the IP No.29 leaflet being put on the UKSO literature list.

6) Merseyside – Gary read report

- Questions for Region

Q) The last couple of regions RCM Reports time slot has been shortened to accommodate extra time allotted to other business. Recognise importance but also recognise being put under pressure to read my area conscience quick time. Can steering committee be aware of this please?

A) WTR Guidelines does state summary of report. Summarising key points of conscience should be sufficient.

RCM added that what he had read was in fact a summary.

- Questions for RCM by Body

Q) What does your ASC use 2 PC's & 2 printers for?

A) One each for secretary and literature person.

7) Norfolk & Suffolk – Lynton read report

- Questions for Region

None

8) North East London – Isabelle read report

- Questions for Region

Q) GSR's have raised concerns about the behaviour of some NA members on Facebook following the LCNA. We would like to ask for advice and suggestions on how to deal with this issue.

A) Experience given by body concerning social media postings. Website chair also gave examples on how posts can be moderated via the 'settings' on such sites.

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

- Questions for Region

Q) A few of our events are not getting put on the website - despite emails?

A) You can do this yourself.

**concerns that regional servants are no longer getting the backing of their ASCs and that this should now be written into the policies at region. - Intent to ensure that members are regular attendees of NA meetings and service bodies with the experience to fulfil these positions.

** suggest amendments to the policy removing meetings displaying illicit literature i.e.: meetings should first be spoken to in an effort to establish implications of this illicit literature and the consequences of this. - possible replication of the world service conference policy which includes also writing to the group sending formal letter regarding copyright infringements etc. and the decisions made by our fellowship as a whole through the various world service conferences over the years.

*Feedback from RD will be brought to July's Region before challenging use of illicit literature.

*RCM put motion forward and was put into new business for next RSC in July.

*FIPT Bulletin 1 was read out for clarity

10) South East London – Faik read report

11) South West London - Charles read report

- Questions for Region

None

12) Surrey – Craig read report

- Questions for Region

Q) When would it be possible to have the Literature online order forms ready? Our Area would like to start a Literature Service for our Groups.

A) Should be by July. UKSO company secretary shared experience on starting up area literature ordering from UKSO.

UKPI Chair offered setting up PI group for Surrey.

13) Sussex – Steve read report

- Questions for Region

Q) How far back do Regions account books, banking records, etcetera go? This question was answered to some degree during March UKRSC. Inferring that looking back any further might involve sifting through archives. Has any progress been made since last RSC? Where are UKNA archives stored? Who has current responsibility for the Archive?

A) Regarding ASC Account: Previous treasurer said to have received literally a carrier bag of receipts to sort out and did the best they could, meant that they were not able to be properly archived.

- Regarding progress & storage of archives: It was noted that the archives consist of NA's history & memorabilia; are in a locked garage in Warrington. The holder of the keys is a known member of NA who will be contacted in due course so as to gain access to archives. Progress can then be made in archiving it all.
- Norfolk & Suffolk RCM put forward a motion for an Adhoc committee to be set up to archive everything that has been stored. This was put into 'new business' for next Region.
- NWENW RCM said that they would contact the old Archive Chair.

Q) Brought forward to be asked again. Region January 2018 Preston. Near the close of business on Sunday an email was read out by Matt M.

- Who else received the email? When did the email arrive?
- In the interests of transparency, can we have it forwarded to all members of this Body?

A) UKSO Interim Director said that he had sent the email but was not prepared to forward it to anyone further as the matter has been resolved.

- Sussex RCM noted that he now has the answer he has been waiting for. (though this is unclear to what they were referring to).

Q) Steering committee minutes? Request for a copy of the most recent please. For future reference could all representatives of the UKRSC have these distributed through resources anyway?

A) Available on request as per RSC guidelines. These were sent to him during this RSC from Resource.

14) The Shires – Liam read report

- Questions for Region

Q) At our last ASC we had 3 GSRs present out of 22 groups. Wanted to ask for experience around attracting more GSRs and how to get more people involved with area service. Have there been any other areas that have experienced this? What did you do? And how is it now? As an area we struggle as geographically we cover a lot of area but still only 3 GSRs present at last ASC.

A) Members shared their experience about attracting GSR's to their local ASC. A good example was made by West Midlands RCM who shared how their area had introduced a 'Who to find' pamphlet as a new idea.

15) West Country – Gareth read report

- Questions for Region

Q) 12 Step volunteer form; Clarification, what to do with this list? Website is not easy to use.

