

PROVIDING CPD AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

London Group (National Back Exchange) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held Online MS Teams, 17th June 2021

Chair: *Suzanne Payne welcomed members.*

1 **Present:** Rosemarie Scrutton, Beverley Kennedy, Suzanne Payne, Carole Stewart, Francine Mutuma, Martin Pendry, Sally Cassar, Valerie Phillips, Julie Stevens

Apologies: Danielle Holmes, Charlotte Monro, Greg Wingate, Maggie Williams, Jolie Driscoll, Pat Alexander, Damien McKeaveney, Liz Hughes,

Conflicts of interest: none were declared

2 **Minutes of previous meeting (AGM) 2019.**

The 2019 minutes were approved as agreed that they reflected the meeting.

3 **Matter Arising from AGM**

There were no matters arising from the 2019 AGM. Martin, however, reported that there was a request for new people to take on the officer roles for the London Group.

4 **Chairs Report:**

Busy time for us all since our last **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** in 2019, who would have predicted what 2020 was to be like. We decided to roll over our 2020 AGM until 2021, and I feel this was a good decision, and I thank you for supporting this.

Time for reflection, we went from having regular face to face meetings every year, sometimes struggling to get speakers and where attendance was variable for a plethora of reasons. Despite low numbers we continued to run lively informative ses-

sions. For a time, we perhaps felt personally and professionally as if we were in limbo, how to deliver training; reduced numbers due to social distancing, masks and gloves and other PPE.

Some of you were redeployed

And some of you were not

Some of you got Covid

And some of you did not

Some of you just ploughed on through

And some of you could not

Some of you lost love ones or people that you knew

And some of you just lost your way

Some of you did not

And some of you did keep in touch

Some of you could not

And to the some of you still here, I thank you very much

Where are we now seeing, ourselves planning and delivering our meetings in ways we would not have imagined in 2019 and now we embrace Teams Meetings. Meetings / presentations have been well attended and I hope that those who have attended have valued the sessions they attended. Some of you actually find it easier to get a couple of hours in front of a computer to do training rather than have to travel far and wide to get to the venue. So to all of you that have presented / demonstrated through this media, thank you it continues to be a learning curve.

So what to the future, it's as much yours as it is mine, there is nothing like being able to meet in person and we hope that we are able to return to our face to face meetings sometime soon. But we may choose to hold fewer face to face meetings and more Teams meetings, or bit of both.

A very big thank you to the Committee without them none of this would happen.

“No Man is an Island entirety of itself, everyman is a piece of the continent”
John Doone (1624)

With gratitude that we are all still here.

Suzanne Payne

*Chair of the London Group NBE
2019 -2021*

5. Treasurer's report:

Below, set out in the table, are the finances for the London Group of the NBE for two year, 2019-2021. There was no AGM in 2020 due to the pandemic. The committee agreed to this last year as worked towards a different way of meeting that allowed the members to meet while adhering to social distancing rule set out by the

government. The committee take on board that this is outside of the constitution, but they felt this was the best way forwards insight of the situation. Over this period LGNBE are £85.00 up. There has been some discussion on opening this money on a speaker or course but no firm plans have been firmed up so far.

	Petty Cash Transactions	Bank Transactions	Total
Bank Statement ~ 01.04.2019		£793.78	£793.78
Petty Cash 01.04.2019	£24.18		£24.18
Balance on 01.04.2019			£817.96
Income			
Paid In	£0.00	£356.00	
Income Total	£0.00	£356.00	£356.00
Expenses			
Speakers		£0.00	
Messaging		£0.00	
Room Hire		£0.00	
Food & Beverage		£0.00	
Misc		(£115.00)	
IT & WEB		(£179.68)	
Expenses Total	£0.00	(£294.68)	-£294.68
Bank Statement ~ 31.03.2021		£855.10	£855.10
Petty Cash 31.03.2021	£24.18		£24.18
Balance on 31.03.2021			£879.28

Martin Pendry
Treasurer

6. Secretary's Report:

I attended our last AGM in 2019 not intending to become a committee member that day and having been the London NBE secretary before, I knew what commitment

would be. However, there was silence and tumbleweed when the post was discussed and I was the first to crumble.

I was aware that many of the formalities and minute taking had reduced since I last held the post and I was confident the previous post holder, Martin, would assist me with the role. This has been the case and I've benefitted from the assistance of Martin and my other committee members as well as the much simpler procedures. This is a really positive factor for anyone considering being our next secretary and it might not take up as much time as you think.

The other major change for me has been the use of Mailchimp for a safe and GDPR compliant means to written communication and maintaining our group information. I would have to admit, I have struggled to get the best out of this system and have not been helped by it being blocked by my organisation. I knew that there were lots of wonderful videos on YouTube to guide me as a beginner and I always intended to learn one day, but I never quite got there. So, the help is there if you can make the time!

2020 certainly was a year like no other and 2021 continues to challenge us to connect in different ways. We embraced WhatsApp and Microsoft Teams and managed to keep in touch and continue to have meetings.

It has been really different holding our meetings on Teams and despite its limitations it has enabled us to continue to see each other. For some of our Group members, they were able to attend meetings whereas time and other commitments would usually prevent them from coming. The turn out has often been greater than our face-to-face meetings.

We started gradually testing the waters with Teams and using the time just to catch up and keep in touch, but this grew to regular presentations on a variety of subjects by group members or their contacts. Many thanks to everyone that presented or organised a speaker for us. It's been very impressive to see that screen shares and studio demonstrations really do work!

Many of our company representatives within the Group have now kindly demonstrated their products, so we are going to have to think about subjects we can bring to future meetings and all take responsibility for presenting or finding someone that can. I'm quite sure we will continue to use the medium of Teams well into this year.

In the past two years we have welcomed new members and lost some established members of the group. Our newer members have tended to be mainly representatives from our equipment providers rather than clinicians. Our current group has 27 members.

Like my fellow committee members, I intended to stay a year but due to COVID-19 carried on into 2020/21. I will be stepping down from this role and hope someone else will be in a position to take on the post of secretary.

Thank you for attending the meetings and for the most entertaining WhatsApp messages. I hope you have found the meetings as interesting and useful as I have.

Thank you to my fellow committee members and George, Martin's parrot. He never misses a committee meeting.

I hope our London Group will continue to exist and I cross my fingers that we will manage to form a new committee to take us forward. Let's hope we will be able to meet face to face nearer to Christmas.

Carole Stewart

Secretary NBE London Group

7. Election of officers:

Suzanne Payne reported that the committee had not received any application for the officer post prior to the AGM.

Valerie Phillips volunteered to be Chair of LGNBE in the meeting. The current committee were very grateful for this.

There were no further volunteers from the meeting for any of the other roles.

The current committee failed to identify people to appoint a committee at today's AGM.

The committee called an Extraordinary General Meeting on 16th July at 13.30 to allow time for people who did not attend to consider taking up a post. The two MLO from the NBE will be invited to the EGM.

Should a new committee not be identified at the EGM the current committee will have no alternative but to start the process of dissolving the group.

Chair:

Vice-Chair:

Treasurer:

Secretary:

There were thanks offered to the Chair and the team for having run the London Group of the NBE from the meeting.

Next year AGM will take place in July 2022 Venue and Date will be shared at www.lgnbe.org.uk