

West of Scotland Racial Equality Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting – 24 June 2004

Chair : Bailie Dr Malcolm Green

Present:

Sheila Mukherjee	Nazir Chaudhry	Masud Khan
Angela Webb	Onkar Jandu	Ali Liaquat
Mohammed Zahid	Vincent Chudy	George McSorley
Lilia Peterson	Mariea Malik	Morag Stirling
Christine Adam	Malcolm Green	B Baba
Brian Sweeney	Linda Mutema	Janet Cameron
M McKenna	Ramzan Shah	Jerry Gigya
Radha Chetty	Dara Jaff	T Ford
Harry Dematagoda	Ann-Marie Burgoyne	Haleema Malik
T Leggate	Marion Wrigley	Bob Chadha
Aisha Tasneem	Stephen Rees	Sana Khan
Edelweisse Thornley	Scott Pattison	Mr & Mrs Borokini
Judith Tankel	Francois Josserand	

Staff:

Mohammed Razaq	Maggie Chetty	Farrah Rashid
Shahana Noor	Bushra Iqbal	Lovetta Williams
Robert Gannon	Gerry Brown	Vivien Caldwell

Apologies:

Jennifer Swanson	Zahida Ramzan	David Hume
Dorothy Neoh	Elish Angiolini	Victoria Fleming
Mary Larkin	Jim Beers	Anne Beverage
Jackie Howie	John Duncan	Alex Gilchrist
Richard Barron	Margaret Graham	David Anderson
Lynne McKenzie	Liz Manson	Margaret Robertson
Ghulam Mohammed	Maureen Kilgour	Chintalle Devereux
Mary Senior	Maria-Claire Cushley	Harriet Campbell
Matin Khan	John Crawford	M Ashraf
Elaine MacKay	Shobha Nagpal	Leena Mukherjee
Peter Wilson	Nick Stevens	

Welcome from Baillie Malcolm Green

Bailie Dr. Malcolm Green opened the AGM by introducing himself and giving a sincere welcome on behalf of the City Council. He intimated that it was a great honour to chair the meeting for WSREC and that the fact that he was independent of WSREC Executive would ensure that questions and concerns would be dealt with appropriately. He went on

to introduce the two speakers scheduled for the evening, Mr Brian Sweeney, Fire Master – Strathclyde Fire Brigade and Marion Wrigley, Director of Human Resources, National Education for Scotland.

Speakers

The meeting commenced with Mr Brian Sweeney and Ms Marion Wrigley giving a detailed description of their roles within their area of work.

Apologies

The list of apologies is detailed above.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the AGM held on 25 June 2002 had been distributed previously. The minutes were approved as a correct record of last years meeting.

Matters Arising

Everyone was satisfied that all matters had been dealt with by the Executive.

Presentation of the Annual Report 2003/2004

The Annual Report was distributed to everyone at Registration.

Mohammed Razaq spoke in detail on the Annual Report highlighting key areas.

On page 34 he explained that there were photographs of winners receiving there prizes at the Launch of the Calendar Competition. He stated that this has been a joint effort with the Public Authorities Racial Equality Forum, Education Group.

Razaq went on to explain that Moving on Racial Equality in Scotland (MOREIS) is a training unit which was set up last year. This unit has provided training to a number of different groups and organisations and due to this training income has increased from previous years. Razaq thanked Maggie Chetty for all her work and support with this unit and also the members of staff involved in assisting Maggie with the training.

He continued by referring to reports from the Police and Prison Secondments and explained that these secondments are very successful.

He then went onto draw members' attention to the areas dedicated to casework. He reported that there is an increase in cases in the private sector and that WSREC has made 21 applications to the Employment Tribunals.

Finally, he thanked all members of staff for their support with key projects. He thanked Bushra Iqbal for her continued support with the National Education for Scotland Secondment and Vivien Caldwell for all her efforts in setting up the counselling project.

Razaq explained that the BBC Children in Need Project had been running successfully for three years but now the funding had come to an end. He thanked the youth workers

for all their work on the project and was pleased to say that they are continuing to work with the project as volunteers.

Judith Tankel spoke on behalf of all the Executive Committee members and explained that it has been a difficult year for WSREC. The Commission for Racial Equality had cut a major part of the funding and explained that the CRE are now only funding the REC's project work.

Judith thanked the Equality's Unit at Glasgow City Council for giving WSREC an advance on their funding to enable staff salaries to be paid

She continued by informing members that a funding bid will be forwarded to the Scottish Executive to try and secure WSREC with funding for five years.

Mohammed Razaq notified members that WSREC are in the process of becoming a Company Limited by Guarantee.

Presentation of Treasurer's Report

Mohammed Razaq explained that the accounts were self explanatory. As there were no questions, the accounts were approved.

Appointment of Auditors 2003-2004

It was put forth that the auditor, BDO Stoy Hayward, be used again next year. This was approved.

Question on Report

Concerns were raised as to what had been done regarding very little grants coming in from the local authorities.

Mohammed Razaq explained that since Strathclyde District Council divided into the 12 Local Authorities nobody has been sure what department needs to pay what. Letters are being sent to these authorities and majority of them have cut back on grants due to the CRE doing the same.

Maggie Chetty explained that WSREC's close links within the Public Authorities Racial Equality Forum is one way to persuade them to give the REC money. Staff is also making great efforts to find other sources for funding.

Announcement of New Board Members

New members are as follows:

Mr Bilal Ahmed, Mr Jandoo, Cllr Hanzala Malik, Dr Chaudhry, Mr Mohammed Zahid, Mr Herbert Chok and Mr Masud Khan.

Nominations for the Membership Panel

Mohammed Razaq explained that there were no nominations for the Membership Panel. He explained that if anybody was interested then they were to make contact at WSREC offices.

Vote of Thanks

Mr Vince Chudy, Executive Committee member thanked Dr Green for chairing the AGM and everybody for attending the AGM.

He thanked all members of staff for their great work over the past year and for all the work which had been put into preparing the Annual Report and the AGM.