

CHARITABLE STATUS MEETING AGENDA

MEETING	Regional Coordinators Meeting	Date	5.12.2012	Present	KWB, BKH, AJG & all RCs
Chairman	Alan Gibson	Start Time	13:00	Apologies	
Address	Andy Turner's House, Chippenham.	Finish Time	14:30	In Attendance	

Signed as a true record of the meeting.

Time Allocated		AGENDA ITEMS	Notes	Action Point
10min	1	Recent Counsel from BDH	KB- The guys you have got here is the RC government team, Coordinators of regions and they have local coordinators. JGG – we know the ultimate aim is to see every mp, every lord. CEO said today – talking about instruction for a brother, “get him to do it, he doesn’t need think about it within 24hours, just do it” We need immediate action, no procrastination,	
10min	2	Resume of Directions hearing 3/12/ 12 & PASC 4/12/12		
10min	3	Peter Bone and 10 Min rule bill 19/12/12	Peter Bone thing has 3 strands, 1 10min bill, 2. Letter, 3 in tune with the HOL- kb has sent draft, JGG to get council , the 10 min bill has been drafted and checked by clerks, it is free of legal impediments, he wants list of supportive MPs , it will happen just after PMQ on the 19th- we need to get favourable MPs to commit to hang around for 20mins. JGG- excellent, speak to all	

			<p>mps from debate, - we will ask mps to stay around. The letter to the PM has to come from an MP and signed by MPs- we have 2 or 3 favourable MPs that would be prepared to put it forward. FB felt that judge could be upset by this, she couldn't do it as she was at the hearing, if someone else wants to that is fine. JGG- this letter to PM is that in view of getting statue/legislation changed. They have got time set for that. 10min is 1st part of the process. JGG- got to the careful we don't be seen by trying to outmanoeuvre the Judge. Mps should not write to her. We should respect that. Brian Binley said the letter would be a great thing to do, put pressure on, public signal of strength of feeling. Same as the EDMs, he signed them there and then, as soon as it is over 50 names govt have to take notice of an EDM.</p>	
2min	4	Back bench business debate – Go forward plan...	<p>Peter Bone asked question at bus questions, government time for the debate, in addition is the Backbench committee, David Pringle knows ropes, Natasha Engles has so much time allocated on the floor and so much in Westminster Hall. She has to be convinced there is a case to be made. Another opportunity, she is favourable, however it is less likely she will be able to grant this, one criterion is that this hasn't come in to parliament, Peter Bone commented it may be ruled out on point of principle. JGG Go for it anyway. What NE said was one thing she needed for an application was an all party delegation to come to her, no problem there, meet in public 1300 on Tuesday, and MPs will argue the case for time in Backbench Committee.</p>	

			JGG Get a team to work on that,	
5min	5	Letter to PM signed by 100 MPs		
5min	6	PMQs/AG Qs/Any other Qs	<p>KWB- this is still in the luck of the draw- AG questions can still be asked. What about cabinet questions. Brian Binley said bash Nick Hurd. One thing Nick Hurd said yesterday was there is one window of opportunity. What is this? What about Nick Hurds boss, Francis Maude, cabinet office minister and also Paymaster General, JGG has he been approached, KWB yes a couple of times, we don't want to get him off side by going over his head. JGG- talk to him, explain - we have already spent half million, CC won't talk to us, we are in the process of asking the CC for more meetings. Part of CEO advise is put extreme pressure on Shawcross to review this without going to tribunal-other points in the recent council- Get Berridge's speech rebutted point by point, examine Jill Mytton questionnaire point by point, CEO watched the PASC yesterday, he felt v strongly about commission personnel, advice was go for the underbelly and go for the jugular, JGG-that's in hand. Another directional hearing, 3rd of 12th, judge felt 1st tier tribunal was the correct level for the case, we were misinformed (by legal team?) - Because it turns out she has viewed other Christian cases. JGG Why didn't we violently object? It appears Immigration cases below her dignity. She wouldn't let the case go up to</p>	

			<p>upper tribunal. We were encouraged by the way she treated sensitive witness. Cc has asked for sensitive witness that means anonymous evidence with no cross examination, we fought that very hard, and she said CC will have uphill battle persuading her about that. She won't allow exchange of evidence. Every letter will have to allow name and address. Irony is that earlier this year Berridge argued against sensitive witnesses.- that has been pointed out to her</p>	
10min	7	Westminster Forum for MPs	<p>Shall we do a brethren forum to counter Berridge's opposition forum at Westminster – JGG that would need council, lot of brothers meeting and greeting all the time, not many brethren but a few hundred mps, Berridge is hosting event for lords and mps to meet opposers. An mp can sponsor a room, she will do this for the outs, CEO commented how many would be bothered to go. Take a tape recorder and dress up as an out. The attorney general has declined to intervene- any point in still writing. JGG– don't think so. A valid reason for AG to intervene is if a lot of Christian groups worried. If he can see this he will join. Oliver Whiley and Cyril Parsons responsible for Christian groups- Cyril Parsons, a month ago the advise was to pull back- JGG- CEO wants to get as many Christian groups as possible to intervene. A letter has been written; contact farrars to check it out. Sam Webster- legal adviser of Christian Institute seems good- JGG get a meeting to discuss strategy on this. Judge Mckenna was definite; we need to make sure there is no intervention till all issues are on the table.</p>	

