

Executive Committee Meeting

26th February 2018

Venue; Bedford Golf Club, Carnoustie Drive, Bedford

Meeting started; 18.45

Members present: Jas Parmar (JP), Eric Masih (EM), Kuldip Rupra (KR), Sukhpal Gill (SG), Suki Thiarra (ST), Jashpal Mann (JM), Billy Gill (BG), Jagtar Singh (JS)

1. Apologise

Majid Shabir, Raj Chahal and Shalini Camiah

2. Minutes of the meeting

Majid Shabir's name was missing from the Executive Committee member. Once the error was notified, the notes were corrected.

3. BABA as Charity

Raj Chahal had passed on the work to register as charity to Premier Solicitors, KR will liaise to get things moving.

Statement received showed Bank balance is £4739.13

4. Awards Dinner

Chair thanked JM for his efforts in drafting the awards dinner tasks.

JM was also asked to join the sub committee who will meet and discuss how to proceed.

BG- It was agreed that advert will be placed in T&C to attract businesses etc to nominate.

JP-Independent member like Editor of T&C or similar will be asked to help in shortlisting and deciding winners in categories.

Effort will be made to source locally but to maintain quality, if necessary, be prepared to go further afield.

KR-Geographically, Leighton Buzzard and Luton are also Bedfordshire hence businesses and individuals to be considered for awards.

5. **AOB**

JP- Twitter account should be up and running (Jagtar to act)

JP- Misuse of BABA non-official WhatsApp could lead to bad image.

JS – In event of that happening, the poster will be told and in worse cases deleted from the group.

6. **Next meeting**

To be Confirmed

Meeting closed at 19.50

7. Treasurer report

ST was unable to attend. East of Anglia Ambulance Trust have paid their sponsorship subs. The amount of money in the account is believed to be over £4000. Only outstanding amount is £150 owed by Bedford Indian Community for the awards night. JP brought to the committee's notice that this has been raised several times and BIC's Chair notified. In the absence of any response, it was decided that no further request be made to recover it and the amount left on the account as outstanding.

8. Chairman's report

JP and RC met the CEO and other senior officers of Harpur Trust who were keen to link up with BABA to promote and help the Asian community. A contact was made with an organisation called UPRISING to help BABA become a not for profit organisation and seek funding. It was decided that RC and KR to take this further.

JP (Director of NABA) was also invited to a dinner at The Lords Cricket Club organised by Maharashtrian organisation OMPEG. He was impressed by the energy and unity of a newly formed association. Some of its key members are based in MK and an invite will be sent to them to attend any future seminar.

JP, KR, MS, RC, ST attended a dinner organised by DV solicitors to celebrate 10 years in business.

JP also informed that although it was decided to request DV solicitors and Excel Accountants to attend the executive committee meeting with a view to be co-opted as executive committee members, however, in view of Ramadan, JP decided not to request their attendance on this occasion as the meeting was held in a licenced premises.

Committee agreed.

9. ACTION / REVIEW OF Plans for New Year 2017 /2018

Action from BABA meeting of February 2017

Some of the suggestions were as follows

- 1) Bedford Borough Council to talk to members about Business rates

DONE

- 2) Two social events a year

A cricket match between BABA and Premier Solicitors was discussed. JP, JS and ST to organise

- 3) Another Awards night with a different angle

It was decided that it will dilute the effort and emphasis should be on the next awards night in 2018. JP to find out about the venue

- 4) Bringing other speakers and existing/new corporate members to the seminars.

DV solicitors and Excel accountants will be asked to be the main speakers at the next seminar to be held in July (date tbc)

Moving the meetings to Monday night and at venue convenient to everyone with parking provisions.

Not discussed

10. Next meeting / seminar

Date, venue and subject to be confirmed after JP has contacted DV and Excel

11. Any other business

JP - A local Asian business magazine to communicate with the members to promote the businesses and BABA. Members felt that there is a need to communicate and JP to liaise with Buddhdev Pandya to see the financial viability and its potential impact.

The website still needs refreshing, it is being run and updated regularly, however, given the limited experience, it does require a professional approach to make it user friendly.

JS– Annual Charity Golf day will be held on 1st September at The Bedford Golf Club, Gt Denham and all members and friends are requested to play/ sponsor / attend during the day or evening.

MS- Use of social media like Facebook etc to promote BABA

Meeting closed at 8.50