*Clarification given by Website

Q) PI learning day not on the website?

*Clarification given by Website

Q) Westcountry.ukna.org comes up as 'meeting folded', what message does this give?

*Clarification given by Website

16) West Midlands – Matt W read report

- £13250 of UKSO money our Area have voted that it should be given back to the fellowship.
- Matt offered an apology for a meeting being closed when a newcomer tried to attend for not putting it on the website.

17) Yorkshire & Humberside – Martina read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Provision of literature by NHS England to all addicts attending Leeds hospitals. Is this affiliation?

A) UKPI stated that they have been doing a lot of work with NHS and have not found it a problem, so shouldn't be a concern. Stated that UKSO have been sending literature to NHS.

Q) Is there any written advice or references to areas under data regulation changes regarding holding information?

A) Website gave clarity on a 200pg document that will explain this.

Q) Can region assist with 'workshop' on roles and duties of RCM, GSR etc. at Unity Day or Convention?

A)

Regarding letter in report: Needs clarifying/modifying at ASC before discussion at RSC as couldn't do so beforehand.

18) North West London – Robert read report

- Robert said that NA archives are in 'Dropbox' and to see him for access.

19) East & Central Lancashire – Ruth read report

- Questions for Region

Q) Question concerning the 'Baby Blues', their literature and experience of them in NA.

A) Ruth stated that the question had been answered from previous RCM reports questions & answers.

Subcommittee reports:

UKH&I –

Steve B read report

- Questions from the body

Q) Do H&I hold raffles to raise money?

A) No, but great idea

Q) Would mutual aid tool kit be useful to send out?

A) Yes

Q) Are you keeping an accurate inventory now that merchandise & expenditure have been separated?

A) We are starting afresh after getting rid of old stock by selling it.

Q) Would you fund a learning day in Jersey?

A) Yes, can talk to you later about it. H&I and PI could combine Jersey workshop.

- Point of information by Lisa (RCM): Costs for H&I and PI to attend Jersey to do a workshop is cost effective as cheaper than doing many UK areas.

Q) Can Farsi get into prison to take meetings?

A) Yes, by all means, you are welcome.

- Merseyside RCM - regarding keys & H&I members being handed keys to get through the gate to wherever the H&I meeting is – my concern is that we could over expose ourselves.
- Sussex RCM – I am against sending in literature to set up a meeting (starter packs). If were going into prison but can't any longer then can support meeting by giving literature via ASC. I've got no issue with a prison applying for literature but would prefer a policy where we make some kind of input into whatever facility it is to help establish a meeting and then withdraw if necessary.

North West England & North Wales RCM – We have got experienced members in prison, some of them are struggling to stay clean and that's why they are requesting literature packs.

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.

Regional Delegate (RD) – Simon read session & summary report. (Please see RD's full report)

Q) Was there anything discussed regarding Iran?

A) Iran was one of- the major contributors even though they took part via the internet.

Q) A CEO called it an \$8 million-dollar corporation, is that turnover or profit?

A) NA is an 8-million-dollar business, (as described by Anthony, the ED).

Q) Would like to know what happened between the Tuesday & Thursday of the WSC that changed the RD's vote regarding FITP inspection?

A) In regards to FITP, straw poll gives a sense where people are, 80%+ triggers certain behaviours – it is not a vote.

- Meeting at WSC meeting decided to look at 5 of the 10 concerns put forward by South Florida Region.
- Gary (Merseyside RCM) read out these 5 concerns

Q) What is the reason for seating & not seating?

A) The criteria need to be met to qualify, some regions don't meet the criteria. Unseated regions now have an opportunity to have a voice.

Q) What's the amendment to motion 25?

A) Will need to look that up, it was an amendment to the original motion.

Q) How many delegates took up the offer of going to the ranch?

A) The majority did so, it was an afternoon of Fellowship and it helped with discussions of contentious issues.

Q) What is the seed fund now (Re: paragraph 2 of summary) as increased to £20,000 for £10,000.

A) We want to make an amendment to increase it to £12,000.

Q) Who is going to chair EDM in this country?

A) Don't know yet, UK to take the lead on this.

Q) Curious about money stolen from vice-treasurer?

A) Will give details and simplify tomorrow.

Q) Why are there 2 alternate zonal delegates?

A) To gain experience for stepping up.

