

ACC Board Meeting Thursday 11th July 2024

<p>Title</p> <p>Opening: LH read verses from Exodus 4 and reflected on the theme people feeling that they are not equipped and God giving them what we need to do what God calls them to do. LH then led in prayer</p> <p>In attendance: Sue Monckton-Rickett, Chair (SMR); Chris Williams, Deputy Chair (CW); Tony Ruddle (TR); Peter Roberts (PR); Sean Charlesworth (SC); Leroy Harley (LH); Christine Pinder (CP) and Kathy Spooner (KS)</p> <p>Apologies: Phil Martin (PM). Wein Fung (WF) and Gathoni Hamilton-Foster (GHF).</p> <p>It was noted that Sharon Hastings had resigned from the Board for personal reasons on 21st June 2024. She had been thanked for all of her contributions to the Board.</p>
<p>Minutes of the 25th June 2024</p> <p>The minutes were approved.</p> <p>Matters Arising & Reviewed actions:</p> <p>From initial AOB: KS will not be taking up a trustee role discussed at the last meeting.</p> <p>Ethnic Tapestry: SMR and CW had offered to meet with WF & Ellen Yun to discuss the issues brought to the last meeting and also raised in an e-mail from WF. They had requested that the meeting be with a wider Ethnic Tapestry group, which has been agreed</p> <p>CW reported that the meeting on the EDI Toolkit had gone well.</p> <p>Changes to the database agreed at the last meeting have gone live and the renewal system works well now.</p> <p>SCoPEd - the review and consultation by Board members for the new accreditation routes was completed and approved on-line following the May meeting. The training for SCoPEd B will take place at the conference.</p> <p>A video from Uganda has been received and will be used at the AGM and Conference and an appeal made to invite people to support the work.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Risk Register would be updated and presented and reviewed by the Board in September and reviewed by RAP in October.</p> <p>AOB: None declared.</p>
<p>Standing items (continued)</p> <p>Conflict of Interest: - No one declared anything new.</p> <p>RAP/PSA - covered in CEO report.</p> <p>Diversity & Inclusion - SMR and KS shared that the MoU Group had made some responses with regard to the issues raised by UKCP. The responses were suggest that the MOU was a high-level document of ethical principle. In any legislation around conversion therapy we need to ensure protection for counsellor & psychotherapists acting in ethical ways is included. Clarity will be very important.</p> <p>SMR had attended an initial meeting of professional counselling bodies, including most of the SCoPEd partners to look at whether a framework / guidance for good practice in working with LGBT+ clients can be worked on together. It would not be in opposition to the MOU, but work alongside it with a more specific remit. It is particularly concerned in looking at good practice for working with gender issues and especially with CYP clients. SMR will report developments,</p> <p>Legal / Governance Updates - SMR presented that the Charities Act 2022 brought in changes from 7 March 2024 relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making Changes to Governing Documents• Payments to Trustees <p>SMR said that she will review more fully and present to the September Board.</p>

TR had supplied information from another organisation on the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 (ECCTA 2023) (ECTA) and the implications on needing to provide Companies House with annual accounts electronically and additional verification of trustees / directors. Stewardship were advising that the changes may come into force in two / three years' time. So, whilst no action is needed immediately, agreed we need to stay aware of developments.

Finance Report

May Management Accounts were presented.

Ethnic Tapestry

Sharon MacLean (SM) attended from Ethnic Tapestry. SM reported that it was 4 years since this group began and it is good to see LH now on the board meeting. She asked whether ACC can identify ethnicity of members? SMR said that on renewal many characteristics will now be collected - but there is 'a prefer not to say' option.

TR asked if Fellows and Pastoral Care are included in this process of data collection. Pastoral Care renewals yes but Fellows had not been included up till now but it would be fairly easy to do so.

SM asked what plans ACC has regarding the use of the "Race is Complicated Toolkit"? KS said that the review by training organisations and others held last month was successful. CW said that although may attended only a few had read through the toolkit itself. KS reported that it was introduced to ACC training organisations. SM suggested that another forum on this during October and was asked if she would lead it. The Board agreed.

SM comment that there was not much ethnic input into the National Conference. KS responded we are acutely aware of this but obtaining trainers is always difficult, she asked if Ethnic Tapestry could help ACC build up relationship well in advance with potential contributors.

SMR suggested add it to Contact list in Accord.

SM said that the concerns expressed by Ellen Yun were those of Ethnic Tapestry and that discussions needed to continue.

SM asked how the board feels Ethnic Tapestry has impacted their work or ACC.

SMR said that advice and challenge had helpful for ACC to change and assistance in writing policies considering inclusivity and how we influence the wider church and public regarding diversity is something where Ethnic Tapestry can also help us.

CW commented that some of the help given is working as a catalyst to build up membership diversity, but it is not always possible to quantify influence.

KS raised how to create the space to process many of the issues when there are so many other demands to be met? KS would like to expand on how we can we reveal and bring in more non-western approaches to therapy.

For Ethnic Tapestry LH asked how do we manage maintaining input with less members. .

CEO REPORT

Revised Accreditation Application - an updated paper was presented in relation to the SCoPEd and other counselling bodies. This allows matching the Column B & C for these organisations if they wish to take up our accreditation and have their current accreditation with others accepted.

As this was no change in principle but an expansion to these other bodies the board approved this.

KS provide an update on SCoPEd more generally.

Staff

KS provided an update on staff including that interviews for graphic designer were at the point of shortlisting.

KS reported that a good meeting has been held with thirtyone:eight with regard to DBS processing.

Counsellor Matching System: KS reported that ACC had been approached by a company who have developed a directory matching system and briefly explained how it worked. KS recommended that Board members and staff attend a demonstration. KS had also asked ACC's website provider if they had a comparable system.

PSA Full Review: ACC has been given details of 5 conditions and 2 recommendations which are being worked through and consideration being given as to whether an appeal should be raised.

Chair Report

Complaints Update - SMR said that a concern had been raised by a student concerning and a training organisation. A meeting is planned with the latter having had submissions form both. The student does not wish to make it a formal complaint.

No complaints received or open.

Articles of Association

A list of amendments to the Draft Articles of Association were discussed and agreed or further investigation was agreed.

The Board record its thanks to SMR for the work on this review.

AOB

Next meeting: 5 September 2024

Approved



Chair of ACC

5 September 2024