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D R A F T - to be agreed at the Thirteenth AGM 2016

Minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting of the College of Psychoanalysts-UK, held at 10.15am on Saturday 31st October 2015 at Birkbeck College, Malet Street, London

Present

Ian Parker, Ginny Thomas, Anne Worthington, Kate Gilbert, Werner Prall, Simona Revelli, Bruce Scott, Michelle Willett, Alistair Black, Dorothee Bonnigal-Katz, Daniela Bruni, Julia Carne, Anca Carrington, Sian Ellis, Jinny Fisher, Liz Guild, Dot Hamilton, Gwion Jones, Darian Leader, Loretta Monaco, Haya Oakley, David Oldman, Christos Tombras

1. Apologies

Nic Bayley, Gillian Clayton, Astrid Gessert, Jennifer Marsh, Veronica Norburn, Laura Tarsia, Kenneth Theron.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Eleventh AGM were approved.

3. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

4. President's Report (attached separately)

Dot Hamilton asked if the report (and the minutes) could be circulated sooner rather than later and there were several positive comments about its content.

Julia Carne asked the President for more information about the Union for Psychotherapy and Counselling and the meeting heard that it is currently unclear how

the Union (which, it was clarified, is for individuals rather than for organisations) is to function, whether as an affiliation to the TUC, or as part of another body. The President agreed that we would follow up on this and keep members informed after the Union's next meeting in February 2016.

There was a discussion about the Free Psychotherapy Network. Sian Ellis asked about whether they had links to government, particularly around the relation between the receipt of benefits and the undertaking of therapy. The President remarked on the recent protests outside unemployment centres and the involvement of some members of the College in this. Bruce Scott said that he is a member of the FPN and raised the question of whether the therapy they are providing is somehow tied into sanctions.

The President said that psychoanalysis, and therefore the College, needs to be part of these movements and organisations, alongside psychotherapy and counselling. Werner Prall raised the importance of having more details about both in order that College members can be made aware of exactly what they are supporting.

In this respect, the proposed messages from the College's AGM to the Union and the FPN were discussed, with Julia Carne questioning the use of the word 'solidarity' and suggesting the use of 'some members' in relation to the College's support. Darian Leader suggested that we perhaps send best wishes and that we are 'excited to hear more' about these projects.

The President offered a revised message to both: "The College of Psychoanalysts-UK sends best wishes from its AGM to the [Union/FPN] and we look forward to hearing more." Whether to send this message was put to a vote regarding both organisations and there were two unanimous 'yes' results.

5. Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that full accounts were not yet available (nor actually due yet) as the accountant has been unwell. The balance was reported as standing at £11,265.72 (as opposed to a balance in August 2014 of £11,820.43). Our debtors have gone down slightly due, in part, to more subscription fees coming in and also to the Academy having been inactive recently and therefore costing little. The main expenditure (£2,800) over the last year was on the maintenance of the web site, web hosting, postage, the P.O. Box and book-keeping.

6. Auditors

The Treasurer confirmed that we are not required to have our accounts audited and that this item will no longer need to appear on the AGM agenda.

7. Elections

President: Ian Parker was elected unanimously for a three-year term, proposed by Ginny Thomas and seconded by Anne Worthington.

Governor: Kate Gilbert was re-elected unanimously for a second three-year term, proposed by Ian Parker and seconded by Anne Worthington.

Governor: Peter Nevins was re-elected unanimously for a three-year term, proposed by Ian Parker and seconded by Ginny Thomas.

8. Any Other Business

In response to questions about the future direction of the College, the Treasurer noted that a Board meeting was planned to discuss this and Dot Hamilton suggested that this could perhaps be an 'open Board debate'. Jinny Fisher commented that a regular newsletter would be welcomed. It was suggested that perhaps a google group would also be useful for keeping members involved in debates if they so wished.

Julia Carne commented that it was important to keep the College as a distinct entity as this had been useful in the past in getting us access as representing psychoanalysis during the last regulation attempt by government. We wouldn't want to lose that by being seen as one part of a larger agglomeration.

There was some discussion about the website and people agreed to direct comments and ideas to Simona Revelli via email following the AGM.

The President agreed that suggestions would be circulated about how to engage members more actively in debates about the College, its direction and its website.

9. Next AGM

Set for Saturday 29th October 2016.

The meeting concluded at 11am.

Ginny Thomas
11 November 2015