



Minutes of ASC held in Ballynafeigh 14th June 2009

In Attendance: Stephen M (secretary) Steve W Peter Mac Sarah Mc C(Chair) Vinny D
Josephine D Shane C Tommy P Ryan R Ian M Gary T

<u>Apologies:</u> _____ Dungannon Group	<u>Previous Minutes:</u> Passed	<u>Traditions:</u> Stevie M
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GROUP REPORTS:

Monday Clonard
Basic text meeting

NO REPORT

Monday Downshire **See Newcastle**

Monday Dungannon

NO REPORT

Tuesday City Church

Average 6 people per meeting, Needs support. Good message of recovery. Thanks to Stan for standing in as Secretary when Gary was on holiday. Welcome to Tony as tea-person. NEEDS GSR

Starting balance	£ 47.20
Rent	£ 20.00 to be paid for Aug/Sept
Literature	£ 22.00 reserved for order
Expenses	£ paid
Donation to Area	£ 20.00
Closing Balance	£ 09.14

Tuesday Sr Concillio's (Newry)

Meeting going well, Regular newcomers

Starting balance	£ 116.00 + 20 euro
Rent	£ 20.00
Literature	£ 5.00 + 20 euro
Expenses	£ 20.00
Donation to Area	£ 80.80
Closing Balance	£ 20.00

Wednesday Lisburn

NO REPORT

Wednesday shaftsbury sq (traditions meeting)

NO REPORT

Wednesday Letterkenny

NO REPORT

Thursday Ballynafiegh

Thanks to Jeannie for service and welcome to Karla as Secretary, well supported, good message of recovery, average attendance 12 per meeting. THIS MEETING NEEDS A GSR

Starting balance	£ 34.95
Rent	£ paid to 10/09/09
Literature	£ saving for an order
Expenses	£ paid
Donation to Area	£ No Donation
Closing Balance	£ 41.76

Thursday Downshire

See Newcastle

Thursday White Oaks

NO REPORT

Friday University st.

NO REPORT

Friday Creggan

NO REPORT

Friday Coleraine

NO REPORT

Friday Newcastle

All meetings going well, Attendance between 7-9. All positions filled. Would like support from other members. We are currently looking at plans to hold an NA Christmas Dinner, this will include a nice meal, 2 speakers, 1 male and 1 female and a dance after in an alcohol free environment. We will keep you posted as our plans progress.

Starting balance	£ 458.42 + 34.60 euro
Rent	£ paid until 14th August
Expenses	£ paid
Literature	£ nil
Donation to Area	£300 + 34.60 euro
Closing Balance	£ 158.42

Saturday university street (am)

NEEDS A GSR

Attendance slipping in July, Occasional newcomers. Large amount of literature needed. Prison Fellowship have asked to remind members to smoke in back yard and not at front doors.

Starting balance	£ 93.66
Rent	£ 40.00 to be paid
Literature	£ saved 80.00 for order
Donation to Area	£ no donation
Expenses	£ ----
Closing Balance	£ 03.66

Saturday university st (pm)

URGENTLY NEEDS SUPPORT

NEEDS SECRETARY, TREASURER, Thanks to Stevie M as secretary.

Starting balance	£ ----
Rent	£ ----
Literature	£ ----
Donation to Area	£ no donation
Expenses	£ ----
Closing Balance	£ ----

Sunday Ballynaveigh

All positions filled. 10+ people every week. Strong sense of NA Unity, needs help with speakers for open meetings.

Starting balance	£ 120.14
Rent	£ 40.00 paid to 04/08/09
Literature	£ saving for literature
Donation to Area	£ no donation
Expenses	£ ----
Closing Balance	£ 80.14

Sunday Derry (Foyle)

NO REPORT

VACANT SERVICE POSITIONS

GSR, TUESDAY CITY CHURCH

TEA-PERSON, LISBURN WEDNESDAY NIGHT

TREASURER, SHAFTSBURY SQUARE WEDNESDAY NIGHT

GSR, BALLYNAFEIGH THURSDAY NIGHT

GSR, SATURDAY NOON UNIVERSITY STREET

SECRETARY AND TREASURER, SATURDAY NIGHT UNIVERSITY STREET

H&I-P&I COMMITTEE NEEDS MEMBERS

PHONE-LINE FACILITATOR AND CO-ORDINATOR

CHAIR-PERSON AND TREASURER OF 2010 NORTHERN AREA CONVENTION

New womens meeting service positions vacant

Literature report:

WELCOME TO TOMMY P, AS NEW LITERATURE SECRETARY

Website report:

Web Report July 2009

Traffic

May had **5746** unique visitors, June had **6702** and there has been **3298** for July to date.

