

98th Meeting of Derbyshire Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Saturday 16th September 2023 at 2:30 pm at Bower Street Community Room, Derby DE22 3XD

1.Welcome.

Robert, the DIG Chair, opened the meeting at 14:30.

Richy G read the Preamble.

Karen read the Traditions.

Deb S read the Declaration of Unity.

Carrie read the Safeguarding statement.

Deb S read the Aims of Intergroup.

In the absence of a Secretary, it was agreed that David H would take the minutes of the meeting.

2. Introductions and Apologies.

Present			
Name	Group	Position	Email
Robert M	Newchurch Tuesday	Chairman	Chair.derbyshire@aamail.org
David H	Allestree	Vice Chairman	Vice.chair.derbyshire@aamail.org
Deb S	Newchurch Sunday	TLO	telephones.derbyshire@aamail.org
Ann H	Derby Tuesday	Employment Officer	Employment.derbyshire@aamail.org
Carrie L	Allestree	YPLO	youngpersons.derbyshire@aamail.org
Denise W	Allestree	Share Liaison Officer	Share.derbyshire@aamail.org
Dave I	Long Eaton	ECLO	ecomm.derbyshire@aamail.org
Ian	Derby Saturday	GSR	
Catherine M	Alfreton	GSR	
Karen S	Heanor Ladies	GSR	
Richy G	Newchurch Sunday	GSR	
Robert M-J	Ashbourne	GSR	
Lizzie B	Allestree	GSR	
Apologies			
Karen S	Derby Tuesday	GSR	
Kathy O	Derby Hospital	HLO	Health.derbyshire@aamail.org
Raj J	Belper Tuesday	Treasurer	treasurer.derbyshire@aamail.org
Sarah W	Allestree	PI	PI.derbyshire@aamail.com
Peter G	St Johns	GSR	
Mark	Newchurch Tuesday	GSR	
Peter	Belper Sunday	GSR	

3. Minutes from last meeting.

a) Corrections: None

b) Approval: Proposed by Robert M, seconded by Deb S . Vote: Unanimous.

4. Matters arising from last meeting.

Andy M decided to step down as Secretary, Anne H proposes Carrie Seconds Ian to be Secretary interim and to send CV. Ian has nearly 5 Years continuous sobriety and is an active member of the Fellowship. Lizzie to shadow Ian. Unanimous vote in favour

Dave I will liaise with Ian and give him the password etc to the secretary email.

Telephone Service- Deb S was asked to look at having a separate line to be independent from Notts/Leicester. This is viable, but we need more responders, we need around 15 more responders. The reason to switch was to be independent. Will try to get more responders and will re-visit this in November.

Convention – To decide to have our own convention and not be tied to Notts/Leicester. A vote was taken place and a unanimous vote was taken and was decided to no longer take part in a mutual convention. A committee will be constructed and Robert M will contact the Chair of Notts Leicester.

5. Around the groups.

Belper – Peter

We are averaging 19, which exceeds the room's capacity, so we often run 2 meetings. All service positions filled and finances are ok.

The latest Rolling Programme started on Sept 10. To date, 23 people have completed the course, with 21 having good, productive sobriety. Our success rate is therefore around 90% which compares favourably. As a group we support the recent changes in intergroup and are in a position to offer help, via our pool of sober attendees to both the 12th Step list/telephone help line.

Heanor Ladies Meeting -Karen S

10-14 attendees on average, newcomers are coming and staying, all service positions filled! No issues to report.

Newchurch Sunday – Richy G

Excellent meeting, approx. 15-20 people each meeting. Lots of sobriety. All service positions filled and 3 months rent in reserve. Newcomers returning, Sponsorship available, quarterly conscience meeting held. We are contributing to DIG.

Newchurch Tuesday – Mark

Average 15 people, very positive meeting and welcoming. All positions are filled, giving to DIG and we have monies in reserve. Newcomers are coming and staying. We have regular conscience meetings to temperature check the group.

Allestree – Lizzie B

This is a large meeting, with 25-30+ people each week. Big book meeting, and all positions are filled. We are now contributing to DIG directly. Friendly meeting.

Alfreton – Catherine M

20-30 people each week, with a mix of sobriety. We endorse the recent changes in DIG. We had David H visit us, as this is the first time in a very long time that an Officer visited our meeting. All positions are filled. We have good finances. The Wednesday meeting is still having quite low numbers compared to the Sunday meeting, but we think this will increase. We have a member that is interested in PLO and will submit their CV.

Derby Sunday St Johns GSR report 16 09 23-Pete G

The group continues to fulfil our primary purpose with regular attendances, a good stock of literature & a healthy prudent reserve of finances. We have a good relationship with our landlord, the Church of England. Being located centrally in the University of Derby environs the Church outreaches to the student population who frequently experience problems with alcohol. We are cooperating on this problem & there may be scope for some P I work through Intergroup.

Tuesday lunch time group Derby- Karen S GSR

I am unable to attend the Intergroup meeting as I'm on holiday so sending my apologies!!! I'm pleased to report we are self supporting with our own contributions and have no issues .

