

## **National Minutes 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

### **Rutherglen**

#### **In Attendance Voting Members(35)**

Big Monday, Blackburn Monday, Dunfermline Monday, Garthamlock Monday, Greenock Monday, Parkhead Monday, Troon Monday, Whiteinch Monday, Broughty Ferry Tuesday, Coatbridge Tuesday, Edinburgh Tuesday, Hamilton Tuesday, Motherwell Tuesday, Paisley Tuesday, Daisy Street Wednesday, Kirkcaldy Wednesday, Maryhill Wednesday, Partick Wednesday, Remote & Isolated Wednesday Zoom, Ayr Thursday, Dundee Thursday, East Kilbride Thursday, Livingston Thursday, Rutherglen Thursday, Shawlands Thursday, Toryglen Thursday, Anderson Friday, Irvine Friday, Perth Friday, Dennistoun Saturday, Hamilton Saturday, Kirkcaldy Saturday, Rutherglen Saturday, Viewpark Saturday.

#### **In Attendance Non-Voting Members(6)**

Big Monday, Broughty Ferry Tuesday, Daisy Street Wednesday, Rutherglen Thursday, Irvine Friday, Viewpark Saturday.

#### **National Committee Apologies(3)**

Tam Joint Live Chat Coordinator, Blair Assistant Magazine Editor, Kev Area PRO.

#### **Apologies(30)**

Airdrie Monday, Ardrossan Monday, Clydebanks Monday, Cumbernauld Monday, Dundee Monday, Elgin Monday, Musselburgh Monday, Dennistoun Tuesday, Dumbarton Tuesday, Garthamlock Tuesday, Rutherglen Tuesday, Aberdeen Wednesday, Blackhill Wednesday, Craigend Wednesday, Forfar Wednesday, Kilmarnock Wednesday, Paisley Wednesday, Parkhead Wednesday, Edinburgh Wester Hailes Wednesday, Cumbernauld Thursday, Erskine Thursday, Falkirk Thursday, Greenock Thursday, Hamilton Thursday, Parkhead Thursday, Bath Street Friday, Coatbridge Friday, Dumfries Friday, Parkhead Friday, Aberdeen Saturday.

Bryan, Helpline Coordinator/East Kilbride Thursday chaired the meeting in the absence of a National Secretary. Karen Office Coordinator minutes.

Item carried forward from the last National (Western Isles & North of Scotland Zoom) were discussed under A.O.C.B.

George W raised the above item from the January meeting/minutes, the item was carried forward as there were only 20 groups present at the meeting, this was to enable the whole fellowship to receive the information and attend the next national to discuss/vote on the item, George added national meetings are in place to take decisions on items brought to the meeting and there should have been a vote taken

on this, at the January meeting and not carried forward to another meeting solely due to only 20 groups present.

The agenda items were moved around slightly to enable John from Irvine/Live Chat Joint Coordinator to give his report and leave to attend the pins at Irvine, John also asked permission to cast his vote for the Zoom meeting at this point and it was agreed, Irvine Friday voted for the proposal.

## **Live Chat Report**

6th January to 21st March

As the fellowship is aware we have now moved away from the live chat contract and are now operating a GA Scotland in-house chat service.

This report will be fairly limited in content due to the transition and will cover the last period of the live chat and details on the new chat facility.

During the dates, 26th January to the 9th of February, the last period of the live chat the system fielded 50 chats

We moved over to the new set up from the 9th of February and initially Mark the web master was covering the chat in the early stages whilst he was working on the chat and the transition took place, the move over to the new set up coincided with GA Scotland also moving to a new domain.

A number of online sessions were set up to allow agents the opportunity to review the new system and mock chat sessions were also available for agents.

All agents were able to log on to the new chat facility from the 23rd of February.

We currently have 40 active live chat agents and all except 1 agent has now registered on the new set up and 39 agents active have logged on and have been available to offer support to visitors.

We have taken 37 chats from the 25th of February to the 22nd of March.

Mark is still working on the functionality that will allow the data regarding time chat is covered, chat length along with other reporting data.

The new chat set up is a work in progress and we are getting there with the new website and chat facility.

Although I don't have exact figures, the chat has been manned for around the 18 hour a day average so considering it is new the agents have embraced it and are logging on.

