

**Minutes of UKPAC Meeting held on Saturday 23 October 2021  
Zoom Platform**

**PRESENT**

Chairman	Liz Dominey
Vice Chairman	Lindsay Green
Secretary	Maureen Maguire
Treasurer	Rhona Kettle
Cheshire, North Wales & the Wirral	Esther Roberts/Gillie O'Rourke
London Anglia	Sharon Richardson
London Chilterns	Pam Robertson
Midland Arden	Denise Carson
Midland Chase	Ann Dawson/Christine Corless
Midland East	Helen Everett
North West England & Isle of Man	Anne Jackson
Northern England	Karen Alexander
Scotland North	Janice Wilson
South East England	Yvonne Freeman
South Lancashire	Sriya Kulupana
South West England & Channel Islands	Di Hill
Southern England	Eleanor Evans
Wales South	Bobbie Sheldrake
Yorkshire	Susie Westwood
Programme Director	Kay Richmond

**OBSERVERS**

Malta	Andrea Scholz
SI Bray ROI	Tanja O'Riordan Haak
SI Bray ROI	Clare Comerford
SI Cwmbran	Ann Hodgson
SI Leeds	Jennie Gilham
SI Woking	Christina Rollason
SI Bradford	Pam Roebuck
SI South East England	Penny Robbins
SI Glasgow City International Past President	Ann Garvie
SI Cambridge	Anne Ainsworth
Federation President	Cathy Cottridge
SI King's Lynn	Carolyn Slynn
SI Chester	Susan Haywood
SI Chester	Carol Rivers

**APOLOGIES/ABSENT**

Website/Communications  
 London Anglia  
 London Chilterns  
 London Chilterns  
 Midland Chase  
 Northern Ireland  
 Scotland South

Kathy Warrick  
 Kim Bramham  
 Jackie Paling  
 Jen Simpson  
 Edna Schafer-Hughes/Zena Lear  
 Rita Allen  
 Brenda Kay

<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>WELCOME AND OPENING COMMENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairman Liz Dominey opened the meeting by welcoming everybody and noted that it was changeover day and expressed her gratitude to the people who had done a great deal of work for the Committee.</li> <li>Liz asked each person to please remember that we are all volunteers, working from the goodness of our hearts to help women and girls to be the best they can be – and the women and girls to support, empower and enable included each other and that this can only be achieved with kindness.</li> <li>All present introduced themselves. Outgoing Regional PAC Officers, Secretary Maureen Maguire and Treasurer Rhona Bowler were each thanked heartily for their greatly valued service. Incoming Regional PAC Officers, Secretary Christina Rollason and incoming Treasurer Ann Hodgson were made most welcome.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from the meeting held on 3 July 2021 had already been circulated and approved by email.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Matters Arising not on the Agenda</b>          There were no Matters Arising in this category.</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>OFFICER REPORTS</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Chairman</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liz commented that she had little to add to her report on Dropbox which was a summary of what she had done since the last meeting and that she would prefer to talk about what we will be doing.</li> </ul> <p><b>4.2 Vice Chairman</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lindsay said her report on Dropbox was on a ‘double act’ as she had also been leading on Prison Reform and Domestic Abuse Matters. Lindsay welcomed all the new people and advised that if they would like a UKPAC badge to contact her to order same.</li> <li>Domestic Abuse will be discussed in Working Groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>4.3 Secretary’s Report - Outgoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maureen said she had little to add to her report on Dropbox but wanted to thank the group for all their help and support over the years which she had very much enjoyed.</li> <li>Chairman Liz took the opportunity, and on behalf of all present, to wish Maureen every success and happiness in her upcoming role as</li> </ul>	

	<p>SI President, expressing confidence in the excellence Maureen will bring including through her project “Opening Doors to a Bright Future”.</p> <p><b>4.4 Secretary’s Report - Incoming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christina’s brief report is on Dropbox.</li> <li>• The dates of the next meetings on Christina’s report will be reviewed during this meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>4.5 Treasurer’s Report - Outgoing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liz thanked Rhona on behalf of the entire group for her four years of service. Rhona thanked everyone for their support and wished the committee well in their future activities.</li> <li>• Rhona presented the Treasurer’s report to the meeting. She highlighted a current forecast deficit of £7,408 for the year to 31 March 2022. This was actually £6,612 less of a deficit than budget (which includes a levy payment holiday), due to COVID restrictions cancelling face to face meetings/events.</li> <li>• Despite a payment holiday of UKPAC fees last year, there is still a forecast cumulative surplus of reserve funds of C. 31K available.</li> <li>• It was felt that a reasonable reserve was more like c £15k in case we want to act quickly on a project and/or cover a year’s expenditure in keeping with normal financial practice. Decisions need to be made on best use of this surplus such as a further payment holiday or investment in projects.</li> <li>• The UKPAC Budget will need to be finalised at the January meeting.</li> <li>• The Financial Reports can be studied in detail on Rhona’s report on Dropbox and she is happy to answer any questions.</li> <li>• Rhona will retain responsibility to have the last two years’ accounts audited with Sigbi’s new Auditors – Rhona hopes this will take place in November.</li> <li>• Formal approval was sought to change the Banking Mandate, removing outgoing officer Maureen Maguire and installing incoming officers; Christina Rollason and Ann Hodgson. Rhona will stay on the Mandate temporarily to provide handover and support. This was approved and carried unanimously.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION to adjust Banking Mandate</b></p> <p><b>4.6 Treasurer’s Report – Incoming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ann said she was looking forward to the role - though not an accountant she has a long banking background and felt comfortable with the task.</li> </ul> <p><b>4.7 Website and Communications Officer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Warrick had sent apologies, but her report is on Dropbox.</li> <li>• Liz noted that Kathy has been very busy on UKPAC matters along with helping with the upcoming Sigbi Conference and thanked Kathy for this work.</li> </ul>	<p>RB/AH/CR</p>
	<p><b>REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS</b></p> <p>Liz stressed that the remit of the Working Groups is far too much work for our small UKPAC Executive Committee and that it was vital that everybody became involved in this important work - including rallying the troops in our Clubs across</p>	