Long Eaton – Dave I GSR

The meeting continues to have approximately 12 members. We still haven't filled all the Service Positions. Last week we had a number of sobriety birthdays which we celebrate by handing out sobriety chips: there was a 6 year, a 2 year, an 11 months and a 4 months. We also had a newcomer, who received a Starter Pack and a Where to Find leaflet where we wrote our telephone numbers in the spaces on the back.

Ashbourne- Robert M-J

No issues

6. Officers Reports.**Chair-**

Gossip has been circulating between people in groups that should know better. Gossip has no place within DIG and I have created a 'No Gossip' card to be circulated within the groups.

My Motto, I can't do this on my own. We all should all go to meetings and advise who we are and to answer any questions people may have. We need to break the past, and visit groups and get people involved. If you don't have a certain level of sobriety length for an Officers position, there are other ways of becoming involved within DIG.

Vice Chair –

It is an honour to have been elected to serve as Vice Chairman of Derbyshire Intergroup (DIG). It is an exciting time and opportunity for DIG to prosper with a new enthusiastic team. We want to carry this positivity and healthy mind set to be within the DIG meetings without EGO coming into place.

I hope to bring a visual presence of DIG to the groups by visiting meetings and to answer any questions they may have. And to build relationships with the GSR's so they can share information from DIG with their groups and to get any feedback. We want to listen to the groups as we are there to serve them. A lot of GSR's have never been to an Intergroup meeting, and do not share the information from Intergroup back to their own meetings. This is part of the role of being a GSR.

I have visited Alfreton, Allestree, Bakewell, Belper Tuesday, Derby Saturday, Derby Hospital , Middleton and Newchurch Tuesday and Sunday Derby Tuesday and Chellaston Thursday so far this month. I have had such a warm welcome at all meetings and listened to their concerns to bring back

to DIG for discussion. The meetings expressed that they were happy to have a representative from DIG to attend as some have felt abandoned. Great meetings all of them!

In the long run, I would like for more groups to get involved, even if the members do not have a level of sobriety, they can still help Officers to conduct their duties. By widening our appeal to the groups, we gain more ideas and suggestions to improve DIG. Also to promote a more social DIG, more gatherings to strengthen the Fellowship.

Treasurer- Please note R&P will be sent as separate attachment.

I was voted into the role of Treasurer to Derbyshire Intergroup on the 12th of August 2023. With the help of the previous treasurer Richard Tate, I have familiarised myself with the full requirements of the role and have understood the filing and record keeping required in order to fulfil the role requirements. I currently do not have access to the DIG bank account, Richard Tate has sent me up to date statements so that I can bring all of the accounting up to date. All necessary banking mandates and paperwork required from DIG have been signed and sent through to Barclays and we are currently waiting for these to be approved. The mandates will allow access to the bank account for myself, the group Secretary and the Vice Chair, we will be authorised signatories. Any payments out of the account will need to be approved by 2 signatories. I anticipate we will have the mandates approved and have full access to the banking accounts within the next 3 to 5 weeks. I attach Receipts and Payments Report covering the period from the start of the financial year 1st October 2022 to 11th September 2023. Group contributions for the year are currently £6427.09 which is up by approximately £400 since the 19th of July, this suggests that there has been a dip in the average contributions received over the last couple of months, this is a 'loose' statement as there are a multitude of factors which would need to be taken into consideration. Bank balance is £2,659.56. During this financial year we have contributed £6,000 to Midlands Region. Gratitude Week raised £590.07 of which £578.72 has been sent to GSO.

TLO Report-

The cost of the helpline is £10.57 a month split with Notts Leicester .

I'm now trained on the phone system Tamar.

All responder shifts are now covered. We have 8 new 12 steppers to start this in September and 4 more for October once trained.

I've phoned around the responders to introduce myself and get their email addresses. I'll be sending a new 12 step list for each month making the old one void and the new one will have any new 12 steppers included. Some responders do not have access to printers so would like the 12 step list posted. Will Intergroup pay for this cost ?

I have attended a training session on zoom for 12 steppers and responders. This was being facilitated by Birmingham TLO. This has given me some dos and Dont's to start a training system for new responders and 12 steppers. At present there is just a pack handed out so no real training going ahead.

The sobriety time for 12 steppers is 2 years continuous sobriety and 1 year continuous sobriety for responders. This was decided by Notts / Leicester/ Derbyshire Intergroup many many years ago before Derbyshire separated. The service handbook states 1 year continuous sobriety for both. I would like direction from Intergroup as the length of sobriety time for 12 Steppers for Derbyshire please as my personal experience is that 12 months in line with the service handbook is sufficient. Unfortunately Scott the TLO for Notts / Leicester has resigned. Greg is covering until a new TLO is appointed. A lady called Sue is also helping and she is phoning all 12 steppers in the Notts/Leicester area to update the 12 step list.

