

ELLGaS
General Meeting Minutes
WEDNESDAY 24.2.99.

Present:- Jeremy, Paul, Rob, Viv, Maggie, David, Clive, Ken.

Apologies:- John Michael, Bev, Dianne.

The group extended a warm welcome to Viv and Rob at their first meeting.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting:-

The Burnley Resource Centre is holding an opening party at 12 noon on 26.2.99. Anybody interested in attending, please see Maggie.

There is one vacancy on the Executive Committee.

The Annual General Meeting is to take place on Wednesday 28.4.99. Letters are to be drafted and sent to all members and selected outside agencies. **Action:- Clive, Maggie & Alistair.**

The Internet has been subscribed to, using public funding, as an alternative means for ELLGaS to communicate with its clients and not for the inappropriate purposes recently brought to light.

Applications have been available to attend the National Friend Conference at The University of Birmingham on 9th – 11th April 1999. There are three places available to us, plus one free place, plus a vacancy for a networker (Maggie). Criteria for selection of those to attend will be:- (a) those who have not attended before, (b) Executive Committee Members and (c) those longest serving.

“Blush” Packs:-

It was discussed that we could look into making up information/“Blush” packs for befrienders *where appropriate*. We could liaise with The HIV Prevention Team in connection with “Blush” Packs. We could consider subscription to “Boyz” and The Pink Paper for the purposes of giving out to befrienders and we could also compile an information pack telling clients what ELLGaS is/isn't about. It was decided that a list can be put up in the office for members to write on suggestions as to what should go in the packs. Considerations to be borne in mind:- female clients and funds available.

Venue for the Annual General Meeting:-

The AGM is now just 9 weeks away. Blackburn and Burnley were considered equally as centres for ELLGaS, the former won most votes as the most popular base for this year's AGM. It was agreed that rather than to hold it in a pub-style venue, that a more notable location in the public eye would raise the profile of the occasion somewhat. Three venues were raised for consideration in this light:- King George's Hall (will cater), The Town Hall (will cater), Blackburn College (will cater). These are to be priced up and the most economical booked up for 20 – 30 persons. *Action:- Jeremy.*

Police meeting:-

The next Police Meeting is to take place at the Garden Bar on 1.3.99. We need to send someone to this but it seems a difficult date for most members. Any volunteers, please make yourselves known!!

Hyndburn and Ribble Valley CVS 1st Birthday:-

The party at Hyndburn CVS is to take place on 31.3.99. The party at Hyndburn CVS is to take place on 1.4.99. Anybody interested in attending, please see Maggie. There is one place available.

Data-base information:-

If anyone finds information that they think might see suitable for inclusion in the ELLGaS data-base, please put it in Alistair's tray in the office, thank you.

Next Training Day:-

The next Training day at The Jarman Centre will be on 28.3.99. and the content will be around Lesbians' and Gay Men's' Health Issues. (Skills Training has had to be postponed.) Steve Aitken and Angie Woods from the HIV Prevention Team will be running this session.

National Friend Conference – who's going?:-

6 members have applied. Following the criteria mentioned above, Paul, David, Alistair, Chi, and Maggie are most eligible to attend.

Publicity:-

At last the temporary posters and leaflets have arrived back from Academy Print. The service we have received has been appalling and when our order has been verified, we may well query the bill, as there are shortfallings with the material. Keith Walmsley (former Executive Committee member) is coming on 25.2.99. to consult with Maggie on a publicity drive, so action regarding distribution is “on ice” until this meeting has taken place.

Security:-

A draft of our poster has been ripped off the outside of the office door. Peter Cash has looked into the matter and does not believe it was anybody from outside.

Membership:-

Membership details are to be a standard fixture in the agenda of General and Executive Committee Meetings.

There have been no new applications since the last meeting.

Bev and Dianne have expressed a wish to “take a break” for a while (6 months has been suggested). They are not resigning and they will not relinquish their coverage of Tuesday evenings on line until such time as it is covered so as not to leave us “in the lurch”. Their apologies will be given at each General Meeting and they will continue to receive minutes of all meetings.

Any other business:-

Socials and what they entail are to be reviewed at the AGM. Certain very welcome suggestions as to what we can do to improve them are “bubbling under”.

The next Social will be on 4.3.99. at The Burnley Mechanics.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be on 10.3.99.

The next General Meeting will be on 31.3.99.

The Annual General Meeting will be on 28.4.99.

PLEASE COMMUNICATE ANY ALTERATIONS TO THESE DETAILS TO

ALL MEMBERS, THANK YOU.