Contact

There have been a few individuals and organisations in touch over the past couple of months:

- A female addict in Armagh was wishing to attend our meetings. I passed the word on to a few trusted members but didn't hear anything back
- The Magnet Young Adult Centre in Newry were looking for an addict to share their experience during a "positive health day" on 7th July
- We were informed of a new meeting in Buncrana, Saturdays 7.00 pm - 8.30 pm, details of which are now on the meeting list on our site
- We were provided with details of a couple of upcoming international conventions as well as the just past fundraiser in Mullingar

As always, copies of all emails available upon request.

In service,

Steve W
19th July 2009

PHONE LINE REPORT:

Date: 19th July 2009

Co-ordinator: Position Available- Shane C standing in

Number of calls: 12+ Listed since June 2009

Current phone credit: £08.15

Callers met: 4 Met at meetings as arranged

Report: Still no co-ordinator or list of volunteers doing phone service so (Shane) has had phone for 5 weeks now. Phone line seems to get more use, most callers are genuine and need info on meetings etc. A few calls from UK and USA visitors looking meeting info. 2 calls from people looking for Sister Concillio's phone number. 1 abusive call from Swindon. Still getting calls during the daytime.

In Service

Shane C

P.I REPORT:

NO REPORT- P.I. MEETING PRISON FELLOWSHIP 29TH JULY 8PM

ASR REPORT: Positions of chair and treasurer for the upcoming IRCNA convention need to be taken up. Provisionally 2 members put themselves forward. They will then need to attend the IRSC meeting to be vetted and approved. The positions will have the extra responsibility of attending these Regional meetings every 2 months, to keep the committee informed on progress.

Issue of insurance certificate requested by Prison Fellowship

After talking to the Regional committee secretary, I have been informed that the issue was discussed and was taken care of. Whether this means that the relative documents were posted directly to the party responsible for overseeing the Prison Fellowship business. If not I will again request that this matter can be resolved and the relative documents presented.

Literature prices are to increase by roughly 15%. It was originally to be 35% but thanks to the great work done by the regional committee in standing up against this and proposing alternative pricing structures, they have prevented the price hike from being totally devastating.

In service

Ryan R

Last Month=£503.54
20 euro's

DONATIONS

City Church (Tue)	£20.00
Sr.Concillios Newry	£80.80
Newcastle Group	£300.00
	34.60 euro

EXPENSES

yellow pages	£17
Shane (ink&paper)	£20
Newcastle (basic text)	£10
Area Literature	£800
	54.80 euro

Total Balance £50.84
Treasurer peter mac

A.O.B

- **DUE TO MONEY AND LIT ETC GOING MISSING IT IS SUGGESTED THAT NO NA PROPERTY BE LEFT IN ANY MEETING TO AVOID FURTHER PROBLEMS**
- **ALL MEMBERS TO GIVE GARY T CLEAN TIME BIRTHDAYS TO ALLOW HIM TO PREPARE MEDALS ETC.**
- **THERE ARE A LOT OF SERVICE POSITIONS VACANT PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING ONE IF YOU HAVE THE CLEAN TIME**
 - **PLEASE NOTE ANY MEETING CHANGES AS SOME HAVE MOVED PREMISIS**
 - **FROM 19/04/09 IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT AREA WILL PAY EXTRA FOR LITERATURE STARTER PACKS. THESE WILL NOW INCLUDE A BASIC TEXT, A JUST FOR TODAY, SOME LEAFLETS, SOME MEETING LISTS AND SOME SMALL WHITE BOOKS**
 - **MY EMAIL IS stephenmahon82@live.co.uk IF ANYONE CANT MAKE THE AREA MEETING FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ME THE GSR REPORT IN A MICROSOFT DOCUMENT TO SUIT THE SOFTWARE ON MY COMPUTER.**
- **PLEASE MENTION AROUND MEETINGS THAT THERE ARE 2 SERVICE POSITIONS UP FOR GRABS FOR THE 2010 NORTHERN AREA CONVENTION.... THESE POSITIONS ARE CHAIRPERSON AND TREASURER**
- **FROM 23/07/09 THERE WILL BE A WOMENS MEETING IN SHAFTSBURY SQUARE FROM 7PM – 8PM**

Next ASC Meeting: 09/08/09

MEETING WILL BE HELD IN BALLYNAFEIGH

In Service

Stevie M

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR PREDATORY
BEHAVIOUR IN MEETINGS AND GROUP
TREASURER REPORTS**

PREDATORY BEHAVIOUR

From the World Service Office:

We are contacted frequently regarding issues of predatory behavior in NA meetings. Often times these situations can be complex and we are humbled by the challenge of offering viable direction. With that said, when confronted with the threat predatory behavior, we suggest the group consider the following statements.