The number of agents logging on daily now is also up with an average of around 12 agents a day helping out.

We currently have 149 agents on the meet and greet page working hard to get new and returning members along to meetings.

We also have 64 agents on the Gam Anon page supporting friends and family to get the help they need.

The live chat team would like to thank the fellowship for their patience throughout the transition period and a huge thanks to all agents and moderators for embracing the new set up and also for giving back some of their precious time that the fellowship has given them.

Tam Joint Live Chat Coordinator/Blackburn Monday

## **Treasurers Report**

The December January (15/12/22) report we had a Donation from Glasgow Argyle Street for £100.00. I have found out through the office that this Donation was for Maryhill Wednesday. The Treasurer did ask for a reference to be attached to the donation but was lost at the teller's end. I have amended my records accordingly, more importantly the end of year accumulative totals.

We also received a Donation from Glasgow Argyle Street on the 30/01/23 for £1.00 This one is not Maryhill Wednesday and remains a mystery.

Now that we have new system in place, we have been able to close our accounts with Live Chat and Internet Creations.

The savings in the remainder of this year is in the region of £1900.00 and the full year savings would be £2600.00.

I mentioned at the last AGM that I WILL be standing down as SNT.

This will be my 5th year in the role. As with positions at group level, I'm sure you will agree it is important for rotation in these roles, never more so important with the role of National Treasurer. This can only be achieved if a member steps up to take on this important role but very much a rewarding one. I will reach out to members on the East Side, trying to create awareness. I'm asking the groups here tonight to take this back to their group Business meeting, reaching out to your members for someone who would like to give back to the Fellowship in taking on this role.

I would like to add that the role today is much changed from the day I took it over, and it is less daunting than one may think.

Any further help/questions, please contact Karen or myself.

Charles National Treasurer/Oxgangs Tuesday

# **Gamblers Anonymous Scotland**

February/March 23

Date

31/03/2023

|                   | PINS/LIT | BL BKS | BANK   | TOTAL  |
|-------------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>     |          |        |        |        |
| Airdrie           |          |        |        |        |
| Ardrossan         |          |        |        |        |
| Big Monday        |          |        | 114.00 | 114.00 |
| Blackburn         |          |        | 575.00 | 575.00 |
| Carlisle          |          |        |        |        |
| Clydebank         |          |        |        |        |
| Cumbernauld       |          |        | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Dundee            |          |        | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Dunfermline       |          |        | 50.00  | 50.00  |
| Edinburgh         |          |        | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| Elgin             |          |        |        |        |
| Garthamlock       |          |        | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| Greenock          |          |        | 225.00 | 225.00 |
| Hurlford          |          |        |        |        |
| Musselburgh       |          | 10.00  | 30.00  | 40.00  |
| Parkhead PM       |          |        | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| Troon             |          |        | 170.00 | 170.00 |
| Wee Monday        |          |        |        |        |
| Whiteinch         |          |        |        |        |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>    |          |        |        |        |
| Broughty Ferry    |          |        | 150.00 | 150.00 |
| Coatbridge        |          |        | 50.00  | 50.00  |
| Dennistoun        |          |        | 290.00 | 290.00 |
| Dumbarton         |          |        |        |        |
| Edinburgh Oxfangs |          |        |        |        |

|                      |  |  |               |               |
|----------------------|--|--|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Falkirk</b>       |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Garthamlock</b>   |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Hamilton</b>      |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Motherwell</b>    |  |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Paisley</b>       |  |  | <b>200.00</b> | <b>200.00</b> |
| <b>Partick</b>       |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Perth</b>         |  |  | <b>170.00</b> | <b>170.00</b> |
| <b>Peterhead</b>     |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Rutherglen</b>    |  |  | <b>140.00</b> | <b>140.00</b> |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b>     |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Aberdeen</b>      |  |  | <b>50.00</b>  | <b>50.00</b>  |
| <b>Blackhill</b>     |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Craigend</b>      |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Daisy St</b>      |  |  | <b>250.00</b> | <b>250.00</b> |
| <b>Edinburgh</b>     |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Forfar</b>        |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Inverness</b>     |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Kilmarnock</b>    |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Kirkcaldy</b>     |  |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Maryhill</b>      |  |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Paisley</b>       |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Parkhead</b>      |  |  | <b>80.00</b>  | <b>80.00</b>  |
| <b>Partick 1-3pm</b> |  |  | <b>200.00</b> | <b>200.00</b> |
| <b>Whitburn</b>      |  |  | <b>190.00</b> | <b>190.00</b> |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>      |  |  |               |               |
| <b>Ayr</b>           |  |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Cumbernauld</b>   |  |  | <b>430.00</b> | <b>430.00</b> |
| <b>Dumfries</b>      |  |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Dundee</b>        |  |  | <b>475.00</b> | <b>475.00</b> |

