



## Bowen Professional Forum

### Minutes from 2016 Annual General Meeting Relating to the Financial Year ending 2015

Conference call held at 19.30 on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016

**Present:** Martin Grasby (Chair), Angela Cannon (Chair BAuk & PSB), Kathryn Phillips (representing BTPA), Penny Gibbings (Interim Secretary),

1. **Apologies:**, Alastair Rattray (PSB), Sheila Whyles (BAuk), John Wilks, Nikke Ariff, Michael Morris (PSB), David Howells, Brigitte Nix-Kuner

2. **Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting held in June 2015:** Angela Cannon was recorded as proposer for accepting the minutes but was not present! Martin Grasby agreed to be retrospective proposer. Apart from this the minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

Proposed: Martin Grasby                      Seconded: Penny Gibbings

### 3. **Matters arising:**

No matters arising

4. **Chairman's report:** Since the last Bowen Professional Forum (BPF) AGM in June 2015 we have not been called upon to carry out any duties. Thus Martin has nothing to report. He thanked Forum members for belonging and acting as a potentially important resource. Angela said the PSB value the existence of the Bowen Professional Forum as a potential back up and a step removed from the CNHC to whom the PSB inevitably feel some allegiance towards.

Martin gave special thanks to the PSB for all their work with the CNHC on behalf of Bowen therapists.

5. **Annual Report and Accounts 2015:** Martin Grasby presented the above. There is just over £2000.00 in the account which is sufficient in the present circumstances. On-going expenditure is unlikely to change with approximately £47 for website maintenance and £20 for auditor's fees. Future Forum meetings will be AGMs or additionally arranged as required. For example, if requested by the PSB or if an urgent issue arises from Bowen practitioners that needs discussing/coordinating before passing on to the PSB). Costs for recent AGMs have been zero thanks to Forum members not claiming their telephone expenses using Conference Calling.

Proposed: Angela Cannon                      Seconded: Kathryn Phillips

6. **Appointment of Auditor:** The meeting agreed to continue to employ Esau Rahim as financial officer. The meeting thanked Esau for his expertise.

Proposed: Martin Grasby                      Seconded: Angela Cannon

**7. To fix Auditor's remuneration:** Esau has indicated an annual charge of £20 to continue to manage the accounts (unless something exceptional was to occur in which case he will speak to Martin Grasby).

Proposed: Martin Grasby

Seconded: Penny Gibbings

**8. Election of officers & Committee members:** Whilst little is involved in being on the Forum, Martin & Penny agreed to continue in their roles as Chair and Secretary. However, if more input was required the situation would need to be reviewed. Martin is to email the other committee members – Nikke Ariffe, Sheila Whyles, David Howells & John Wilkes to check they are happy to continue on the committee.

**9. Report from the Bowen PSB:** Angela Cannon

Current PSB members are Angela Cannon (BAuk), Alistair Rattray(BTPA) and Michael Morris. Another Bowen CNHC member would be a valuable addition to the existing Bowen PSB.

Angela prepared the following report for the AGM:

### **PSB report to the 2016 Bowen Forum AGM – Angela Cannon**

We have all been made aware of the sad passing of John Lant, past Chairman of the CNHC and the Bowen Forum. The new Chair of the CNHC Board, Michael Watson, has been involved in regulation as deputy Registrar at the General Osteopathic Council and Chief Executive of the British Osteopathic Association.

Alastair Rattray, Michael Morris, and myself are three Bowen PSB representatives, we are one member short and would welcome another CNHC Bowen member to join us. Alastair Rattray, our Lead PSB member attends one meeting and all PSB members are invited to attend a second annual meeting. Its a chance for us to get together and give the views of our industry to the regulator which is the prime role of the PSB, but it is also an extremely useful opportunity to meet up with representatives from the other 15 disciplines and share our views. There were 5,533 individuals registered in March 2016 and of those 194 were Bowen Practitioners.

**Complaints procedures..** At the last PSB meeting in March 2016, the CNHC gave information on the process of the complaints procedures, indicating that if a member of the public makes a written complaint about a Registrant the complaints process is very robust. At that meeting we learned that the CNHC published the outcomes of public hearings on its website for an indefinite period. I voiced my concern about that policy on behalf of practitioners and since then the policy may have been reviewed as there are no details on the website.

The CNHC now make it clear that they only accept complaints in writing from Members of the public and don't deal with complaints between Registrants. Information on the CNHC website says:-

CNHC is accredited by the Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social Care as the holder of an Accredited Register and are **now** imposing disciplinary sanctions that mirror those of the statutory healthcare regulator.

**NICE guidelines:** The CNHC have responded to the NICE guidelines on low back pain and Sciatica. It was a very late submission. Bowen and other therapies hadn't been included but ie Massage, Yoga and Alexander teaching had already submitted their evidence previously to Nice via their professions.

Recently the CNHC have reported that the Scottish Government has updated its guidance about Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Guidance can be viewed on the Scottish Governments website.

The CNHC continues to be actively promoting complimentary therapies to healthcare professionals giving a reassurance that registrants meet the NOS standards. (National Occupational Standards.)

I believe there is still a concern that we have no evidence from the CNHC that they are successful in recruiting therapists who are not members of Associations or registered in any at all. Something everyone wishes for.

The CNHC is still reviewing its Core Curriculum to be able to publish a core curriculum template. This review involves important changes with regards to the definition of learning hours. All PSBs voiced their concerns over any changes in Learning Hours.

Margaret Coates the CNHC registrar has the view that it was unlikely that the Professional Associations and the awarding bodies could be influenced to standardise titles.

The CNHC and PSA are still in communication with the ASA requesting they accept that registrants are suitably qualified professionals but there is still nothing to report on this.

The CNHC have addressed the Professional Associations concerns and produced a list showing the differences between the Professional Association and the CNHC, however, this doesn't feature too prominently on their website.

Other items of interest can be found on the CNHC website, and their News Updates are sent to all Registrants.

The PSB are pleased to know that the Bowen Forum is there if advice is needed.

Angela Cannon June 21<sup>st</sup> 2016.

The meeting thanked the PSB for their hard work on behalf of all Bowen practitioners in the UK. Martin thanked everyone who had contributed to the meeting. He thanked Kathryn Phillips who had represented BTPA at short notice.

The meeting closed at 20.56.