

## *Committee Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009*

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**Members:** Philip Stanton (PS) – Chair  
Andrew Morris (AM)  
Dave Brinson (DB)  
Derek Andrews (DA)  
George Chapman (GC)  
Lynne Pullen (LP) – Deputy Chair  
Mal French (MF)

**Administrator:** Monica Elsen (ME)

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### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Apologies were received from Dave Brinson. The Committee members welcomed Sally Taylor to the meeting.

### **2. Minutes and matters arising**

Notes of last meeting agreed.

a) Age Concern feedback re befriending service

Approaches to Age Concern have not yet been made. GC explained that due to work priorities he had not had sufficient time to make contact.

### **3. ECCN – Sally Taylor**

Eastbourne Cultural Communities Network (ECCN) started in 2003 with assistance from the Council and EAVS. They are a community organisation working with Black and Minority Ethnic communities in Eastbourne. ECCN received Big Lottery funding for a five year project which began eighteen months ago. The funding covers the cost of their community base in Devonshire and the employment of two project workers. ECCN ensure that they are represented on as many groups as possible so that they can influence the decision making of that group providing a voice for the minority ethnic communities of Eastbourne. Sally also explained the types of services ECCN is able to deliver such as English language lessons.

The reason for seeking contact between the two groups was primarily because the BourneOut Group is also minority group. Currently, not a lot of minority ethnic Gay people come to ECCN as many face discrimination from their own cultural or faith group so are reluctant to come forward. The BourneOut Group could have a presence at ECCN events and drop-in sessions.

Although the BourneOut Committee could clearly see links between the two groups, these were in the future. Currently members felt that the BourneOut Group was so new it needed to

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establish itself more before committing time and resources to other projects. However, the Group were keen for ECCN to signpost individuals to them by way of the Chair. The Committee also wished to receive notification of ECCN's forthcoming events and they would then decide as a group to participate or not. BourneOut Committee members also felt unable to offer advice on Bi-sexual or Transgendered matters as these areas are not yet represented in the Group.

It was agreed that Sally would send Philip information regarding forthcoming ECCN events. Philip would send these out to the wider membership and if someone was available and wished to participate, Philip would advise Sally accordingly. Philip would also keep Sally informed of the BourneOut Group launch so that ECCN could have a stand. It was also agreed that once the website was up and running links could be made between ECCN and BourneOut.

#### **4. Launch event**

GC explained that the press release was prepared but it needed more detail i.e. date and venue. It was agreed that the press release will be sent out in order to promote the Group and to raise awareness that a launch event will be held – details to be announced.

Venues were proving difficult as the York House could not accommodate the dates in May, the Wish Tower Café was not appropriate and the Winter Garden Complex was booked also throughout May and June. It was agreed that the York House Hotel would be approached for availability, the Underground Theatre and Council rooms (including Towner). As a last resort the WRVS facility could be used but it would need to be charged for.

Logos – AM had prepared four options which were shared with the committee members. The first choice logo was a sketch of the Camera Obscurer with rainbow streamer and the second choice was silhouettes in rainbow colours. It was agreed that the first choice logo would be used if the image of the Obscurer could be used. The wording agreed as the strap-line is "The Forum for Eastbourne's LGBT Community."

Website – the website will be up and running as soon as possible. Emails had been assigned. Minor initial problems with emails bouncing back had been experienced by some and this would soon be rectified.

Victim Support – Hate Crime service would like a presence at the launch event and they would also like to attend a committee meeting also. It was agreed that it would be more beneficial for the service to attend a forum meeting rather than a committee meeting.

Funding – LP and DA had looked at funding streams but with all a bank account is needed and a constitution with objectives outlined. There are a number of funding opportunities from small grants to Lottery but we can't apply until we are more established.

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Bank account – AM had made enquiries with his bank business adviser and a bank account is easily opened. Two signatures are required for an organisation account and a terms of reference. The process is straightforward and easy.

ME circulated a publication containing a number information leaflets/DVD's covering sexual orientation and asked the Committee members if they wished her to purchase a number of leaflets for the Launch event. This was agreed.

**Action:**

**GC to send out press release to local media**

**AM to contact York House Hotel**

**LP to contact Underground Theatre**

**ME to check availability of Council rooms**

**AM to check use of image in logo**

**ME to order publications**

### **5. Topics and agenda items for future meetings**

It was agreed that the only topic at the next meeting should be the Launch.

### **6. Date and venue of next meeting**

6pm on 20<sup>th</sup> April, Assembly Hall, Town Hall

### **7. Any other business**

LP and DA will attend the Hate Crime training on Homophobic incidents planned for 9<sup>th</sup> July in Eastbourne.

It was agreed that an update message should be sent to the forum membership outlining the progress made to date. PS agreed to do this.

**Action:**

**PS to send out an information update message to members of the wider BourneOut Group**

Meeting ended at 8.40pm.