the UK and in our Clusters.

Liz asked that all on the Committee please volunteer to be on a Working Group and do some work on their selection.

**The Working Groups to choose from are:**

Modern Day Slavery

Violence Against Women (previously Prison Reform Group)

Special Domestic Violence Courts

Climate Change

Some people are already assigned and active on Working Groups. The current table is on Dropbox and will be updated as names are supplied.

If you are not already assigned, please let Christina know your choice. Once in a group, please also involve your Region and onwards to Clubs so that the whole membership will be included in the efforts and the work can succeed.

**ACTION - Please let Christina know which group you would like to join**

**5.1 MODERN DAY SLAVERY – Lead - Janice Wilson**

- Janice has put an Action Plan, Poster and Flyer on Dropbox.
- As well as distributing information on Modern Day Slavery Janice felt the materials were a good opportunity to promote the name of Soroptimist International.
- There was a positive general discussion about the materials and other involvement throughout the UK by Clubs on Modern Day Slavery. Several members were working with local organisations which include the Cheshire Anti-Slavery Network, the Modern Day Slavery Network, PLASP (Pan Lancashire Anti-Slavery Partnership), and Soroptimist International of Yorkshire Against Modern Slavery (SIYAMS).
- Several members had attended the Modern Slavery Awareness evening on the 21<sup>st</sup> with SI Cardiff's Kim Ann Williamson on "What Makes Soroptimists unique?" Kim Ann is on the Wales Anti-Slavery Leadership Group and Chairs the UK Modern Slavery Delivery Group where Janice is also a member.
- Other matters raised included, small budgets for materials at some clubs, problems with posters being torn down – local councils may be happy to provide protective frames, and ways of measuring the impact of our campaigns.
- Members living near Folkstone are very aware of vulnerable refugees and feel that these discreet flyers may be very useful, especially for unaccompanied minors.
- The meeting was reminded about Brave Bear Trust as a resource.
- SI Haverfordwest have already made use of the Working Group Action Plan, forming their own Modern Slavery Action Group. They have tailored the documents, including survey forms, in collaboration with Kim Ann. They have produced an updated booklet with the capacity to copy

