

## ACC Board Meeting Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024

<b>Title</b>
<p><b>Opening:</b> GHF reflected on the power of the blood of Jesus to deliver, heal, save and redeem and then led us in prayer.</p> <p><b>In attendance:</b> Sue Monckton-Rickett, Chair (SMR); Chris Williams, Deputy Chair (CW); Tony Ruddle (TR); Peter Roberts (PR); Leroy Harley (LH); Kate Pozzo (KP); Gathoni Hamilton-Foster (GHF); Kathy Spooner, CEO (KS); Christine Pinder (CP).</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Wein Fung (WF); Sean Charlesworth (SC);</p>
<p><b>Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024</b></p> <p>The minutes were approved with the removal of one repeat sentence.</p> <p><b>Matters Arising &amp; Reviewed actions:</b> After the Flood has now been distributed to Board members to watch and discuss in January Board meeting.</p> <p>CW and SMR met with Ethnic Tapestry regarding an ongoing issue of Accord editorial. In the meeting comment was made about as Board members we lack knowledge of one another's background and history. If we knew each other more, it would build relationships, trust, understanding and communications. TR had mentioned that this may be a result of not meeting in person which allowed form such interaction in break times.</p> <p>SMR proposed that the Board combine such sharing with the discussion about After the Flood at the next Board meeting. All agreed.</p> <p>SMR had also written an article for Accord after the meeting with Ethnic Tapestry which is a personal reflection.</p> <p>KS said that there had been no contact with the MOU group since the discussion about issuing a statement about the purpose of the MoU group.</p> <p>Memorandum and Articles is currently being reviewed by Tim Warren (RAP member) and solicitor with charity law experience.</p> <p>KS reported that in response to PSA condition, ACC has commissioned a video by Julian Harrison to cover issues of EDI training for complaint panel members and assessors which may have relevance to a number of groups within ACC.</p> <p>GS had attended the clinical group of SCoPEd and counsellors working overseas or with overseas clients was a significant concern for many of the organisations, due to practical and legal issues of other countries. The proposal was to make this piece of work a joint project, which ACC had supported</p> <p>The software company have been informed that ACC is not taking up their directory development.</p> <p>KS that ACC's website developer will be developing the website for SCoPEd and that SCoPEd now has a new name PCPB (Partnership of Counselling and Psychotherapy Bodies).</p> <p>Copies of a book for sale has been given to ACC and ACC also has access to other books to resell. The income from some of the books would be entirely retained by ACC and one will likely require a small donation gift to the charity that the author was trying to raise funds for. These books would be an initial attempt to promote the "Shop" on ACC website.</p> <p><b>AOB:</b> Consider dates for 2025 meeting; Uganda update.</p>
<p><b>Standing items (continued)</b></p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> - None declared. The business interests form will be distributed in January for updates.</p> <p><b>RAP/PSA</b> - included in KS reporting.</p> <p><b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</b> - There is a planned meeting of MOU in December. The "Race is Complicated" Forum held earlier in the month had a 25 - 30 people had attended and it was well received.</p>

**Legal and Governance Updates** – National Insurance changes in the Budget will have minimal impact on ACC compared with larger charities which are heavily affected.

**Chair Report** – for full details see written report.

**Complaints Update:** A complaint form has been received, but the complaint has also submitted a complaint to BACP. The complainant has been advised to see if BACP were progressing with the complaint before ACC take any actions.

**Press Report on Regulation** – shared with board for information and informed membership and RAP. No further communication had been received.

**Memorandum and Articles of Association** – SMR hopes to get these approved at December Board meetings. Currently being reviewed by Tim Warren.

**Fellowship Nominations** – Jonathan Clark; Louise Morse and Amanda Georgiou were all nominated and agreed to become Fellows.

In addition, two previous Board members for their years of commitment and background work within ACC in specific areas. Peter Barraclough 2013-2024. Phil Martin 2019-2024. All agreed to their being Fellows.

We acknowledged the involvement as Board members of Sharon Hastings and Janet McNish but their board service did not meet the 5-year minimum criteria for fellowship.

### **EAP Schemes**

Following the model used with the NHS, ACC have recently provided a counselling service to other organisations and have been approached by two others to discuss provision of counselling for staff..

In addition, a Christian organisation based outside of the UK to discuss a counselling service through which churches can provide counselling for members. An initial meeting has been held.

TR commented that these contacts are something to be thankful for in growing recognition of ACC being an organisation and counsellors who can be trusted.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

**October Management Accounts & Cashflow** were provided by PR.

Pastoral Care training has made a surplus this year as a result of all the new courses being offered. Our appreciation was expressed for the work of Liz Neve on this and fundraising. An invitation will be extended to her to come to a Board meeting to present on fundraising

The board welcomed the increase in membership.

Overseas Development fund received £300 form donations relating to second- hand books at the conference and these donations can be gift aided. There were also some on-line donations. £500 has been sent to support the work in Uganda.

A funding application has been submitted to the Joesph Rank Trust

### **CEO REPORT**

A proposal for the development of new pastoral care courses was presented.

- Accompanying people through faith struggles
- Healing church hurts
- Traumatic bereavement

The costs of development and potential income meant that if the courses were run three times, based on average attendance, the development costs would be recovered and after that each course run would create a profit. ACC held the intellectual property for all course.

PR said that it would mainly be next year, with the development costs being incurred in 2025 with some of the costs recovered in 2025

CW asked to what extent EDI considerations were included in the course development. KS said that no allowance at present has been made for an EDI assessment. LH agreed that Ethnic Tapestry could be

involved in reviewing the courses, which would cover some aspects of EDI but not all of them. KS asked if board members could recommend anyone else to cover other aspects such as disability.

The Board approved this expenditure and work to proceed.

**Suicide guidelines** - KS reported on the guidelines that are being developed by the NHS and proposed as mandatory for all Accredited Registers. ACC and the PCPB collectively had raised concerns about the guidance not fitting well with the profession and significant ethical issues. A 2<sup>nd</sup> version has now been written. There is a concern that the guidance only applies to England but ACC and other bodies have members in the other UK countries.

The PCPB partnership are in discussions with the PSA. If / when they are instigated ACC will provide explanations and training for members as to how to apply them appropriately and it may be a requirement for renewal to confirm that they have been read. Our aim will be to support our members well.

KS said that a consultancy contract has been established to give support for organisational members and building a resource hub for them

On-line Conference theme will be based round Isaiah 61. Information will be sent to members with a request for workshop proposals in the next two weeks.

### **Coaching Consultation Pro Forma**

KS reported she had sending out a questionnaire a to interested parties to gather some initial information about what a membership offering could look like. The intention is to launch this new membership in 2025.

**PCPB** are setting up a new group for policy in 2025. They also hope to set an Independent Commission to be an influence / voice to the government on counselling profession issues. ACC needs a representative on this group.

KS shared an article on the Governments' approach to mandatory regulation.

**Staff Update** - the team are now meeting in person once a month, which is enhancing relationships and team working. Ideas for development and training are being investigated.

**Retreat** - following the National Conference, there has been a suggestion to hold a residential retreat in Autumn 2025. A request has been made to members to indicate an interest in order to assess viability.

PR thanked all to KS & SMR for all of the work that they have done and the team.

### **AOB:**

A report from Pastor Stephine was received about the prison work being undertaken in Uganda with ACC support. The Board acknowledged that the work is amazing.

SMR will be notifying dates for Board meetings in 2025.

**Next meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Approved



Chair of ACC

12 December 2024