|                             |              |  |               |               |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| <b>East Kilbride</b>        |              |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Edinburgh</b>            |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Erskine</b>              |              |  | <b>200.00</b> | <b>200.00</b> |
| <b>Falkirk</b>              |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Greenock</b>             |              |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Hamilton</b>             |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Kelso</b>                |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Kirkintilloch</b>        | <b>40.00</b> |  |               | <b>40.00</b>  |
| <b>Livingston</b>           |              |  | <b>230.00</b> | <b>230.00</b> |
| <b>Maryhill</b>             |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Parkhead (Ravel Row)</b> |              |  | <b>280.00</b> | <b>280.00</b> |
| <b>Rutherglen</b>           |              |  | <b>300.00</b> | <b>300.00</b> |
| <b>Shawlands</b>            |              |  | <b>300.00</b> | <b>300.00</b> |
| <b>Toryglen</b>             |              |  | <b>205.00</b> | <b>205.00</b> |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>               |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Anderson</b>             |              |  | <b>280.00</b> | <b>280.00</b> |
| <b>Bath St</b>              | <b>20.00</b> |  |               | <b>20.00</b>  |
| <b>Coatbridge</b>           |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Dundee</b>               |              |  | <b>100.00</b> | <b>100.00</b> |
| <b>Edinburgh</b>            |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Irvine</b>               |              |  | <b>212.00</b> | <b>212.00</b> |
| <b>Parkhead</b>             |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Perth</b>                |              |  | <b>150.00</b> | <b>150.00</b> |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>             |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Aberdeen</b>             |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Dennistoun</b>           |              |  | <b>126.50</b> | <b>126.50</b> |
| <b>Hamilton</b>             |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Kirkcaldy</b>            |              |  |               |               |
| <b>Rutherglen</b>           |              |  | <b>400.00</b> | <b>400.00</b> |

|                              |              |              |                |                |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>View Park</b>             |              |              | <b>120.00</b>  | <b>120.00</b>  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>                |              |              |                |                |
| <b>Edinburgh</b>             |              |              |                |                |
| <b>Inverness</b>             |              |              | <b>40.00</b>   | <b>40.00</b>   |
| <b>Rutherglen</b>            |              |              |                |                |
| <b>Glasgow Argyle Street</b> |              |              | <b>1.00</b>    | <b>1.00</b>    |
| <b>January Collection</b>    |              |              | <b>56.35</b>   | <b>56.35</b>   |
| <b>Totals</b>                | <b>60.00</b> | <b>10.00</b> | <b>8589.85</b> | <b>8659.85</b> |

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| <b>CASH EXPENSES</b>       |               |
| <b>Balance B/FWD</b>       | <b>193.96</b> |
| <b>Office Expenses</b>     |               |
| <b>National Expenses</b>   |               |
| <b>Petty Cash Top Up</b>   |               |
|                            |               |
| <b>Total Cash Expenses</b> | <b>NIL</b>    |
| <b>C/FWD</b>               | <b>193.96</b> |

**CASH CARD/DIRECT DEBIT/CHEQUE  
EXPENDITURE**

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Balance C/FWD                        | 1685.79        |
| <b>CASH CARD</b>                     |                |
| Mark M Digital Website re Argos      | 95.94          |
| Ryman A4 Envelopes                   | 6.99           |
| Digital Solutions                    | 120.48         |
| Treasurer Stamps                     | 5.44           |
| Mark M Digital Website Work          | 816.13         |
| The Wynd Centre Wed Paisley rent Jan | 144.00         |
| Amazon Cups                          | 67.54          |
| Tesco National Supplies              | 56.30          |
| <b>Total Cash Card Expenses</b>      | <b>1312.82</b> |
|                                      |                |
| Transfer from BOS                    | 1500.00        |
| <b>Cash Card C/FWD</b>               | <b>1872.97</b> |

