



Bowen Professional Forum

Minutes of meeting 10th March 2010 at Indian YMCA, Fitzroy Square, London.

Present:

Martin Grasby (BTER/BA), Sheila Whyles (BAuk), John Francis (BTER),
Nikke Ariff (BTER)

Observer:

Penny Gibbings (BTER)

PSB observers:

Alastair Rattray (BTER), Gillie La Haye (BTER), Angela Cannon (BAuk)

Apologies:

Maureen O'Mara (Lay member), Sarena Baxter (PSB, BAuk),

This was the first meeting of the Bowen Professional Forum and was set up during the final meeting of the Bowen Forum on December 2nd 2009.

1. **Welcome to the First Meeting.** Until a new Chair person was elected the 'Chair' was temporarily taken by Alastair Rattray who welcomed the attendees.
2. **The Bowen Forum AGM** held at the Institute of Education, Russell Square on January 16th 2010 was discussed. Points raised included the CNHC working to bring together a generic CPD list. There will be Bowen specific CPD requirements which will be set by the Bowen PSB. These will be in addition to the generic CPD requirements which will be completed in 2012.

Those who had attended the AGM expressed disappointment at such a low turnout. The involvement of the FHT had given cause for concern.

Reassurances had been given by Maggie Dunn and all felt there had been positive outcomes.

Esau Rahim had presented the final Financial Report of the Bowen Forum.

3. **The Minutes of the last meeting** of the Bowen Forum had been circulated and were agreed.
4. **Matters Arising.** Where new members of the Bowen Professional Forum and the Bowen PSB would be drawn from was discussed. It was suggested they were to be Forum members but Angela Cannon said this should be checked as she recalled this opportunity must be made available to all Bowen Therapists. The meeting was reminded that Maureen O'Mara had said she could advise of procedures which could be applied to enable the Bowen Forum to become the Bowen Professional Forum. The information hadn't been received to date and this would be followed up by Angela Cannon.
5. **Appointment of Officers** of the Bowen Professional Forum from 1st January 2010.

CHAIR. Martin Grasby was proposed as Chair of the BPF as he was a member of both BTER and BAuk. Martin Grasby agreed to take the position on a trial basis and expressed the need for support from members.

SECRETARY. Sarena Baxter was unable to attend the meeting but had already agreed to take the position of Secretary. This is to be confirmed by the Chairman as Sarena is unexpectedly delayed in South Africa due to family illness.

TREASURER. Martin Grasby to ask Esau Rahim if he is willing to continue as Treasurer to the BPF.

6. **Finance:** The Treasurer was not present at the meeting but it had been previously approved that the funds from the Bowen Forum should be passed to the new Bowen Professional Forum.

It was agreed that the Chairman would write to both PAs to ask their permission to use the funds remaining to continue the business of the previous Bowen Forum by the newly formed Bowen Professional Forum.

It was agreed that the new name of the Forum is necessary as the requirements and function of this Forum has changed.

The number of cheque signatories and mandates was reviewed.

7 Constitution. It was felt that the Terms of Reference should be checked and that there would need to be revisions to the Regulatory functions. Maureen O'Mara to be contacted to advise on this.

8. Communication and External Relations. Angela Cannon is to pass on the web files to Martin Grasby. Martin to contact Richard Baverstock to check what is on the Bowen Forum Website and what now needs to go added to the site.

Gillie La Haye to contact Richard to ask for the Bowen Forum heading to be changed to say Bowen Professional Forum on the website. A new letter heading also needs to be produced for the BPF.

Martin Grasby to talk to Richard about including information about the PSB on the Bowen Professional Forum Website. There should be a description of its role. Sheila Whyles asked PSB members for a digital photograph to be included on a PSB dedicated page on the website.

The cost of the web page and work to be reclaimed by the PSB from the CNHC as an expense.

9. PSB Report The members of the PSB present, Gillie La Haye, Alastair Rattray and Angela Cannon reported that the CNHC gave a lot of reassurances at the first PSB open meeting.

The 'James' email will be dealt with legally by the CNHC when they have more evidence about the sender. The CNHC also said they have 'no interest' in the contents of the letter.

All CNHC meetings are minuted so PSBs can acknowledge the contents.

Points of interest for the BPF from that meeting with the CNHC were as follows.

- a. If a practitioner leaves the PA who validated their application they won't be monitored whatsoever by the CNHC. Only the CPD originally produced will be required for continued registration. There is no requirement for the PA to notify the CNHC of a member who has left, unless they choose to and this will not affect the practitioners CNHC registration.
- b. In the event of a complaint made against a practitioner by a member of the public, the PA who verifies a practitioner takes full responsibility for the accuracy of that verification.
- c. The meeting was informed by BAuk members present that BAuk administration have been very careful to make sure that all requirements

for registration are met by their Full Member practitioners including up to date Bowen CPD, full insurance and 12 months valid First Aid Certificate.

- d. There were concerns expressed as to whether First Aid requirement was being correctly implemented. This is part of the legally approved Entry Requirements document. A suggestion by BTER that 'the spirit of the law' can be interpreted as more than one month valid First Aid was not agreed by all members at the meeting as being a correct interpretation. The matter was left open for further discussion and the PSB would investigate. Angela Cannon said BAuk will continue to implement the 12 month First Aid requirement as their members have been happy to renew their certificates early for verification and no one has complained about this ruling. She felt it would be very unsatisfactory to create a two tier verification system and was also concerned that, by not following the entry requirement rules for practitioners, the verifying PA may be unable to assist a member defending a complaint made against them by the public.

It was noted that practitioners' websites should be checked as claims have already been made by the public with regard to misrepresentation. CNHC have circulated a document to give guidance to the PSBs on this.

BTER Chairman, John Francis reported that approximately 300 practitioners have already signed up for CNHC membership - 90% of the membership.

Gillie La Haye reported that a letter has been written by the PSB to Maggie Dunn offering registration to all Bowen therapists and asking that they distribute this on behalf of the Bowen PSB. Maggie Dunn had phoned to say this wasn't possible as they were the Regulator and that they couldn't forward this to other Associations.

Feedback was given from a meeting between Alastair Rattray and Gillie La Haye of the PSB with Jennifer Whyte (FHT President). Jennifer had stated that the FHT would only allow FHT members who meet Bowen Forum requirements to register for the CNHC. There was also mention of previous input from Tina Reid (FHT) and John French (FHT) regarding CPD requirements.

The meeting was reminded that FHT have been asked to provide the numbers of Bowen Therapists on their Register and their training backgrounds.

Gillie La Haye read a letter from FHT which stated that their members met the NOS and CC requirements. The Bowen Professional Forum suggested that Bowen Therapists registered with the FHT again be invited to be verified through BTER or BAuk at the same cost as their own members.

Alastair Rattray suggested we invite 'a representative' from FHT to attend the next BPF meeting (or most of it), as an observer, as this will demonstrate openness & inclusion. It also gives us the opportunity to find out what FHT has in its plans and to make sure we bring everyone together.

A brief discussion followed regarding FHT making a financial contribution should they eventually be invited to join the Forum.

10 Any Other Business.

It was proposed that all members of the PSB could attend the Forum meetings if they wished. David Howells had also expressed a wish to come to a forum meeting.

PSB meetings are quarterly and so it was decided that the next meeting date for the Bowen Professional Forum would be 16th June 2010 from 3 pm to 6 pm.

The meeting closed at 5.30pm

Signed

Dated.....