**ALL**

	<p>individual pages to use as leaflets. This will all be shared with Janice and be made available to Clubs.</p> <p><b>ACTION: To share materials</b></p> <p>Kay Richmond, in thanking Janice and everyone for their work, suggested that ideally materials should be recycled and recyclable and Kay also recommended QR codes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ACTION.</b> If anyone would be interested in joining the Modern Day Slavery Working Group please let Janice and Christina know.</li> <li>• <b>ACTION</b> Janice and Christina agreed to share information on names.</li> <li>• <b>ACTION</b> Liz thanked Janice for an excellent piece of work and actioned the Group to go ahead with production of materials, perhaps following a professional redesign.</li> <li>• A vote was carried for the Group to have an initial budget of £500 to take this forward, on the understanding that incoming Treasurer Ann Hodgson would be included in any final agreement of costs once this has been firmed up.</li> </ul> <p><b>5.2 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN – Lead - Lindsay Green</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lindsay, referring to her report on Dropbox, reported that things have been quieter since all the work undertaken with both Houses to get the Domestic Abuse Bill through.</li> <li>• We await the Strategy Report from Nicola Jacobs, Domestic Abuse Commissioner.</li> <li>• Lindsay would like a working group to assess our position and the way forward.</li> <li>• There has been interest from ‘6’0’ to collaborate - this could be powerful.</li> <li>• Lobbying for the Police Crime and Sentencing Bill to be done,</li> <li>• There had been good news in the week that Priti Patel will support an extension to two years for Domestic Abuse reporting.</li> <li>• Online Abuse is another area for review.</li> <li>• Women’s Centres – this seems to have gone quiet and needs new focus.</li> <li>• Lindsay and Liz suggested a Zoom chat with the Violence Against Women Working Group in December, to include Dame Vera Baird, to assess all the different aspects and to make an Action Plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION: Set up a Zoom meeting in December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Petitioning will pick up upon feedback from Dame Vera Baird who is now a member of London Chilterns region. Jonaki Ahteki and Molly Byrne are on the Centenary Anniversary Group and Liaise with Liz regularly.</li> <li>• As Lindsay is also Vice Chairman of UKPAC it may be preferable for another member to lead this group eventually.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION: Please let Christina and Lindsay know if you would like to be on the Violence Against Women - Working Group – any Soroptimist can be involved they do not have to be on the UKPAC Committee</b></p>	<p><b>BS</b></p> <p><b>ALL JW/CR</b></p> <p><b>JW</b></p> <p><b>JW</b></p> <p><b>LG</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 Days of Activism – Kay Richmond said there will be much on this on all the Websites and information was included in Kay’s report.</li> <li>• Gillie O’Rourke and Susan Heywood are Trustees of CSASS (Chester Sexual Abuse Support Service) which works closely with Soroptimists and Chester Women’s Aid. There will be a Candlelight Vigil on Gender Based Violence at 8 p.m. on 12<sup>th</sup> November at the Chester Cross.</li> </ul> <p><b>5.3. Special Domestic Violence Courts – Christine Corless</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christine reported that observations were completed in March 2020 but the report is still with various official parties for review. Christine noted that the more the report is delayed, the less benefit it will have.</li> <li>• Christine is working with the London Collective of Clubs and will be presenting to them in early November. Christine’s presentation to this London Collective meeting could be used by the Working Group and Regions.</li> <li>• Liz and Christine agreed that an Action Plan was required.</li> <li>• Names to Secretary Christina please for the Specialist Domestic Violence Courts Working Group.</li> <li>• It was agreed to set a meeting before year end.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION – Names to Christina to join this group</b>  <b>ACTION – Create an Action Plan</b>  <b>ACTION – Set a meeting before year end to move this forward</b></p> <p><b>5.4 CLIMATE CHANGE - Lead - tbd</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many Clubs and Regions have started environment projects, there could be opportunities to share knowledge.</li> <li>• COP26 may give a steer for our action plan.</li> <li>• Sigbi have a stand at COP26</li> <li>• Yvonne Freeman said Canterbury Climate Action Group are also at COP26. Yvonne is very interested in joining the Climate Change Working Group.</li> <li>• <b>ACTION</b> Would those interested in joining this group send names to Christina.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALL</b>  <b>All Group</b>  <b>CC/CR</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>FEDERATION PROGRAMME DIRECTOR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COP26</b> - Kay’s report is on Dropbox with many links and the video regarding COP26.</li> <li>• Kay, Ann Garvie and Sigbi President Cathy Cottrige will be the three permitted on the stand at COP26.</li> <li>• Kay noted that the theme of Climate Change runs through the next week with FPAC on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> followed by Conference on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Kay outlined the interesting and pertinent speakers for these meetings, these include:  FPAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a young woman from India who was supported by UN Women on her two expeditions to the Antarctic – now a fashion model for responsibly produced garments. There is hope she will become a</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<p>Soroptimist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr Bonnie Waring of The Grantham Institute.</li> <li>○ Mary Muai– SI UN Rep in Nairobi on the Environment Programme.</li> </ul> <p>Sigbi Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (with thanks to Yvonne Freeman) Dr Asha de Vos from Sri Lanka on Blue Whales.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The future Project for Sigbi: On 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022 there will be a Webinar to discuss this with Sigbi Director of Finance/President Elect Ruth Healy and Sigbi Director of Governance Sylvia Watson to guide us.</li> <li>● PFRFs - In February, there will be a much-needed Webinar to guide us how to select projects and prepare the reports.</li> <li>● Regarding updating ongoing PFRFs - Kay advised this should be done once a year to reach the database before 31<sup>st</sup> July so that it will be looked at for the Best Practice Awards.</li> <li>● The Girl Child Contributions are on Kay's report, these were made to a format required by SI.</li> <li>● The 16 Days of Activism materials will be coming out soon along with social media support.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Theme for the Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Theme for the 29 January 2022 PAC Regional Report Meeting was decided as Modern Day Slavery. Liz advised it is best to pick one good project from one Club.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION</b> – Project reports for 29<sup>th</sup> January Meeting</p>	<p><b>Regional PAC Officers</b></p>
8	<p><b>Dates of the Next Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Liz advised that VC Lindsay Green, will be Yorkshire Regional President and has arranged a Domestic Abuse Study Day for the 21 May 2022 to be held in Yorkshire. Further details and confirmation will be forthcoming. It was broadly agreed that this May meeting could be in place of the scheduled June Meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dates for next meetings:</b></p> <p>29 January 2022      Regional Reporting – Modern Day Slavery (Zoom)</p> <p>26 March 2022      UKPAC and Regional Reporting - Solihull</p> <p>21 May 2022         Study Day on Domestic Violence – Yorkshire</p> <p>10 September 2022   UKPAC Officers – Zoom</p> <p>27 October 2022     UKPAC AGM – at Sigbi Conference</p> <p>Chairman Liz Dominey closed the meeting thanking all attendees.</p>	

Signed .....

Date .....

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