

## Parkinson's UK Barnsley and District branch

### Minutes of "Distance" meeting, held between 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020

( **Note:** at normal meetings participants both see and hear each other during the proceedings. I have therefore reproduced almost verbatim the contributions made in the course of the meeting. Submissions were received from 8 committee members thereby rendering the meeting quorate).

1. The minutes of the meetings held on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March were accepted as a true record.
2. There were no additional matters arising.
3. **Chairs report.**

#### **a Counselling service.**

Ann Marie thought the Service Level agreement (SLA) should be renewed. A renewal might encourage the Hospice to provide an online service.

Terry said the SLA should be renewed on 1<sup>st</sup> June

George thought the renewal should be delayed until normality returns.

Sheila thought the hospice needs our support and the SLA should be renewed on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Susan thought the SLA should be renewed on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Granville thought the SLA renewal should be deferred until normality returns.

Kathie in favour of renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June. It will not cost us anything and the service is demand led.

The chair agreed with both Ann Marie and Sheila.

**For renewal                    6**

**For deferment                2**

#### **b Respite care in the home**

Ann Marie in favour of SLA renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June and thought a grant renewal application should be made immediately (current grant expires 30<sup>th</sup> April).

Terry in favour of SLA renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

George in favour of deferring SLA renewal.

Sheila in favour of SLA renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June

Susan in favour of SLA renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Granville in favour of renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June

Kathie thought SLA renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> June appropriate.

The chair thought the continuation of the service since the crisis began was a tribute to the dedication of the staff and carers of CrossRoads Care: the SLA should be renewed on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

**For renewal**                    **7**

**For deferment**                **1**

**c Exercise classes.**

Ann Marie thought option (c on the agenda ) the best. Option (c continue paying Bronia the full rate after current 6 week extension expires on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, until 31<sup>st</sup> May, then continue paying Bronia 10% of the full rate until normality returns, it being assumed that Bronia will avail herself of the government's 80% support for the self employed.

Terry supports option (c but not to draw down on second instalment of Shawlands Trust grant until normality returns.

George supports extending the existing arrangements until 31<sup>st</sup> May then review. I think the assumption is that we would continue to pay Bronia at a rate to be agreed out of the branch's own resources, not drawing down any of the remaining grant monies. (Barnsley Bond and Shawlands Trust) until normality returns, after which class participants would be levied a surcharge to recover branch funds.

Sheila supports option (c to be regarded as a retainer to guarantee Bronia's services until normality returns.

Susan supports option (c funded by the second instalment of the Shawlands Trust grant.

Granville supports option (c accepting the second instalment and hope that Bronia does not obtain other employment.

Kathie favours (c but it is not reasonable for grant money to be used if Bronia is not supplying a service. The second instalment should not be returned but we should contact Shawlands Trust to ask them what we should do. We should postpone renewing the SLA.

The chair thought that if we were approaching Shawlands Trust we ought also to approach the Better Barnsley Bond which he is reluctant to do. The query was raised whether Bronia is actually providing a service. From my conversation with Bronia when the class closed and from what I saw in an article in the Barnsley Chronicle, Bronia is doing what she can to maintain contact with all her classes to ensure some kind of keep fit programme.

However, the consensus is clearly to maintain Bronia's full fee until 31<sup>st</sup> May and thereafter to reduce to 10% of the full fee until normality returns, also to delay renewal of the SLA until then. I will inform Bronia accordingly and George is hereby authorised to make the appropriate payments .

The chair is concerned that there is an internal accounting question to be resolved. Certainly 3 of the responses consider that the extension of payments to Bronia beyond 1<sup>st</sup> June should be accounted for from branch funds. However he is not in favour of consulting the two grant donors, partly because there is evidence that Bronia has been trying to encourage regular exercise in class participants. He would prefer this question to be deferred to a future meeting after discussions with Bronia on her current programme.

**4 Treasurer's report**

March report circulated on line

**5 Secretary's report**

Efforts are being made to rescue the Blackpool Experience. A review is taking place in July.

**6 Service Development Report**

Speakers/visits cancelled up to and including July, one of which has been re-arranged for 2021

**7 Assistant Treasurer's report**

2020 Emmanuel room hire charges are still outstanding in respect of 15 sessions.

CrossRoads Care - 11 participants in January, 10 in February and 9 in March.  
£1344.50 paid, £508 outstanding

Counselling -no invoice received

Exercise classes - £320.00 paid for March, £240 outstanding to complete the 6 weeks extension.

**8 Any urgent and relevant business**

There was none.

**9 Date of the next meeting**

To be determined by circumstances