As outlined in The Group Booklet, the NA group is responsible for maintaining an atmosphere of recovery for all addicts who seek it. And in the spirit of the 1st Tradition, our common welfare is paramount in all of our personal recovery efforts. That is to say, if a member is violent or predatory at an NA meeting, the safety of all addicts who attend that meeting is the primary consideration. In addressing the issue we have a number of different strategies to consider:

- * The group may choose to discuss the situation in a group business meeting. An open and frank group discussion of the matter may bring things to light that may help in some resolution.
- * The group may consider taking this problem to the area service committee meeting in the hope that discussion there may lead to increased awareness of the problem and possible resolutions that other groups have tried.
- * Another option we have seen to have some success in protecting newcomers from predators is for the group to assign a home group member or two as "greeters" welcoming individuals as they come into the meeting and at the women works well here.
- * The group may consider the option of having a member or members discuss the situation with the individual or individuals who are exhibiting the inappropriate behaviour. This will need to be done in a loving, caring way, tempering honesty with compassion and understanding. A challenge for sure.
- * Another variation on that idea is for two or three of the group's mature, stable members to meet the disruptive individual on his/her way into the meeting each time. These members can help the individual understand what is being asked of him, and that violent behavior is not acceptable. Again, tempering honesty with compassion and understanding will help here. Expect that this intervention will need to occur more than once or twice, but if a group continues to do this before each meeting, there is a better chance that the disruptive person will respect the needs of those attending the meeting.
- * Finally, if a member's safety is threatened in any way, the group may decide that they need to call the police. The responsibility for that decision rests more with the individual acting or threatening to act violently, or the welfare of the group. Calling law enforcement is not inappropriate when personal safety is at stake.

Again, these options are offered as points that may lead to solutions to a potentially complex situation. We encourage the group to discuss the situation, considering all of the options. We wish you success in all of your recovery and service efforts. Please contact us if we can be of any further help

Excerpted from UK Region's Guidelines on inappropriate behaviour.

Sexual predatory behaviour:

This kind of behaviour manifests in many forms; from preying on newcomers, to using the fellowship as a dating agency. It is also difficult to discern since actual sexual activity and

the planning of that inevitably takes place outside NA meetings. It remains, however, the responsibility of the group to do its best to ensure that no-one who comes looking for recovery is distracted or prevented from that by anyone whom they meet in an NA meeting. When members of the group know that another member is using the fellowship for abusive sexual behaviour, the power of peer pressure might be invoked and the group members might confront the behaviour of the offender. Often, the predator will be unable to see her/himself as such, the power of denial being as it is, and s/he may need guidance from those who have a fuller understanding of the nature of addiction.

The group can take precautions against a member abusing the fellowship for sex by ensuring that when a newcomer arrives in the meeting s/he is always taken under the wing of at least two experienced members of the group who have clear and strong sexual boundaries. Vulnerable newcomers are prey to abusive members and cannot be expected to have the knowledge or strength to protect themselves. The group needs to protect its members from anyone who might interfere with their chance of recovery.

Sponsorship is a powerful way of providing the newcomer with the information and support s/he needs to avoid becoming prey to sexual distraction. Suggesting that a newcomer get a sponsor for whom s/he is likely to have no sexual attraction is vital to her/his protection. The chances of sexual misunderstanding are lessened if the experienced members are sensitive to the sexual orientation of the newcomer and offer advice about sponsorship accordingly.

Often newcomers are taken to other meetings by established members, and our experience tells us that this can provide a forum for a sexually predatory individual to advance on the newcomer. It is, therefore, suggested that taking newcomers to meetings is always done by at least two experienced group members who have clear sexual boundaries, preferably members of a different sexual orientation from the newcomer.

Excerpted from Irish Region's July 2004 RSCI Minutes.

Concern raised over the issue inappropriate behaviour, especially sexual predators in meetings. This is detrimental not only to wellbeing of newcomers, but also NA's reputation – concern has been expressed by some outside referral agencies, who are no longer happy to send young women to some meetings. Issues discussed at length.

Several proposals were put forward, including: literature be read, greeters at meetings, new preambles to be read out at meetings, approaching those responsible in a compassionate fashion, referring to a relevant article in the NA Way magazine of January 2003, helping the group be responsible to those they serve, and fostering as much support for newcomers as possible.

This is a very sensitive area, and one which could very easily bring us into controversy. Having said that we feel that it would be beneficial to the fellowship to raise the issues, and we hope that each of the Areas will discuss their experience and possible solutions to the problems.

