

BFA AGM MINUTES **12th May 2024**

Present: Fiona Parr, Celia Dawson, Ildiko Davis, Paula Charnley, Sarah Paul, Greg/Ceri Thomas, Kay Hoffmann, Amanda Raine, Lindsay Gibson, Helen Dillon, Alison Thorpe, Harriet Lavender, Ruth Friedman, Gordon Adam, Bethany Rivers, Susan Jordan

Apologies: Barbara McGavin, Rob Foxcroft, Peter Afford, Isla Macdonald, Elizabeth Smith, Lucy Hyde, Peter Gill, David Garlovsky, Naomi Silverly, Suzi Mackenzie, Paula Newman, Clare Myatt, Vicki Thomas, Sarah Hadfield, Elizabeth English, Marion Winslow, Lucy Hyde, Carol Ervine, Valerie Peden

- Attunement
- Welcome from Celia & Fiona. Recap of coloured cards.
- Minutes from last meeting agreed
- Matters arising:
 - Conflict resolution document to be looked over by Celia and then sent to Susan, Jane and Helen.

Sofa's Report – Fiona Parr and Celia Dawson

Format of next year's AGM was discussed and a hybrid format requested but beyond the abilities of Sofa people at present. This to be discussed in the Gaggle.

Ideas re a sister organisation for focusers who don't teach have been suggested.

Treasurer's Report – Greg/Ceri Thomas

Complex and time consuming, treasurer requested there be a team of 2 or 3 people instead of only herself. Harriet and Ceri to chat with Ruth about possible software called Free Agent, to enable simpler process. Harriet said she would like to join the Treasurer team. A call out for another person to be put on Gaggle.

Newsletter Report – Gordon Adam

Gordon said he would like more of a team. Alison has an article to share with Gordon for the next newsletter. Bethany said she was interested in helping out and would contact Gordon to chat about it. Gordon said he would also put it out on Gaggle to see if anyone else would like to join the team, and put out some descriptions of roles needed.

Membership Secretary's Report – Suzi Mackenzie

We have gained 15 new members: Julian Crotti, Hilary Thorn, Marion Winslow, Sonia Galucci, Lindsay Gibson, Renee La Roi, Freda Blob, Farrukh Akhtar, Kirsty Pakes, Claire Schenk, Kathleen Kingsley, Danielle Mcshine, Fiona O'Meara, Naomi Silverly and Bethany Rivers. and two have re-joined: Alex Maunder and Luke Farren. Our current membership is around 118 people.

Suzi is stepping down this year and Sarah Paul will be taking over.

Suzi was thanked for automating the membership on the website, organising support for new members when and where needed, and for all the good work she has done over the years.

Webmaster Post

Celia reported that we did not have a report this year because Robert Copperwhite has found the work of this post too demanding, on top of a sudden increase in his normal workload.

The different aspects of this post were discussed and Paula offered to co-ordinate the different aspects of this post and to produce a role description and payment for each one, so that they could be advertised and a team of people could be put together.

The Sofa people would also put together a task list for work so that other teams could be formed to look at matters such as co-ordination with other Focusing organisations and marketing.

Administrator's Report – Clare Myatt

Clare checks the emails received every day. Simple questions are answered and others are forwarded to the appropriate person. Clare is happy to continue in this role. Clare was thanked for her report.

Focusing School 2025 - Mary Louise Morris

A team has been formed to co-ordinate this event.

A venue has been booked for 20-24th August at a boarding school, the Old Hospital School (www.ohsch.com). Early bird bookings are being taken.

An international mix of well-known teachers have been booked. There will be formal workshops, informal workshops and individual focusing during the day and entertainment in the evenings.

Summer Camp 2024 – Gordon Adam

Gordon reported that arrangements are ongoing for the Summer Camp 14th – 18th August 2024 at Noah's Ark Children's Venture, Macaroni Wood, Eastleach, Cirencester GL7 3NF. This year children will be invited.

Election of Officers

Present officers were thanked for their work and the meeting offered support for the future teams to be formed to carry out the various duties during the coming year.

Date and Place of Next Meeting

Gordon offered to find a venue for the next Spring meeting in the Bristol area. The date would depend on when he could book it.

Any Other Business

Amanda has an article on Focusing and IFS that she would like to put on the website. Ildiko suggested that she contact Patrick, the website designer and ask him to put it on and send an invoice.