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>DIRECT DEBITS (A)</b>       |                |
| British Telecom                | 177.31         |
| Office Wages                   | 3150.00        |
| Transfer to Cash Card          | 1500.00        |
| BT Direct Debits               | 25.18          |
|                                |                |
| <b>CHEQUES (B)</b>             |                |
| Wiseman 11034                  | 478.49         |
| Wynd Centre Paisley Wed Rent   | 144.00         |
| Greenwood Moreland INS 11036   | 563.19         |
|                                |                |
| <b>TOTAL D/D &amp; CHEQUES</b> | <b>6038.17</b> |

**TOTAL BANK £96,101.04**

## **Scottish Life Report**

The latest edition of the magazine was issued on 14th March 2023 and there was 6 articles from 6 different groups.

This wasn't a great response in terms of articles again for this edition. Looking at the last 2 magazines there has only been 19 articles over a 6-month period which isn't great to be honest.

The deadline for the next issue is 1st June and the magazine will be out shortly after this date.

I currently have 2 Articles that have been sent to me so far for the next edition which is a decent start.

I just want to thank Blair from Rutherglen Thursday for his help and support in the latest magazine, it is really appreciated.

Thank you to everyone for the contributions for the latest magazine and please continue to send in those articles. You can send any articles to [info@gascotland.org](mailto:info@gascotland.org)

Stephen Magazine Editor/Motherwell Tuesday

Bryan opened the room for questions from the first 3 reports.

### **Brian Mac, Rutherglen Saturday**

Brian raised that he had sent in a poem for the magazine to Karen and received a reply that she has passed this onto Stephen, his poem was not included in the latest edition of magazine, Karen will look into this and get back to Brian and will ensure it is included in the next magazine.

## **PRO Report**

Below is a report of PRO activities as of 31st March 2023.

### **Upcoming events**

No upcoming events.

### **Completed events**

No completed events since last national meeting. A planned event at Bertha Park High School (Perth) for a share and Q&A session was planned for Feb 2023, this event was not completed due to confirmed dates/short notice. Contact was made with the school for future alternative dates with no confirmation made.

I would like to thank all our volunteers who are giving up their time to give back to the fellowship and share a message to those who may be affected by compulsive gambling.

Bruce PRO/Broughty Ferry Tuesday

## **Helpline Report**

Report Jan 23 to March 23

155 calls 136 answered 1st time - 87%

Busier over last 2 months, possibly due to live chat changes. Good effort from those taking calls ensuring we are there 24/7 to answer calls

1 volunteer has contacted as they had not received a call in a while. I have set their number to top of the list for their chosen night to make sure they get an opportunity to receive calls although their night tends to be quiet.

No other issues to report. And if anyone would like to get involved, please reach out to me.

Bryan Helpline Coordinator/East Kilbride Thursday

## **PLO Report**

Claire from Blackhill Wednesday has stepped down from the PLO role for personal reasons, I will support the work until the role is filled again.

We are still working well with HMP Edinburgh, Hazel from Ayr Thursday is working with one prison via weekly telephone meetings. We have had 2 further referrals Charles National Treasurer has taken the initial call with one, the person has gone away to consider if he is a compulsive gambler, I have sent literature in to him hoping he will see from this he does require help, Charles was due to take a call with a new referral yesterday, he refused to take the call, the same person refused a visit last year, the prison has been advised and the person will need to contact his personal officer and make another referral for any future support.

Mark S from Blackburn Monday visits a prisoner in Glenochil fortnightly.

Allan & Jack from Perth Friday are arranging a meeting with Perth Prison and will feedback to me once this has taken place.

It has been a frustrating process as the prisons are very slow or non-existent in responding, I will continue to make contact with them in the hope that they will all eventually come onboard, and we can support those within the prisons who really need help with their gambling addiction.

There are currently 6 members of the fellowship on the PLO team, this represents the whole of Scotland and the potential for working with 13 prisons, if you would like to give your support to the team between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday and can undertake an enhanced disclosure ( having a criminal record does not mean you are unable to support, it depends on the nature of the conviction). Each prison works differently in relation to support for addictions including visits, calls and video link you would not be required to this every week only when the need arises.

