ACC Board Meeting Wednesday 17th May 2023

Venue: Zoom

(Meeting commenced 1.30 am)

Title

Opening: TR spoke of Mental Health Week and the fact that 1 in 6 would be diagnosed with Generalised Anxiety this year. He referred to Philippians 4:6-7 and the incongruity of being commanded not to be anxious. How do we respond to this?

In attendance: Sue Monckton-Rickett Chair (SMR); Chris Williams Deputy Chair (CW); Tony Ruddle (TR); Peter Roberts (PR) left meeting after financial report to visit a family member in hospital; Phil Martin (PM); Janet McNish (JMN) Sean Charlesworth (SC); Christine Pinder (CP); Wein Fung (WF); Sharon Hastings (SH) & Kathy Spooner (KS);

Gathoni Hamilton-Foster (GHF) hoped to join later in afternoon, but did not attend.

Apologies: SMR reported that she had meet with both Jim McRae (JMR) and Peter Barraclough (PB) concerning their absence from Board meetings,

JMR - after the meeting he had reflected on his changed situation due to demands elsewhere and has decided to stand down from the Board. The Board with thanks and regret accepted his resignation with immediate effect;

PB - had requested a continued period of absence. The Board agreed to this request.

SMR said that the order of the agenda needed to be changed.

Finance Report

1. PR presented the 2022 Annual Accounts and Report. He expressed his thanks to the independent examiners and SMR for their support and help.

SMR expressed thanks to PR for the work this report required to meet deadlines.

The Board unanimously approved the 2022 Annual Report and Accounts to go to the AGM.

Minutes of the 21st April 2023

2. The minutes 21st April were approved.

Matters Arising: CW reported a meeting 13th July 3.30pm has been arranged with Bishop Lusa. SMR & KS to attend.

There was a discussion about the resignation and appointment of a new Accord editor.

SMR asked for other Board members to be involved in the interviews. PM and SH agreed to participate in the selection and interview process for Accord editor. SMR asked all Board member to circulate the information about the Editor position in their circles and contacts..

AOB: Update on NHS and Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative.

Standing items

3. **Conflict of Interest**:- no changes and none for this meeting.

RAP/PSA - KS has asked guidance from the PSA on how what they expect to be captured for EDI

Diversity & Inclusion - SH reported BACP will be holding a launch event in circa November which will be open to all coalition members for the Coalition for Inclusion and Anti-Oppressive Practice's Toolkit for Counselling Training The coalition will most likely also have their own launch. CW stated that we needed to be proactive and hold our training for our members - possibly an article in Accord, autumn conference /forum. SMR asked when we would have a copy to review and KS raised questions about the quality of the content, given the feedback from the first draft. SH believed that these will hav been addressed in redraft.

CW & SH researching EDI resources. CW now working on a review of the 2020 EDI policy documents. CW proposed the potential need for an EDI steering group made up of members from ACC subgroups.

Chair Report

4. **Complaints Update -** SMR presented her written report. On one complaint, ACC are seeking legal advice about a question raised by the member's legal team.

Board/RAP Representative - It was agreed that CW and CP would be the Board representatives in September and December meetings respectively.

RAP Recruitment - SMR requested that a Board member work with her on this. CW agreed to do this. Suggestions for where to advertise and names are welcome. Professional Regulatory Ethical framework experience an essential.

Board Nominations & Re-election Schedule - It was agreed that in order to mitigate against the risk of 50% of Board members standing down in one year, the re-election cycle for 3 Board members would be brought forward from 2024 to 2023. TR and SMR agreed to this (if they choose to stand for a third term in 2026 and are re-elected this will be for 4 years to have a total of 9 years). SMR would contact GHF to ask if she would agree to be re-elected in 2023 rather than 2024 and would also stand for a 4 year terms in 2026 if she chose to stand for a third term.

CEO Update

KS presented her written report. Nnoted membership numbers were increasing which was encouraging. KS said that the frustration was the slow nature of getting new system on stream.

The Board gave approval to the draft document "What is Christian about ACC or What make ACC a Christian Organisation?" KS was thanked for the excellent document.

A brief discussion took place about is ACC a campaigning organisation

Ethnic Tapestry

- 6. Leroy Harley joined the meeting at 4 pm. Seeking to produce a flyer to create interest and understanding encouraging others to join. For the next meeting the group plans to discuss:
 - Crowdfunding is on the agenda for a meeting this coming Friday. KS and SMR
 highlighted the need for care as this would be a very public exercise with monies
 raised for specific project needing to be in a restricted fund and the group would

- need discuss what the funding was for and the approach with the Board before proceeding.
- How to enable Black men to feel comfortable expressing their need of counselling and the crisis in mental health for ethnic minorities.

An invitation was given to Ethnic Tapestry to make a 5 minute presentation at the AGM.

LH was encouraged by comment raised in recent forum on inclusivity, where a white counsellor had found the suggestions from one of the forums on racism had helped her therapeutic work with a black client.

SMR asked that Leroy to raise in the next Ethnic Tapestry meeting what might be helpful as a follow with regard to Accord article issues. Leroy left at 4.30pm

AOB - NHS scheme potentially ending due to no further funding from the NHS. This will 7. be confirmed or otherwise on after a NHS meeting on Thursday.

ACC are holding a prayer meeting under Thy Kingdom Come open to all members with 5 minute slots to pray for different aspects of counselling and pastoral care over an hour period. SMR invited any who would like to contribute to those slots.

Next meeting 16th June 1.30 pm.

ACC AGM 15th July.

Approved

Sue Monckton-Rickett

Chair

16 June 2023