

MINUTES

GBA COMMITTEE MEETING - 13th May 2019

GLASGOW SHERIFF COURT - COMMON ROOM 5.45pm

SEDERUNT

Andrew Stevenson, David Fiskien, Des Ziolo, Michael Gallen, Emma Crilly, Lorna McCann, Fiona McKinnon, Alison Heron, Moira Deeney, Lindsay Gaughan, Tracey Mulholland, Craig Dewar.

APOLOGIES

Jim Bauld, Ron MacKenna, Katy Wilson, Tracy Paterson, Eddie Gilroy, William Lavelle, Scott Adair,

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

Accounts in credit

PRESIDENTS REPORT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

CPD MEMBERSHIP

Moira Deeney confirming that the membership stands at 435 with a further 22 from last year's previous list of members to possibly re-join. Committee discussing the ongoing CPD drive that is ongoing. MD advising a further round of emails will be sent to the membership and all of those on the email database regarding new and interesting CPD seminars that GBA have arranged. Discussing the numbers enrolled in relation to the TCPD –decline-possibly in relation to the fall in the number of trainees being taken on. Discussing the uptake for forthcoming CPD events and how to enhance attendances etc.

COMPLAINTS POLICY

Committee discussing the Complaints Policy. Moira Deeney and Andrew Stevenson discussing with William Lavelle his draft to report back to the Committee at the next meeting, add to action point.

ANNUAL DINNER

Andrew Stevenson advising he will speak to the piper in relation to attendance at the dinner class AMI & MD to organise the menu tasting

ISSUES WITH BARLINNIE

Discussing ongoing issues. Seems to be a recurrence of issues and problems with members obtaining access to Barlinnie now. The problem seems to be predominately in the afternoon sessions and the only way that the committee can be on top of the SPS on this issue as if members provide feedback to the Committee or directly to Aileen/Moira. Moira Deeney/DZ/DF will arrange to meet with the Prison in early course to discuss any solutions for this matter.

Ash Denholm

Advisory panel for review of Legal Aid. DZ advising that he has sent a letter/Email to Ash Denholm asking for consideration of the GBA's attendance on the advisory panel.

NEW POLICY IN CELLS

Committee discussing new policy by GeoAmey that the solicitors have to see their clients via Perspex screen. Discussing the reduction in rooms, discussing the facilities, discussing member's concerns that the Sheriff Clerks are marking down court times. Solicitors not being there when their cases are ready to call when in fact they are trying to obtain access to the cells to see their clients. Lyndsay Gaughan advising at one point last week it took her almost an hour to wait and see her client and leave. The Committee would urge members to provide community members Aileen/Moira with examples of lengthy waiting times in order that these can be raised with the Sheriff Principal. Clearly, there are concerns that the number of rooms does not equate to the volume of custodies and practitioners.

AOCB

Discussing the new changes by the Sheriff Principal in relation to the move to York Street and the effects that it has upon practitioners with business at Glasgow Sheriff Court and the business that is being transferred to York Street. MD confirming we will send out an email to the Membership regarding monitoring of the situation and the effects it is having on practitioners - discussing the arrangements at York Street i.e facilities etc.

RAFFLE PRIZES/AUCTION PRIZES FOR ANNUAL DINNER

Lindsay Gaughan & Tracey Mulholland advising that they have started the process for the raffle and auction prizes for the dinner and work is ongoing. If any members have any suggestions or donations for the raffle or auction prizes please contact Lindsay Gaughan and / or Tracey Mulholland directly.

DINNER CHARITY

Committee agreeing that St. Margaret's Hospice in Clydebank is to be our charity again for this year.

LLS Council elections

Emma Crilley discussing her forthcoming nomination for election to the local council elections along with that of Ross Yule former past president of the GBA.

CONSULTATIONS

Should Civil Standard of proof apply in professional misconduct cases - Andrew Stevenson to reply to.

Next committee meeting -3rd June at 5.45pm.