			<p>She will accept groups intervening once the case has been put. Limits of argument have been put. She stated specific criteria they would have to bring something to the case. Help the tribunal in making their decision, Sam Webster- legal adviser of Christian Institute will help here. Christian Institute wrote to AG – JGG the key is get legal advice, be prepared and get Christian Groups ready to intervene when the time comes. Christian Concern is also prepared to assist. We need to provide guidance to groups that will come forward, we give them a document, what we need them to do and how to do it -</p>	
10min	8	HoL Strategy	<p>Adrian works with Peter Green, David Pringle, written to 170 peers out of 7/800- Dodds only list 600something, responses from 51, face to face with 17. JGG- what sort of responses? generally sympathetic, have noticed a cooling off since Berridge, JGG – noticed there was very few in chamber for the debate, very little support from both sides. How does HOL function, not elected. They are not answerable, no constituencies, JGG– what influence do they have, are you thinking legislation- commons have to pass 1st – then to be passed by the majority of those sitting. Not all active, the amendment will come forward 18th December, small charities. 1st reading is formality, 2nd will see how lords vote, opportunity to amend. JGG- the guy who drafted 2006 legislation- he has bought it up about a law change, where is that up to. Garth, this was proposed as amendment at committee stage in the Commons, the clerks rejected it, Peter Bone</p>	

		<p>says get one of the Lords to do it, quite often an amendment thrown out of Commons will go through the Lords. Lord Patrick Cormack is prepared to do it. JGG - Act quickly. Do all you poss can to get an amendment to that bill? What will it say- where it refers to def of small charities and sports clubs, add churches. Don't do more than that. Won't be home and dry, less than £5000 only. JGG What is income threshold for this - £5000 is total of gift-aidable donations. Subdivs will be below this. Clause mentions associated buildings. Each building gives your 5000. Relate to expenses and costs. Get it in. can have bigger but 5000 max gift aid. JGG go for it. This will be a provision. Act quickly.</p> <p>Approach to lords generally- should we rebuff Berridge opposition in the letter- JGG – write a letter to every lord, include the LOB and Benefit book, maybe look at what Peter Trevett has done on BB speech, pull it to bits, But not a too hard hitting letter, but say it is inaccurate and untrue. We have been defamed by what she said. Say we are always glad to talk face to face if there is ever opportunity, we will make ourselves available at a moment's notice. Get it to HQ- to Keith, make it urgent, Not too lengthy, use suitable words. Baroness Warsi letter, she is Minister for faith and communities. JGG- Get f2f with Warsi, KWB and Simon Baker saw her assistant yesterday. Need to catch her and give her the rebuttal. Write to all the lords. Question about pointing out the association of Jill Mytton with Dawkins- JGG need to be wise in drafting this letter to her, not to lengthy,</p>	
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			<p>point out she used her HOL position to defame brethren, we will check it and get it out. Warsi sponsored Berridge, they are close. JGG - Ask how would Warsi would feel if Berridge castigated the Muslim faith. She didn't check verity or facts with us, used parliamentary privilege, cowardly, this is only 1 person in HOL versus 50 MPs that have met us and know us – Shawcross has taken her as the authority, quoted her 5 times on Monday, disgraceful</p>	
10min	9	Trustees Guidance & Trust Deeds	<p>JGG There is drafts of 2 trust deeds with PMcN to check, we can't do anything more for now, CEO wants to speak to JGG when he is home. Certain responsibilities on trustees, JGG draw up action list, get it actioned, -Do it urgently. Close to illegal things are happening with congregation money, not intelligent, it wouldn't stand up, JGG don't talk about it, do it. Get it circulated- Alvin is the man.</p>	
3min	10	Weekly TC with steering committee.	<p>JGG The steering committee is Keith and Keith and Keith. We want everyone under pressure, lack of communication with the team, this Teleconference would be good, half an hour, need an EA, good reliable young sister, ping things to, do it, use a sister because they are more subject! Sister will do what she is told, get the sisters in the work, at Shepherds Bay the sisters are everywhere, find a sister in your own meeting that knows you best. Have them on steering committee with yourself. We had an excellent TC other night, GAC chair, over in 20mins,</p>	
	11	AOB	<p>Ques- should we contact MEPS-JGG we have got enough on the plate, don't worry about the human rights angle for now</p>	