Guidance is available on prison visits anyone interested in supporting the PLO Team please contact myself.

Karen

Brian opened the room for questions following the above 3 reports

### **Gordon, Viewpark Saturday**

Gordon advised the meeting that there have been no new members in attendance at their meeting in past 3 years, they have had 1 returning member Gordon asked how we know who is coming through the door and that they are being directed to their nearest meeting. The Live Chat was discussed as there are only 40 agents on this and there are a few members from the same meeting, less than half of the fellowship is represented on the live chat, when the information is passed to the meet & greet this should be picked up by someone in the area requested, Karen will speak to the Live Chat Coordinators to request that the criteria for taking new members via the meet & greet is posted on the page and everyone is aware of the process. It was also raised that not every new member wants to attend a meeting in their local area.

## **Social Media Report**

The GA social media pages have continued to meet their purpose, as being a way for fellow compulsive gamblers, and others, to find out more about the fellowship and access the necessary support.

The team have been sharing content across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and all platforms have had engagement over the last 2 months.

The pages have been able to share a range of content from GA literature, shares submitted specifically for the social media pages and submissions from the Scottish Life magazine, which members have been happy to have posted online. Receiving contributions from across the fellowship is definitely one of the most rewarding aspects of being involved with the Social Media Team so thank you all for putting the 12th Step into action.

The following figures detail the statistics from each social media platform for the last 2 months;

Twitter - 1132 (last 7 days)

Facebook - 100

Instagram - 378

As always, please continue to share the word and encourage member to submit content for both the social media platforms and Scottish Life, both of which are valuable tools for carrying the message of the fantastic fellowship.

Hamish Social Media Coordinator/Perth Friday

## **Web Team Report**

Since the last National, we have now completed the transfer away from Internet Creation Ltd. as our data server host.

The GA Scotland website is now hosted with Inventing Hosting and is in a phase of bedding-in. As a result, we are now in a better position to further develop the site with new functionality this year, unconstrained by barriers imposed by the previous host environment.

In parallel, and integrated to the new site, is a web chat function to replace Live Chat now that we have terminated that contract. The current replacement is very much a prototype. Its purpose was to ensure that all basic requirements were met, to identify necessary improvements and enhancements, so that these can be designed and built into the next release which is intended to offer industry quality functionality. The only external component to the new system is a WhatsApp notification element used to notify agents when a new incoming chat has been received. Since implementation, all incoming chats have been answered.

As is necessary in today's technology landscape, we are now in a good position for the continuous development of all our digital platforms. With this in mind we will be creating a bi-monthly development forum. This will be a zoom call that any GA member can join so that, as a small collective team, we can review progress; suggest, implement new ideas; and look to further develop and integrate the overall system so that we always strive to have technology in place to better serve our Fellowship and the problem gambler seeking help.

Details of this new development forum will be circulated via the Group Secretary Chat.

Mark M Web Team/Kirkcaldy Saturday

Mark M added that he will be looking for members to join a technology forum to look at areas of improvement for the Live Chat and Website, a request for members to take part in this will be sent out soon.

Mark added that Karen has worked on the last 3 pieces of digital literature missing from the website and all GA Scotland literature is now available to view on the website.

## **Office Coordinator Report**

### **Reminders**

Posters and leaflets for doctors surgeries etc are available from the office, if you require any just let me know and I can post them out, I also have the leaflet for support services/agencies giving them a better understanding of who we are and the support available.

Please check your meeting information on the website regularly and let me know of any changes needed.

We are still looking to fill the National Secretary Role this has been vacant for 3 months now, the Prison Liaison Officer Role is again vacant if you know of anyone within the Fellowship interested in taking on any of these roles, please give me a call.

The next National meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May this will be an away meeting and we are looking for a host venue, please let me know if your group would be interested in hosting this. The September 29<sup>th</sup> away meeting will be hosted by Kilmarnock Wednesday.

All meeting dates until the end of the year are below.