I was asked by Robert Derbyshire Intergroup chair to find out the implications and how we would go about Derbyshire having their own helpline therefore separating from Nots/Leic Intergroup. I contacted GSO who said that the TLO trustee would contact me. They did and advised me to speak to Greg the Region TLO. I've broached this subject twice but unfortunately only had the answer of Notts

chairman needs to be spoken too. I can see the main implication of having a Derbyshire phone line would be having enough responders as there are 28 shifts to cover. A what's app group has also been set up for responders and this is providing to be a very successful tool. Not only can it communicate urgent information but if a responders is unable to do a shift they post and other responders say they will cover. I am still getting to grips with the role , however all in all things are going well.

ECLO-

Pete G resigned as ECLO shortly after the last Intergroup meeting on 12th August 2023 and I was co-opted on 14th August 2023.

I gained access to the Microsite on 16th August 2023 and uploaded the content which had been agreed at the Intergroup meeting. Later additions have included a statement from Robert, the new Chair of Intergroup, a request for telephone responders, and notice of a change of venue for the Chellaston Thursday lunchtime meeting. The process for adding content to the Microsite is relatively straightforward but there are a few quirks regarding punctuation marks and lining up columns of text. Hopefully, the more I use the site, the simpler things will become.

I have also gained access to the Filestore and this will allow me to post links from the Microsite to the Filestore, further increasing the functionality of the Microsite. For example, I can create a link to the blank AA CV form from the page which lists the current vacancies. The Filestore can be used to store any documents which are currently being stored on Officer's personal computers, but which should be available to all members of Intergroup.

I will soon have the Where to Find uploaded to the Filestore and will then create a link on the "Useful Information " page of the Microsite. Similarly for the Notts/Leics Where to Find.

I am in the process of asking the Officers to write a short statement of what they are doing in their current roles and what they hope to achieve in the coming months and this will be posted on the Microsite.

I am currently using five pages out of my allowance of ten, so if anyone has any suggestions for content for the Microsite, I would be happy to give it a go.

Could I urge the Officers to use their official AA email addresses, since this makes it easier for their successors to pick up the reins?

If anyone is struggling to access their email account, I will try to assist them.

Where to Find.

September's edition of the Where to Find is now available, there have been the following changes since the August edition:

I have removed the Burton Thursday meeting because they have transferred to the Potteries Intergroup.

The Friday Allenton meeting has closed.

The Wednesday 7.30 pm Derby meeting at the Friends Meeting House has closed.

A new meeting has started at Wirksworth on Sunday at 7.30 pm.

The Thursday meeting at Chellaston has changed its venue to St Peters Church Hall.

PI Report-

Ashby Club 41 would like a male representative to attend their next meeting in October to give a main share and to talk about AA. Robert M has volunteered and will contact them.

Young persons –

Instagram Derby Uni, offered to drop literature off to the students. Robert from Ashbourne has offered to send literature off to Derby Uni. If anyone young person attends any meeting, can we send them Carrie's email address.

Employment-

Chasing Arriva again on Monday. Then going to look at new and old places such as Rolls Royce. Anne has all the new literature. Catherine M has offered a contact a Trent Barton.

Share –

GSO gave Denise a lot of old Share magazines, and Denise has visited quite a few meetings, and not many people are taking out subscriptions. GSR's to go to their groups and ask the group if they want subscriptions.

Health –

Nothing to report as present

Prisons- Vacant .

A possible new position of Justice Officer will be raised at Region that covers Prison and Probation and the whole journey from incarceration to freedom. Each officer to have a committee and meet on a regular basis and we. Robert to raise at Region. David H has advised that a new meeting is being set up at Foston Prison, and will arrange literature. Anyone that is interested in helping with this meeting, to come forward and contact the Vice Chair. This meeting at Foston is open to Male and Female members of the Fellowship.

Probation- Vacant**Armed Forces- Vacant****7. Ratification of officers.**

- a) Dave I has been proposed by Denise and seconded by Catherine M, his CV was read out and unanimously voted in as ECLO of DIG
- b) Denise W has unanimously voted in as Share Magazine Officer.

8. AOB.

If an active DIG GSR wishes to be part of the Officers WhatsApp group, they are welcome, but this is not a 'daily affirmations' group, it is a business group. Also, only DIG meetings are to be on WTF for DIG, this was voted and agreed.

Minutes of all DIG meetings to be cascaded to Officers first and distributed to DIG within 72 hours of the meeting taking place. Agenda's to be sent to Chair, Vice Chair before being distributed and to be sent to DIG at least a month prior to the meeting taking place.

It has been agreed that DIG meetings will be rotating throughout the county and not just at Boyer Street. Catherine M has volunteered to see if Alfreton will be available for the first meeting of 2024. This will be discussed at AGM.

If anyone wishes to fill any vacant Officer role, please send your AA CV to the Vice Chair.

Everyone that attended felt this was such a positive, friendly and constructive meeting.

9. Date and time of next meeting.

AGM 4th November 2023 2:30pm St Nicholas Church, Allestree, DE22 2PE

10. Close of Meeting

Tradition 7 was observed. Robert M closed the meeting by reading the Serenity Prayer at 4:30pm