			<p>(Monday – next stage?). If we don't win in the tribunal on a point of law no right of appeal, in that case there would be a fresh application to CC, Human Rights case could take 4-5 years. * Graham Patterson, there is a Glasgow lawyer firm with long knowledge of brethren, worked in 70s post Aberdeen retrieving rooms from the outs, also on the Dutch book case, worked on trust vs. HMRC cases, they understand the trusts. They can assist, following the case, they want to brief Farrars on their cases and experience, they want to make some suggestions, CEO said about 2 legal teams. JGG- I agree with that, CEO said this morning, my strategy is using different lawyers in different areas. Bruce Hazell and Graeme Reiner are in the Legal Team. Keith Birch is the top, quasi prime minister, he will have ministers under him, assistant ministers further, have 3 levels, keep it a flat structure, we still need to settle the other teams, public, media, finance, legal, once it is –JGG there is an email policy coming out, some people on the team have got 8-900 unopened emails, can't cope with their email management. Keith is subject to AU advice, Alan – need more support, there is an opportunity for more in this team to support him. Doesn't have to be RC's, think about good LCs- needs pass on some workload to a team. Bruce Hazell is moving to legal team. the nub of problem is getting feedback, actions – 2 week response is too poor, bros at top are all too busy, haven't got time– Luke Reiner is EA/facilitator for legal team, the top team need an effective EA's like Cyril has. Trouble is getting so much is stuck at</p>	
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		<p>GAC and top team. How can we escalate issues? Graham Paterson, how do things move through parliament- we need to know the process. Alan, more than one here does know. Problem is when RCs don't know. When info is only half there it incites 150 persons. George is getting 1000s of emails now because of the doorkeepers, - structures need to be merged, it is far too blurred at local level. Garth woodcock used gov team. Pie packs, some places never heard of them due to this poor communication. So many persons getting involved some are incapable. The LCs do got a good working knowledge; many have been involved for several years. Able persons, public benefit. Chaplains asking difficult questions are we damaging our reputation by putting untrained persons onto the front line. We are putting persons into situations they can't handle.</p> <p>Unmarried sisters have been sent into homeless places. We are not going to let in known opposers, are pics of opposers could be sent round?. Cant have crazy rumours- Some poor woman was at PASC was called Jill Mytton, not the old granny, that is Baroness Turner, for years she ran Camden council. KB could need more than one facilitator. RCs need to be involved to nominate doorkeepers, team for piepacks.</p> <p>Etc. As to doorkeepers the word is out needs to be married brothers. Structure needs to be that RC applies common sense to the region. UBT principles. Central storage for documents. Each document to be security rated, RC, LC, etc, Garths last update had gone to everyone because</p>	
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		<p>are experts. Someone to get RC network on board, find out what ex mps brethren know. Don't alert lords about Berridge- we need to decide policy on this. - Those who haven't attended the debate are not relevant. Oliver Wiley and Cyril Parsons are all faith groups' contacts. Use RC network to ask for faith group networks in their area. Baptists visit by Jim Turner. Where is Jim in structure, JT nonconformists and free churches? Mr hales advice, WJT to work with Cyril. Where does John Glass fit, need to know. Find out the team. Cyril Parsons, the Messenger letters come from BGR who sends via Liz Hetherington at the depot. Public benefit, can info from care meetings go thru the LCs not the messengers. BGR switch chain of communications thru to the LCs, not messenger. Graham – those who are out, testimonials from those who have gone out, where is this coming from.</p> <p>Peter Trevvett is co-ordinating this following advice from CEO. This needs to be done. This week request for testimonials- Is this difficult to the tony van ass one- need to find out. 180 been out 90 back in, local thing, reports on those still out. 1st of December. Confidential survey of persons withdrawn from. Simon Rich did report of those gone out. Next actions for MP contacts, LOB here today, support for 10 min rule, - filling in smartsheet, don't need to do all the info but nice if poss. Peter bones Is expecting opposition. Flynn could well oppose. 3 have said categorical, not interested in supporting us, charitable status removal should happen. Skinner Is ok. Luke Reiner is bottleneck for the info,</p>	
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			hundreds of unopened emails. need Plan for sorting. Team is being restructured. Top steering committee, need to find out their plans and changes. Steering committee, Garth Christie, BGR, John Rich, Simon Rich, Garth Woodcock, Others? AP – need PBCC cards and letterhead, confirm about a email signature- use PBCC hyperlink?	