

Minutes of AGM Trustees Meeting of TBO Southampton
19th April 2010, 163 Northumberland Road

Present: Ratnabodhi, Dharmamodana, Gill, Elspeth.

1 Matters arising from last meeting.

None.

2 Activities last quarter.

Activities since the last meeting were reviewed.

25/01/2010	Last Trustees Meeting.
31/01/2010	Dharmamodana went to CBC Sangha Forum.
02/02/2010	163 Back on the market.
06/02/2010	Dharmamodana Starts Karuna appeal.
03/03/2010	Tony Lee asks for ordination.
25/03/2010	Samudraghosa's leaving do in Winchester, 16 attended.
27/03/2010	Kim's leaving do at CBC.
01/04/2010	Sangha retreat, 7 from SOTON 25 in Total, went very well.
09/04/2010	Sangha team meeting. DM GK RH

Gill talked about the history of GFR groups in Southampton. Gill and Elspeth talked about the new GFR group for men/women they are trying to start.

3 Class Attendance.

No Monday class in January, hall closed.
The Monday class has lost money so far this year.

Average attendance	Monday 1.7 per evening.
	Tuesday 7.3 per evening.
	Wednesday 6.7 per evening.

4 Look at classes / sangha more generally.

Dharmamodana presented the table below.

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
1	Abi Marchent	Andy Dickens	Alex Barker	
2	Deborah Champion	Anne Willie	Anne Willie	
3	Diana Wills	David Room	Diana Wills	
4	Dominic Reynolds	John	John Beeney	
5	Elsbeth Wickets	Paula	Paula	
6	Ian Tomkins	Kerry Fletcher	John	
7	Gill Knight	Laura Skirrow	Martin Robson	
8	Rick Pott	Martin Robson	Matthew Peters	
9	<i>Jane Altounyan</i>	Matthew Peters	Tony Ley	
10	<i>Paul Bruce</i>	Nick Hudson	Tracy Knight	
11	Robert Hubbard	Tony Ley		
12		Tracy Knight		
13		Melanie		
14		<i>Paul Sawyer</i>		

The Wednesday group is now the largest group, with two new members Laura and Melanie. Samudraghosa and Kim have left the Tuesday group.

The Thursday column is all those people who have expressed an interest in studying the 'Dharma training course for mitra'. It will first meet on the 22nd April and will meet twice a month.

There was some discussion around the issue of people joining but not continuing with the Tuesday group.

The numerical size of the sangha is about 23.

Gill was keen for further Buddhism courses at the Grove. She felt a mistake that had been made was changing course title from 'Exploring life's potential'. Dharmamodana felt that all those people interested in Buddhism reached by the advertising done by the Grove had already booked for courses. The earliest Dharmamodana could run a course would be Sept.

There is a plan to leaflet doors in Winchester to advertise the Monday class. Anne, Rick and Dharmamodana plan to do this with Dharmamodana potentially having up to 5000 flyers printed.

Elsbeth is keen for Dharmamodana to check a fund raising opportunity with Radio Solent.

5 Accounts 08 / 09

The 2008 published accounts were looked at and the **to be published** for 09 were looked at.

A loss was made of about £1000 in 2009. This was due to losses on both sangha retreats, and through making donations to Poland and Chair's fund.

Revenue generated from the Winchester class was very good in 2009. With disruption to that class because of hall refurbishment and the cost of hiring the hall having increased, it is unlikely to do so

well in 2010.

We shall ask for a deposit on sangha retreat bookings in the future and limit donation to other charities.

6 Trustees.

Dharmamodana felt unsure about the position concerning new trustees.

Palaka has been asked to become a trustee and has declined. **Dharmamodana is to ask Mokshini.** Kim after ordination, Dharmamodana and Satyalila are all potential trustees.

Gill firmly expressed the view articulated in the sangha forum that the sangha want UK based trustees.

7 TBRL

Rick has been in correspondence with Windhorse, with a view to them opening a shop in Winchester. Windhorse are not interested in doing that at present. Dharmamodana sent an email to the sangha asking who would be interested in looking at the possibility of starting a TBRL.

Robert said he could give us some time.

Kerry and Tony said they would be interested in being involved at management level.

Rick, Dharmamodana, Elspeth and Abi would potentially be interested in running a TBRL.
Dharmamodana will arrange a meeting of that quartet.

8 Selling 163.

The chronology. Mrs. Driver offered 145K. This offer was accepted. After survey she changed her offer to 140K, conditional on the roof being fixed, damp and wall ties fixed. She also wanted a full structural survey at our expense. This 140K offer was never presented to the trustees to accept or reject (Dharmamodana felt there was little chance they would accept it). Mrs Driver has since withdrawn her offer.

Dharmamodana has been getting quotes for the work that may need to be done.

Roof	£7'000	Mr ? (friend of John) may quote less than £7000, guarantees need to be checked.
W ties	£1'000	Shaun Williams may quote less than £1000, guarantees need to be checked.
Damp	£6'600	Need second quote.
	£14'600	

We should be able to get the work done cheaper but for planning purposes let's work with these figures. Only one written quote has arrived so far from Anderton Preservation. Wall ties £1000 and damp £6600.

Wall ties are a low cost item probably costing less than £550 inc VAT. If rotten wood in the roof is replaced and the heavy tiles are replaced with lighter tiles this will probably solve roof problems. Roof work can probably be done for less than £6000. Once we start the damp work we have to run classes from some where other than 163.

163 in good order is probably worth £145K. So any offer higher than £145K - £14K, is worth considering.

Recommendation of the meeting is to have roof and wall ties fix and hope we can still sell at a good price with the damp un-treated.

Still need second written quote on wall ties.

Still need second quote on roof.

Dharmamodana to get a second quote on damp work.

Enfields have been informed about what is going on.

9 **Interbeing using 163.**

The Southampton sangha of the interbeing group may be looking for larger premises.

Dharmamodana wanted to know if the trustees had any objection to them using 163.

Ratnabodhi felt it could cause confusion for people when they came to 163. Was it a TBO event or interbeing event? Gill pointed out we do hope to sell 163 soon, in which event they would have to look again.

Dharmamodana to tell Abi, of the interbeing group they can not use 163.

10 Funding chairs assembly.

Last year TBO Southampton donated £500 to the chairs assembly fund. Dharmamodana proposed setting up a standing order of £50 per month to this fund. Dharmamodana also felt as we were giving away the sanghas money to another charity the sangha should be informed of what was being proposed and why.

There is **no question of anyone** in the sangha having a veto on this but if there were strong reactions against, the trustees may want to think again.

Proposed date for next meeting 3rd July.

THE END