

# **International Mental Health Collaborating Network (IMHCN)**

## **Minutes of the inaugural meeting of re-launched IMHCN 21 March 2014, Stevenage, UK**

**Present:** John Jenkins (Chairman), Hywel Davies, Paul Baker, Roberto Mezzina, Renzo Bonn, Franco Rotelli, David McAuley, Michaela Burt, Jorn Eriksen, Bodil Øster, Tom Cahill, Alison Ryan, John Stacey, Mike Smith, Jayne Whitney, Donna Sharp, Ian Hogbin, Nick Pennel, Sharon Claridge

**1. Apologies:** Nicolas Daumerie, Salifu Manneh, Phil Confue, Ron Coleman, Euan Hails, Peter McGeorge, Rob Warriner, Jan Pfeiffer, Vladimir Jovic, Karen Howell, Robert Goodwin, Angie Darlington, Iain Tulley, Abdul Abu Bakhar, Dyaa Saymah, Rajiah Abu Sway, Margaret Fleming

**2. Introductions:** The members present introduced themselves.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting held in Carmarthen 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013.**

Corrections: Michaela Burt and Dave McAuley were present.

Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record

No matters arising that were not on the agenda.

### **4. New Organisation:**

4.1 The chair explained the reason for establishing the new organisation in the UK. This was because of the need to close the existing IMHCN as constituted in French law as a community organisation. The reason for this was that the host organisation, WHOCC Lille could no longer fulfil the function of secretariat therefore we decided to relocate the organisation where it could be properly supported. This move required the establishment of a newly constituted organisation under UK Company and Charity Law.

4.2 Mike Smith explained the process of registration as a company and explained that the new company will operate as a charity under UK law. IMHCN will be registered as a charity within the next 10 weeks. We have submitted the constitution that is in accordance with company and charitable law.

The meeting agreed to adopt this constitution.

### **5. Appointment of Trustees**

5.1 The nominated trustees (board members) were introduced to the meeting. These were Mike Smith, Margaret Fleming, Jorn Eriksen, Tom Cahill, Alison Ryan, Hywel Davies, Roberto Mezzina, Peter McGeorge, Rob Warriner, Vladimir Jovic, Rossana Seabra, Nicolas Daumerie and Salifu Manneh and Jan Pfeiffer

5.2 These nominated persons were elected as Trustees and Board Members.

5.3 Roberto Mezzina was elected as chair of the Board of Trustees

5.4 Mike Smith was elected as vice chair of the organisation.

5.5 Franco Rotelli was appointed as the Honorary President of the IMHCN. Roberto Mezzina introduced Franco to the meeting and outlined his significant role in the closure of the San Giovanni Psychiatric Hospital and the consequent development of the Trieste Community Mental Health Services. Franco is now an elected member of the Government of Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and has an international reputation as a leading thinker and advocate for deinstitutionalisation, human rights and community mental health.

## **6. Appointment of non-executive board members**

John Jenkins was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer, John Stacey as Treasurer and Business Manager and Paul Baker as Secretary.

## **7. Membership Structure**

7.1 The chair outlines the new membership structure consisting of:

- Founder Partners
- Organisational Members
- Individual Members

A paper detailing the role, benefits and commitments of these will be attached for comment.

7.2 Nick Pennell agreed to review the existing membership list, make contact and inform them of the new organisation and membership structure and to ask if they wish to remain members.

7.3 JJ, PB & JS to prepare the information to be sent to them.

7.2 The chair listed the organisations who have agreed to join the newly constituted organisation as Founder Partners as follows:

Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board, Wales  
Alternative Futures Group, England  
Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, England  
Hearing Voices Network, Cymru  
Hertfordshire NHS Partnership Foundation Trust, England  
Hospital Perm, Johor Bahru, Malaysia  
Lyngby Municipality, Denmark  
Lille EPSM, France  
Plymouth Community Healthcare (CIC), England  
Plymouth and District Mind  
Saint Vincents Healthcare, Sydney, Australia  
UNESP/UNICAMP/USP Ribeirão Preto – SP, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
Trieste Health Agency, Italy  
Udine Health Agency, Italy  
Walsh Trust, Auckland, New Zealand

7.3 Roberto Mezzina proposed that we should reconnect with organisations that have shown interest in becoming members in the past. Roberto and John agreed to follow this up.

7.4 Other potential members to be approached were identified including Gambia Public Health, services in Asturias, Seville and Madrid, in Spain and Iceland. Roberto, Mike, John and Paul agreed to follow these up. Members were asked to propose other organisations that we could approach.

## **8. Advisory Board**

8.1 The existing Advisory board Membership needs to be updated. The current members will be approached to ask them if they wish to continue. As necessary we will identify and invite people from our membership to ensure a balanced representation of lived and professional expertise from different regions of the world. On completion the board members will be sent a list the revised Advisory Board membership.

8.2 JJ, PB & JS to send out to board members the revised advisory board members role and areas of expertise they can offer.

## **9. Adoption of Revised Charter**

9.1 The charter previously circulated was discussed and adopted.

9.2 The response to the updated charter has been very positive. Roberto Mezzina stressed the importance of community development as a key component of our mission. Roberto and Paul stressed that Community Development should continue to be a key theme of our future work.

## **10. Governance Arrangements**

10.1 John Stacey tabled the policies and procedures documentation relating to the proposed governance arrangements. These will be made available to the Trustees by the secretariat.

10.2 The meeting requested information about IMHCN's financial status. The treasurer explained that this will be detailed in the Business Plan and will be available at our next meeting

## **11. Business and Operational Plan**

11.1 The draft business plan was tabled at the meeting and was approved.

11.2 The Executive Team Operation Plan is being developed and will be made available for discussion at our next meeting.

11.3 The Programme of activities and events for 2014 was tabled and discussed (see attached). Members were asked to support and promote the events.

## **12. IMHCN Proposed Development Plan**

The chair stated that the Development Plan of our Products and Services needs to be developed. The draft plan will be circulated for members advice and suggestions.

## **13. AOB**

None

## **14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at the National Botanic Garden of Wales, Carmarthen. This will be during the IMHCN International Whole Life- Whole Systems Conference, 30-31 October.