Attendance Sunday

Sunday 13th May – 50 Members Present

RCM Count 19 (Including 1 voting Alt RCM)

In attendance also today were:

Candidates for UKSO Directors: Alex & Bonita

Jason (UKCNA Programming Chair); Mark (UKCNA Secretary)

Alison (UKH&I Treasurer)

Mike (Visitor)

Meeting began with the Serenity Prayer

Ratifications

UKH&I Treasurer in attendance for ratification - gave NA CV - discussion had & was ratified.

Subcommittee reports cont.

Ad Hoc Committee Vision of UKSO

Craig read report.

UKPI

Massimo read report.

*UKH&I thanked UKPI for working with them.

*UKPI will organise meeting by skype if people wanted to be present.

*UKPI would be happy to get more people on board for UKPI Training.

*UKPI are hoping to do a 2hr presentation with UKH&I at the UKCNA.

*UKPI meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month Bi-Monthly.

Election of UKSO Directors

Concept 4 was read out.

UKNA RSC guidelines excerpt read out.

UKSO Guidelines read out.

5 candidates for UKSO Directorship.

Alex; 34yrs clean – Gave NA CV & Business CV

Andy O; 17yrs 6mths clean – Gave NA CV & Business CV

Bonita; 7yrs 8mths clean – Gave NA CV & Business CV

Lucy; 6yrs clean – Gave NA CV & Business CV

Mickey; 37yrs clean – Gave NA CV & Business CV

Questions put to all candidates

Q) Are you willing to go with the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee Vision of UKSO and the RSC?

A) All candidates answered yes.

Q) Do any of you have any involvement or ties to the UKSO?

A) All candidates answered no except Lucy who said that she had been a paid consultant over GDPR guidance but this had now ended.

Q) If elected how would the team go about problem solving?

A) Working with diversity is where the answers lie, compromise, support each other, willing to listen, and a loving god.

Q) Are you all willing to be a part of the Ad Hoc Committee Vision of UKSO?

A) All candidates answered yes.

Q) Do any of the candidates have any experience in relocating?

A) All candidates answered yes except Bonita who said she had not.

Q) Are candidates familiar with the non-geographical ASC Fellowship and space for literature at UKSO office?

- Alex asked for clarity around this question. Farsi RCM and the RSC vice chair gave clarity.

A) All candidates thereafter answered yes.

Q) In regard to legal requirements are you able to work with the fellowship?

A) All candidates answered yes.

Q) Are all candidates prepared to go the long haul?

A) All candidates answered yes.

Q) What is motivating you to go for Directorship of UKSO?

A) Feels like the right time, can bring something to the role, skills and experience and to build an office to serve a bigger fellowship.

Q) What will be the first thing you would do if elected?

A) Have a meeting, set out an agenda for development of the UKSO office, need to approve new guidelines on GDPR, review accounts, look at the banking i.e.: 2 signatories and get a full understanding of priorities.

Q) Have any of you visited the UKSO office?

A) 3 candidates answered yes, and 2 candidates answered no but are willing to.

Q) Would you be willing to have website under Website/Helpline?

A) All candidates answered yes.

*Point of Clarity – If all 5 candidates are elected all Interim Directors will step down.

*All 5 candidates were appointed Directorship.

Subcommittee reports cont.

Website/Helpline

Andrew read report.

Q) In regard to new GDPR will you be getting consent from people on the 12-step list?

A) Will try and contact everyone.

*RCM expressed wanting to support Website/Helpline to attend UKCNA.

Q) Are leaflets being sent to UKSO to be distributed?

A) Not enough funds at present but would be willing to if given more funds.

*More funds were given for 1000 leaflets.

Q) Who are your ratified members?

A) The Chair.

Q) Will Website/Helpline be contacting the 12-step list?

A) Yes, all will be contacted.

Q) Who owns Website/Helpline?

A) It is registered under Narcotics Anonymous.

UKCNA29

Ian read report.

Q) Clarity requested whether there's a possibility of UKSO selling literature at the event?

A) Policy is literature sale on return.

Q) In regard to Facebook what provisions are in place?

A) Privacy setting is only members added and can't share info.

Q) How are you making sure anonymity isn't being broken?

A) Its like the clarity statement, as long as it's within NA i.e.: an event page.

Q) Are more rooms to be released?

A) Yes.

Q) Do the committee allow vendors to sell at the convention?

A) Not this year.

Q) Is it ok for other fellowships to have meetings i.e.: Naranon?

A) Yes, cooperation not endorsement.

Q) Could we not have electronic flyers?

A) Would need to see new GDPR will bring back.

