

31 May Meeting

Lancashire Friend
Committee Meeting

Date Tuesday 31/5/05.

Members Present.

Jeremy, Nick, Les, Chris, Marcus, Wendy, John A, Lizzy, Ian P, Von.

Apologies from; Pat.

Minutes of last meeting.

Minutes of last meeting Chris asked that the item about Pete Lang be amended, to say that he Pete had been in touch with Steve Aitken, not Chris as stated.

Noted, read and approved by, Nick & Les.

Matters arising.

Jeremy has spoke to Steve about the media issues and it was agreed a positive article about Lancashire Friend Events could also counteract negative articles re. Homophobic attacks.

Resolve to invite Pete Lang to next meeting.

Executive Committee Report.

Jeremy outlined for the members the overview of the executive meeting. That we looked at areas that needed to be strengthened and new areas that would benefit the service and hoped some of our new members would be interested in helping in these areas. A list of 'Vacancies' would be included in the minutes. (see last page).

Chair

Jeremy spoke of the offer of free places on a NVQ training sessions. He went to the introductory meeting and did not recommend this for our members, plus it is held at a very inconvenient time for most people. However he said he has been negotiating with John M a tutor at Blackburn College for a Basic Counselling Course for our members. This could involve Listening Skills and Telephone training. Perhaps over 2 Sundays later in the year, probably Sept/October. This could be funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Learning Chest.

Jeremy showed us the Lancashire Friend Funding Application for Training. The Neighbourhood Renewal Learning Chest, June 2005.

Negotiated through John M. Nick agreed that we should qualify and that it would cover our expenses.

Jeremy reminded us of our commitment to Manchester Pride, (August Bank Holiday)(27,28,29th Aug) also the Mela and Arts in the Park events (9 – 10 July) (16 – 17 July) respectively. Also it was thought that for these events we can set up the day before.

A list of volunteers available and job lists for these events needs to be clarified at the next meeting.

Treasurer

Nick stated that for the Burnley Primary Care Trust application we are asked to justify our case. This will be looked at between himself and Jeremy, collating evidence from our records of the value the service has offered in the past year.

Applications for Funding from Barclays Bank and the Lloyds TSB Foundation are being looked at as they are known to grant funds to various charities. There has been no reply as yet from the Crown Paints application, thought it may be too soon yet.

Nick asked if anyone had any further ideas for fundraising or bodies that could be approached to contact him.

Membership Secretary

Ian stated that he had forwarded on a full report of the Umist training day to Sharon, and that two other prospective members had shown an interest in our group. Ian is sending information to them and will keep in contact.

Befriending co-ordinator

Les reported a positive response from the prison befriending and hoped for further news of his release in the near future.

Website Co-ordinator.

Chris mentioned that he and Wendy had had one meeting already, to support the website between them.

Jeremy asked Chris to check if we are linked with the Volunteer website.

Lesbian Representative.

Von stated that she had, had a very poor response from contacting Lesbian Connections. But will try other avenues. It was mentioned by Nick that there will be advertisements for Lancashire Friend in both Diva and Gay Times, from July's issues. Also that he had updated their information as to local venues etc. Nick also said he would look at our advertising in other publications such as Out North West etc. depending on costs involved if any.

A.O.B.

Nick mentioned to the room, that if any of us had information as to local events and venues etc. to pass this information on to Chris who could put this on the website.

Socials.

Les was asked if he could arrange another social walk, as these were very popular last year. Les mentioned that there is a walk arranged by the G.O.C. on 3/7/05 over Winter Hill and that if any wanted to join they could. This walk is approx 8 miles. It was thought by some members to be a bit ambitious for those not used to this and so he said he would arrange a shorter route.

This will be on the 31st July. Meet at Chipping Car Park, Nr the church. This walk is approx 4 miles, for more information on either event contact Les. Or the office.

A.O.B.

Ian called attention to the three events and particularly the Pride event. That we should have a meeting to clarify what we need and what amount of involvement we can arrange. Members were asked to come up with ideas. The Events meeting will be held directly after the next General meeting. Mon 27th June.

NB. Next General Meeting Mon 27 June.

The list of areas needing support.

Advertising.

Website Backup.

Voluntary Sector Representative.

Events Co-ordinator.

Fundraising.

Counselling Co-ordinator.

Women's Officer. (Lesbian Representative).

Training and Development.

Recruitment Co-ordinator.

Any persons interested in any of the above areas would be trained and supported as members and a part of the team.

Please contact office for further details.