

European Triratna Chairs Assembly: AGM and Business meeting 30 July 2014

Present: Jvalamalini, Ratnaghosha, Vajrasakhi, Tejananda, Suryamati, Dassini, Vajrajyoti, Amalamati, Keturaja, Arthavadin, Priyananda, Upekshapriya, Aryapala, Samachitta, Jnanadhara, Munisha, Candradasa, Sraddhamani, Satyapada, Amalavajra, Amalaketu, Sujana, Viriyapushpa, Visuddhimati, Jnanavaca (chair), Mokshini, Amoghavajra, Nandavajra (minutes), Arthabandhu, Buddhashanti, Keturaja, Nayaka, Padmasimha, Parina, Sinhendra.

Apologies: Achalaraja, Viryabodhi, Vassika, Arthakusalin, Uddyotani

AGM of European Triratna Chairs Assembly

1. Executive / Council of Trustees stood down.
2. Annual report and accounts – 2013 accounts. **APPROVED.**
3. Election of new trustees and executive members:

Amoghavajra, Jnanavaca, Mokshini, Visuddhimati all expressed willingness to stand again as Trustees and Exec members. Proposed new trustees: Suryamati and Ratnaghosha

Amoghavajra – proposed by Candradasa, seconded by Aryapala. **Agreed.**

Jnanavaca – proposed by Aryapala, seconded by Upekshapriya. **Agreed**

Mokshini – proposed by Arthavadin, seconded by Padmasimha. **Agreed**

Visuddhimati, proposed by Sammacitta, seconded by Viriyapushpa. **Agreed**

Suryamati – proposed by Satyapada, seconded by Sraddhamani. **Agreed**

Ratnaghosha – proposed by Tejananda, seconded by Padmasimha. **Agreed**

Vassika – proposed by Mokshini, seconded by Amalamati. **Agreed** (NB Vassika serves as exec member but not a trustee. **Action:** Nandavajra to confirm if Vassika can serve as a trustee).

Business Meeting of European Triratna Chairs Assembly

1. Previous minutes

(i) Corrections: no corrections – accepted as correct

(ii) Matters arising

- (a) Ethical Guidelines – to be discussed by the Exec in September and referred back to the ECA in January as required. Some people have sent material. Further material to be sent to Nandavajra
- (b) Int Council steering group: Jnanachandra is willing to continue to serve as rep.

2. International council update: Report back from Amalavajra and Dassini.

The Area Council (Three strands within UK and Ireland) meeting is changing a little in membership with Dhammadina and Paramabandhu joining from College. The meeting in March explored: 1. Explore ECA and movement strand moving in to international structure. 2. Unity and commonality of practice in order. Amoghavajra and Dassini have been in contact with Vidyatara to raise the question of International Council involvement in the strategic working party (see below) at the next Council meeting.

Action for ECA: Discuss regional structure for movement and relationship with, and involvement in, International council at next ECA meeting.

3. Development Team support

Report from Nandavajra on provisional changes to the Development Team support policy agreed by the Executive and to be enacted from January 2015. The policy is to be discussed further by the Executive with report back to the Jan 15 ECA. **Action:** the principles of support to be discussed at next ECA looking to develop examples of best policy on support for movement in Europe and implications of legislative changes. Possible topic for focus group.

4. Growth fund

Report from Nandavajra on the Growth Fund. Promotion of the fund has not been so effective this year and 9 applications have been received with a total value of around £9K. **Action:** The Exec will consider a recommendation from the Development Team in September and grants will be awarded at that point. Guidelines for applications and awarding grants will be also be discussed by the exec. Report back to Jan ECA.

5. DF Budget 2015 and fundraising steps

Agreed: Balanced Development Fund budget for 2015 plus fundraising stages as detailed in appendix 1 below. **Action:** Development team and Exec to research and discuss categorising and presenting future budgets to reflect core and project funding distinction. One suggested definition for core funding is funding that ECA has direct control over. Report back to future ECA meeting.

6. Minuting of decisions made earlier in meeting.

(a) Strategic working group remit and ECA reps

Agreed: to the participation of representatives from the ECA in the strategic working group with the remit as detailed in appendix 2 below. **Agreed:** Mokshini and Jnanavaca will be the ECA reps along with the involvement of Amalavajra and Nandavajra

(b) Urban retreat 2015

Agreed: that the Development Team, on behalf of the ECA, will run an Urban retreat in 2015 in partnership with Adhithana. Vajragupta will poll Centres for suitable dates.

(c) BAM

Agreed: to support the running of Buddhist Action Month in June 2015 with the participation of the Development Team as appropriate

7. AOBs: none

8. Date of next meetings:

Mon 5th – Mon 12th January 2015 at Adhithana (Deadline for programme suggestions, comments etc to Dhammadassin by 24 Nov 2014)

Wed 12th – Thu 20th Aug or Fri 14th to Sat 22nd Aug at Adhithana – 8 days leading up to UK and Ireland order weekend at Adhithana and subject to confirmation of order weekend dates.

Appendix 1: ECA 2015 Development Fund Budget

	2015 Budget Agreed	
<u>Income</u>		
Centre dana	103800	
Miscellaneous + interest	500	
Total Income		104300
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Development Team:		
DT support	58200	
DT expenses	8500	
Total D Team		66700
ECA Expenses:		
Fundraising budget	2000	
Liaison budget	1550	
ECA Expenses	2500	
Total ECA		6050
Media:		
Translations fund		
TBCO	14000	
Clear Vision		
Windhorse Publications		
Newsbyte'	6000	
Total media		20000
Growth and Pioneers:		
Growth fund		
Total Growth		0
Young people activities:		
Singhamati support	7750	
Singhamati expenses	1200	
Total Youth		8950
Other:		
Int. Council secretary	2500	
Total Other		2500
Total Expenditure		104200
Income / Expenditure		100

Fundraising Steps:

1. College funding: £10,000
2. Funding Clear vision and Windhorse publications to 2014
Budget levels: £10,000
3. Translations and Growth Funds to 2014 Budget levels: £10,000
4. Other projects including revisiting TBCO, Clear Vision and Windhorse Publications applications (further funding at discretion of January 2015 ECA):

Appendix 2: Strategic 'working group' remit:

- Made up of reps from ECA, PPC, and Order Convenors with support DT. Probably around 8 or 9 people
- Processes material on strategic vision and coherence from July ECA meeting and Nov PPC, working through issues and themes raised and beginning to shape Vision and Strategic Priorities for movement, principally in Europe.
- Progress report fed back to ECA in January for comment, revision and, where necessary, agreement, and to PPC (in PPC case through their reps).
- Further refinement and development takes place and brought back to summer ECA meeting.
- Working group needs to meet regularly and to have consistent membership and to be 'light on its feet'.
- International Council to be informed of working group, consulted and invited to be involved if they believe that they can do so meaningfully and effectively.
- PPC and order reps on working group to come to ECA meetings and are mandated by their bodies to take decisions on their behalf, so decisions can take place at ECA.
- Working group to consider and work out its role and remit, reporting back to the ECA and PPC. In due course it may evolve in to a body that proposes projects and funding.
- Working group can work and evolve in parallel with international council as council develops and works out structure and vision and role.