Q) Have you been communicating effectively with the hotel to make sure what happened on NYE won't happen again re: check in?

A) Yes.

Question to Region

Q) To explore proposed bid (attached) and ratify our chair who is in attendance should this bid be successful. Vice-Chair and Treasurer will be in attendance for July's Region.

A) Experience was given by the Alt RD on how the EDM do it electronically, also as a committee you have the autonomy.

UKCNA30 Bid

Aiden read bid.

West Midlands RCM objected to overlook the statement in the guidelines and not happy the Admin Committee disregarded guidelines.

Guideline: - Any UK Convention bid must have the backing of the relevant ASC.
UKCNA bid did not have this and they had not consulted West Midlands ASC.

Suggestion to liaise with ASC and email the RCMs.

Motion re: UKCNA30 approval

****That the UKCNA bid for July 2019 be approved conditional on written consent being obtained from WMASC****

Motion was passed.

UKSO

Mickey read report.

RCM thanked interim Director for all his hard work in his absence.

Q) Will the Interim Company Secretary be standing for Company Secretary?

A) That's is something the Directors will decide.

Q) Are you ok to add leaflets into the literature orders?

A) Will discuss as a body (Directors) and bring back.

Q) Did you speak to NAWS re: literature and printing our own?

A) They're not very trusting at the moment, but as a body we will be looking at that.

Q) Why the 8% increase on literature when the exchange rate is getting better?

A) Not yet been discussed as we have not got responses from everyone.

Actions for RCMs

**** ACTION for RCMs to get conscience from their areas on how they would like to go forward with the money from the rebate for the next RSC****

Motion was read out from March RSC regards the surplus.

Motion Number	Topic	Date	Motion	Intent
05-18	UKSO	11.03.18	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 surplus to be given back to the fellowship as literature credit. Option 2 - £13250 in UKSO surplus to be held by Service office to offset literature price increase. Option 3 - £13250 in UKSO surplus 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

This conscience is to be returned to the July RSC.

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.

Treasurers Report – Chris read report.

Opening Balance - £11,286.25

Total Donations - £15,467.41 (of which £6,243.89 in yet to be cleared cheques)

Closing Balance - £17,518.62 (Including un-cleared cheques)

Treasurer stated that they had tried four different companies to transfer funds but all said that letter headed payment was required.

Proposal – To have a letter headed payment. This is to meet financial regulations of this country and is at this moment a one-off.

RCM's Voted – Carried

Subcommittee Reports cont.

RD report (continued) (Please see RD's full report regarding proposals)

These are the existing proposals we will make decisions on at summer EDM (European Delegates Meeting) July 2018.

- Poland's proposal to increase ECCNA (European Conference and Convention of NA) seed fund from 10,000 euro to 20,000 euro.

AD's Suggestion: to propose an amendment to the existing proposal to increase ECCNA seed fund from 10,000 to 12,000 euro to be in line with inflation and the growth of NA.

Carried

- Netherlands proposal to move EDM to Tuesday so delegates are able to attend (ECCNA) the convention.

AD's Suggestion: to (strongly) object to this on the basis that delegates attend ECCNA to serve at

the EDM, which in its current form functions very well. If we were to change this it would require many delegates to take even more time off work and away from family due to moving to weekdays.

Carried

- Italy's proposal to change guidelines to 'candidates for election need to be supported by their regions and present at election'.

AD's Suggestion: to offer a friendly amendment to state 'candidates for election should have the expressed support of their regions carried by regional delegate'.

Carried

- How to deal with 3,000 euro lost by previous ECCNA treasurer.

AD's Suggestion: Express our concerns and neither recommend nor object to any further action.

Carried

New Business

- CBDM Workshop to go ahead at next Region.
- Regarding inventory taking – Please email resources if you have any further questions to ask or to be added.
- Discussion had on whether to set up an Ad-Hoc Committee or a Sub-Committee regarding looking at NA Archives. Decision was to now look at again at next Region in Preston. Key-holder of lock-up where archives are stored to be contacted to see if they can attend next RSC in Preston.
- Note: For the purpose of companies' house there are in effect now 6 UKSO directors as Andy Z is still on and can't be taken off by Region.

Region – July 2018
Sat 14 th & Sun 15 th July
Cotton Court
Preston
PR1 3BY

- Region for September is yet unknown as the default venue is undergoing changes that will no longer facilitate the numbers attending. Notification of September's RSC venue will be made available as soon as possible.

ILS Kerry (Secretary) & Terry (Vice Secretary)