

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
WEST OF SCOTLAND RACIAL EQUALITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2001, 6:00PM  
IN GLASGOW CITY CHAMBERS**

**Chair** Councillor Malcolm Green

**Present** Wai-Chee Wan, David Miller, Mohammed Zahid, M. Arshad, Ghulam Ali, Nazir Chaudhry, Ali Liaquat, Hanzala Malik, Matin Khan, Peter Wilson, M. Yunis, Neelam Gajri, Annie Mead, Maria-Claire Cushley, Liz Corbett, Maureen Kilgour, Judith Tankel, Mohammed Bashir, H. S. Bhari, Sam Chau, Joyce Tai, Allan Burnett, Ingrid McClements, Pete Stuart, A. Nanda, Fida Moad, David Jackson, Asif Aziz, Dara Jaff, Omar Osman, Vince Chudy, Bob Dow, Al Gazi, T. Malu, Bashir Maan, S. Ahmad

Staff Present

M. Chetty, A. Eddington, M. White, G. O'Neill, M. Razaq, M. Javed, S. Gill, A. Sood, A. Rasool

**Apologies** J. McKechnie, T. Karim, B. Chadha

**Welcome**

Cllr. Green opened the meeting and formally welcomed all who were present. He also thanked WSREC for asking him to Chair the AGM for the second year.

Hanzala Malik raised the issue of the Association for Indian Organisations' (AIO) protest outside the meeting and the distribution of leaflets to those entering. He expressed his desire that, although the views being expressed by those representatives outside the meeting seemed to have persisted for some time, the new Executive administration would be able to address the issues in the coming year. Judith Tankel then reported that she had written a letter to the AIO representative and had had a positive response regarding reconciliation with the community. She stated that she believed that representatives from the AIO would agree to meet with the new Executive committee in the coming year.

Cllr. Green thanked Hanzala and Judith for their contribution and went on to explain the operation of microphones for use within the meeting.

**Speaker – Razia Karim, Commission for Racial Equality**

Cllr. Green introduced Ms. Karim and invited her to begin her presentation on the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000 (RRAA).

The presentation is outlined in accompanying notes provided by Ms. Karim.

Cllr. Green asked whether the Scottish Parliament was included in the consultation process regarding the RRAA. Ms. Karim clarified that the Scottish Parliament were to do their own secondary consultation but were still liable under the findings of the initial consultation.

Cllr. Green then thanked Ms. Karim for her presentation and invited her to stay for the duration of the meeting.

### **Minutes of AGM 2000**

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved.

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **Constitution & Standing Orders**

It was reported that the new Constitution and Standing Orders had been passed to Inland Revenue and had been accepted. West of Scotland Community Relations Council name change to West of Scotland Racial Equality Council (WSREC) was approved by the Executive Committee. WSREC was still to send a copy of the minutes of the meeting when these were formally adopted.

### **Annual Report 2001**

Maggie Chetty apologised for the delay in publishing this years Annual Report but that this had been due to the Acting Office Manager being called to Canada for a family bereavement. She also thanked everyone for all of their help in pulling together the Report, especially Marie Miller who had committed to extra days to assist in its completion.

Maggie went on to outline the various new areas of staff focus, namely Mohammed Razaq in Justice, Mohammed Razaq and Harry Dematagoda in the Procurator Fiscal's office and Bushra Iqbal in Health. She also highlighted 3 major cases which had been settled by WSREC in the past six months, resulting in £12,000 total compensation for victims as well as training for employers' staff.

The Scottish Prison Service work was highlighted with Maggie specifically mentioning the Race Equality Policy to be launched in Autumn 2001 and the recent training for Governors which took place.

Maggie stated that work with Strathclyde Police was ongoing, although WSREC was still awaiting a secondment.

Maggie reported that the Foreign Office Recruitment Event in November 2000 was very successful and that another event was going to take place in the coming year.

New projects reported by Maggie included: RPS Rainer Mentoring Project which was successfully up and running; CEMVO Scotland post which had been filled and had several months research behind it so far; Woodlands Ethnic Minority Youth Project which had been set up and was achieving high success with local youth; and the suggestion that further funding from GARA would be bid for in conjunction with several ideas for new projects.

Maggie asked if there were any questions regarding the Annual Report. None were put forth.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Nazir Chaudhry said that the details of the financial report had previously been approved by the Executive Committee but asked if there were any questions raised since that time. No questions were put forth regarding the accounts.

Ingrid McClements stated that she would like to have the wording in the report changed from 'Chairman' to 'Chairperson'.

Mr. Chaudhry thanked the Executive Members and WSREC staff for their work regarding financial matters throughout the year.

#### **Appointment of Auditors 2001/2002**

It was put forth by Mr. Chaudhry that the auditor BDO Stoy Hayward be used again next year for the auditing of accounts. Judith Tankel seconded this and it was approved.

#### **Membership Panel**

The names of the Membership Panel were announced as follows:

Omar Osman – Kurdish Cultural Society

B. S. Lota – Ramgarhia Association

#### **Executive Members**

Cllr. Green announced that there were 7 names put forth for the 7 vacant space on the Executive Committee, meaning that no election was necessary. The names were announced as follows:

Ayad Al Gazi – Glasgow Arab Community Representative Council

Bashir Maan – Scottish Pakistani Association

Nazir Chaudhry – U.K. Islamic Mission

Fida Moad – WESRA

Mohammed Aslam Zahid – Scottish Pakistani Association

Sam Chau – Chinese Community Development Partnership

Bilal Ahmed – Northwest Ladies Badminton Club

#### **Vote of Thanks**

Ingrid McClements offered thanks to Cllr. Green for agreeing to Chair the meeting saying it was greatly appreciated.

#### **Date of next Executive Meeting**

The date was agreed at Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2001, 5:30pm at WSREC offices.

#### **Any Other Business**

Peter Wilson stated that he wished to offer his condolences to the family of the young girl who passed away suddenly at the Black Youth Conference on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2001.

Fida Moad agreed with this and also said that he believed it was time to make communities aware of a new sense of community within Scotland, and not to perpetuate problems that may stem from countries of origin. This sentiment was agreed in general by all present.

Cllr. Green thanked everyone for attending once again and officially closed the meeting.