



National Counselling Society & National Hypnotherapy Society  
SOCIETY COUNCIL MEETING  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – 11am via Teams

**In Attendance:**

Liz McElligott (Societies Chair)  
Jyles Robillard-Day (Interim CEO)  
Amy Bristow (Business Operations Manager)  
Kate Mahoney (Head of Training Services & Professional Standards)  
Camilla Hyland (Head of Membership Services)  
Rachael King (Professional Conduct Officer)  
Faye Blackwell (NCS Head of Engagement & Development)  
Gerry Wilmore (Society Deputy Chair)  
Rob Kidd (Lay Council Member)  
Harriet Mortimer (Lay Council Member)  
Tina Russell (Lay Council Member)  
Ted Sangster (Lay Council Member)  
Nicola Semple (PA - Minutes)

**1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Elaine Lighten (Communications Manager) and Kezz Keogh (HS Head of Engagement & Development).

Liz officially opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

**2 Minutes of the last Council Meeting**

The minutes of the last Council Meeting held on 8 December 2021 were agreed by the Council.

Jyles confirmed that there are now two Heads of Engagement & Development following the appointment of Kezz for the HS.

[REDACTED]

**3 Conflicts of Interest**

None

#### **4 Report from Interim CEO – Jyles Robillard-Day**

Jyles gave a rough brief of his report advising that Gerry has returned to the Societies as Deputy Chair and following Kezz completing her research for the HS has been appointed as Head of Engagement & Development for HS. Jyles advised that EDI is a priority for the Societies and is looking for ways to develop this more. Jyles also brought to the attention of the Council the issue with DBS checks in Private Practice, how will this be checked? We have our new sub-registers; CYPT and PCET [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. We have a new Audit process in place, thanks to Rachael. The latest framework for ScopEd was published in January 2022 and this received minimal feedback. On 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022, there will be a webinar for ScopEd and following this NCS will hold a members vote late in the summer. BABCP have now accepted NCS for their CBT membership body [REDACTED]

#### **5 Update from Head of Membership Services – Camilla Hyland**

Camilla started off her report by saying that the membership figures are looking great. Wattle is moving forward; our requirements are not complex, but we do need a new system especially with the new sub-registers coming. Wattle started well however due to staff shortages it did go quiet, so pressure was put on them and their MD made contact and now things are going to plan but how do we keep the attention on us? Schedule weekly meetings, even if there is nothing to report. We are currently having fortnightly meetings; however, it is a good idea to move these to weekly. [REDACTED]

#### **6 Update from Head of Engagement and Development – Faye Blackwell**

Faye began by advising that Kezz the other Head of Engagement and Development and is making the role her own. We have a lot of interest from organisations who are listening to us and are wanting to work with us. Paranimo are in the process of being accepted for a grant to work with UK workers in Singapore and would like us to be involved. We are in the process of forming an internal EDI group. There have been lots of changes with Organisational Membership as we have introduced Recognised Counselling Services. RCS organisations sign up to our Code of Ethics, at least one of the members of the organisation must be registered with the NCS. Since the CYPT register has gone live we have seen an increase in organisational applications. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]; Faye confirmed that she and Nicki will look at all the organisations to ensure that they are keeping to the Ts & Cs. It was suggested that contact be made with Cruse NI. Jyles confirmed that we are keen to do more that talk about EDI as a Society; Tina advised about the Parn Group and Equally Professional and would be happy to have a further discussion offline. It was confirmed that EDI is included in the induction for all staff.

#### **7 Update from the Professional Conduct Officer – Rachael King**

Rachael advised that the new Audit system is up and running and notes have been made just in case it gets handed over to someone new. Tomorrow Rachael will attending her first Professional Conduct Officers Working Group.

#### **8 Update from the Head of Training Services and Professional Standards – Kate Mahoney**

Kate advised that we have lost a couple of Training Providers due to the current climate, however on the flip side other Training Providers have increased their courses and are now using blended learning. The new process for

CPD is going well. There have been changes in the Training Services and Professional Standards Department with new Ts & Cs giving ownership to the Training Provider to inform us of any changes as they happen, not just at renewal. We are going to offer a one payment system to all Training Providers and request that this is through direct debit, however we will listen to all Training Providers and work with them where they are at.

#### **Update from the Communications Manager – Elaine Lighten**

Elaine was unable to attend the meeting, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### **9 Update from the Business Operations Manager – Amy Bristow**

Amy has been involved with all the changes that have taken place with all the departments. Amy asked what we should do regarding our current computer system as we need it to work but do not want to spend too much money. It was suggested that the money needs to be spent if it helps the business to run smoothly especially as there is no fixed deadline with Wattle.

Congratulations on graduating Law with a First.

#### **10 Any Other Business**

Jyles advised that we are looking to run a conference towards the end of this year, probably online. We would appreciate any guidance that can be offered. We feel we have a wealth of knowledge to share free of charge or for a minimal charge. This was agreed that this was a good idea but to contract it out to people that do this, there are agencies who you can give an agenda and logo and they will do the rest. It was also suggested that we could charge a fee and offer CPD hours.

The external report by Phil Rees is excellent.

#### **11 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Thank you to everyone for attending, listening and for your guidance. It is extraordinary what work is being done in the societies.