Karen Office Coordinator/Rutherglen Thursday

## **Calendar of Meetings 2023 all 7pm**

| Date of Meeting                   | Meeting Type | Venue                                              | Additional Info                                              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May       | National     | Host Venue TBC                                     | Host venue will be reimbursed for room hire and refreshments |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> July      | National     | Rutherglen                                         |                                                              |
| Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September | National     | Kilmarnock, Kay Parish Church, London Road KA3 7AA |                                                              |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October   | AGM          | Rutherglen                                         |                                                              |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November  | National     | Rutherglen                                         |                                                              |

### **A.O.C.B**

#### **National Collection**

The collection at the meeting was £54.22

#### **Office Coordinator Contract Agreement & Review Process.**

(Minuted by Bryan meeting Chair & Mark M as Karen left the room during this discussion)

Mark M. (Kirkcaldy Saturday and Web-team Lead) presented a proposal paper in relation to G.A.

Scotland's engagement of our Office Co-ordinator who continues to provide her much valued services on a fully self-employed basis.

The paper:

1. asked members to recognise that the current service charge is far below the minimum market rate and that a proposed price increase to £15/hr will still represent excellent value for G.A. Scotland in comparison to any competitive provider.
2. highlighted the lack of a current service agreement which would normally be in place between an organisation and any provider engaged on a similar basis, and that such an agreement be put in place ensure compliance with all relevant legal regulations.
3. identified that a new process will be required within G.A. Scotland to review such an agreement and that we should create and agree this process ahead of the 2023 AGM.

There was a lengthy discussion of the various points contained in the paper with many views expressed by members present. It was agreed that a simplified version of the proposal, containing the key points in "layman's language" should distributed to all groups for discussion ahead of any required vote at our next National meeting.

### **Western Isles & North of Scotland Zoom Proposal.**

Hamish from Perth Friday was asked by his group to raise the following questions, is there a group proposing this and does the members looking to open the zoom meeting currently attend GA meetings. John T advised that the meeting would be proposed and that the member currently attends the Wednesday Inverness Conference Call and a Monday night zoom meeting still running from when we were in lockdown, John added that the member did attend the sanctioned conference calls but did not like them and that he does not think this new meeting will affect any of the current meetings.

### **Liz Hamilton Saturday/ Wednesday Remote & Isolated Zoom Coordinator**

Liz advised the meeting that she had absolutely no axe to grind with the member looking to open the Thursday Zoom but she would tell it like it is, the member has never attended any of the sanctioned outlying meetings as she has checked on this, there are 3 remote members attending the Wednesday Zoom meeting and it would have been a great addition if he had tried to attend this prior to looking to open another zoom meeting, John T added that he will check with the member as he had advised John he has attended the meetings.

Aaron from Kirkcaldy Wednesday added that he has chaired and shared on the outlying meetings and there is a real sense of belonging at the meetings, and where is the evidence this will work when there is already a meeting in place.

Mark M- Added you will never know until you try it and that Mike from Kirkcaldy Saturday who initiated the original outlying meetings 7 years ago if for this and the Kirkcaldy Saturday meeting will propose it.

George W, Rutherglen Thursday, George advised the meeting that it was discussed last year to move the Wednesday Conference Call to Zoom when London John was stepping down, (July 22 National) David was approached to ask him to take on this role in the August when he attended a committee meeting, his decision was that he could not take this on as the criteria was very tight, attendance numbers were low and it would not help his recovery then why is he is looking to open a meeting with similar criteria.

Both Darren from Livingston & Declan from Coatbridge Tuesday raised that GA Scotland are very anti zoom and should embrace this, they both run hybrid meetings and it works for them.

It was raised by a member that there is some dubiety with the person actually every attending any of the sanctioned outlying meetings and due to that would be abstaining from voting.

The meeting was proposed by Mark M- Kirkcaldy Saturday and seconded by John T - Parkhead Monday.

A vote took place, and 20 groups voted for the proposal, also included was the vote from Irvine Friday this gave a total of 21, the vote was carried, and the meeting will go ahead. 40 groups should have been present at the national on counting this after the meeting there were only actual 35 groups present.

Barry from Greenock Monday raised the guidance code and advised the meeting that it needs to be updated to include the use of technology, this will be looking at prior to taking it to the AGM in October.

Brian Mac from Rutherglen Saturdays item under A.O.C.B Promotion of the Fellowship will be carried forward to the next National.

The meeting ended in the usual manner with thanks to Bryan in the chair.