

ECA Business Meeting. 11th Jan 2015. Adhithana

Present: Jnanavaca (Chair), Dassini, Dhammadassin (DT), Jvalamalini, Manigarbha, Samacitta, Samantabhadri, Saravantu, Satyapada, Sraddhamani, Suryamati, Uddyotani, Vassika, Vidusi, Viryapuspa, Vissudhimati, Maniraja, Amalaketu, Amalamati, Amogharatna, Amoghavajra, Arthabandhu, Arthakusalin, Arthamitra, Arthavadin, Candradasa, Jayaraja, Keturaja, Nayaka, Paramabandhu (PPC), Ratnaghosha, Rijupatha, Shantiprabha, Sujana, Tejananda, Upekshapriya, Vaddhaka, Nandavajra (DT) (Minutes)

1. Previous minutes

(i) Corrections

International retreat update: 'Amalavajra' should read 'Amoghavajra'.

Agreed: minutes as recorded with correction.

(ii) Matters arising

Regional structure for the movement: discussed by the Executive with conclusion that it is a complex matter and should be passed back to the International Council for further consideration.

Principles of support: the Development Team has not had the time to research this matter. The Money focus group at the ECA is looking at support as an aspect of Economic sustainability.

2. Development Team update

(i) Impact reports and team leader

Noted that DT is still in transition from the time of Vajragupta and Lokabandhu and has been understrength for 6 months. This will continue with the departure of Dhammadassin in February and Nandavajra will be covering 2 posts until a replacement is appointed.

(ii) Munisha increase in support

Executive has agreed increase in support for Munisha as Communications and Liaison officer, from 3 days to 4, with effect from January 2015. Noted: cost of increase can be covered within the budget set in July 2014.

Munisha is moving to Sweden in June. The Executive are confident that she can continue to fulfil her duties but there will be a review after 1 year.

(iii) New Team member

Dhammadassin is to step down as a full-time member of the Development Team on or around 14th January 2015 and in consultation with Nandavajra.

A new full time member is to be recruited as soon as possible. **Agreed and action:** Executive to manage recruitment, appointment and terms and responsibilities of new team member.

3. Ratification of earlier discussions

(i) Budget categories and additional Development Fund spending:

Agreed: (1) Budget categorisation as presented
(2) Additional Development Fund spending as detailed in appendix with the following grants:

TBCO: £20,000

College of Public Preceptors: £10,000

Windhorse Publications: £12000

Clear Vision Trust: £10000

(ii) Vision and strategy and working group

Agreed: (1) vision statement (with possible grammatical corrections),
(2) Strategic areas and projects (3) Working group taking forward for further development (4) Executive to bring proposal to next ECA meeting re ECA reps on working group.

(iii) Awakening money + Triratna giving

Agreed: (1) Amalavajra to take forward, develop and promote 'Money Awakening' initiative and promote the 'live simpler, give more' message (as detailed in presentation). There won't be any specific asks in any workshops.
(2) Amalavajra to fundraise in the order for regular giving, taking in to account that people will want to consider local centres as well as movement wide projects. As a challenging target he'll suggest 10%. He'll draw comparisons with other faiths.

This was an in principal agreement but concern around linking 10% working to giving exclusively to Dharma projects noted. Amalavajra to take forward in consultation with working group and exec.

4. International Retreat

Agreed: Next International retreat to be held at Adhithana in **2017** on the UK late August bank holiday weekend and biannually thereafter. Note: No International Retreat in 2016. This arrangement is subject to confirmation after further consultation with the Buddhafield team. A suggested theme for the retreat in 2017 is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the movement.

5. Composers Competition

Proposal from Arthasiddhi to run a Triratna Composers Competition.

Agreed: (1) Text for competition to be based around garava verses (2) Centres to run event to choose winners or promote competition online (3) Event on International retreat for competition. Note International retreat likely to be in 2017 not 2016

6. International Council rep feedback

Amoghavajra and Dassini, the ECA reps on the International Council reported back on the recent International Council meeting. **Noted:** the meeting's desire to have more time at future meetings to hear from the IC reps.

7. Information points

- (i) **Urban retreat.** Date confirmed as 21st – 28th Nov. Suggested theme: 'Spiritual receptivity' with input by Public Preceptors and teaching by Maitreyabandhu.
- (ii) **TBC day 2015:** Sat 11th April (usually on or around 6th)
- (iii) **Mitra Dharma training course:** The review has been taken on by a team of mitra convenors. The Exec has requested to be kept up to date with progress and developments.
- (iv) **Visa Sponsor Licence update.** The sponsors licence held by the Triratna Chairs Assembly has been revoked by the Chairs Assembly. It raises the question of how the movement can support non-European Sangha members to come to the UK for training and a deeper experience of the Order.

8. Date of next meeting and deadline for items

Next meeting: **Wednesday 12th to Thursday 20th August 2015** at Adhithana. Note: meeting runs up to Area order weekend starting on Thursday 20th August.
Deadline from programme and agenda items: **6th June 2015**. Please send to Nandavajra (nandavajra@triratnadevelopment.org).

Note of agreement earlier in meeting

On-line coverage on TBCO – a 'pilot' trial for Aug 2015 meeting

Agreed: Proposal from Vassika, Munisha and Dassini for a trial in coverage of the ECA meeting online in Aug 2015. Coverage of future meetings would be decided after trial.

Coverage could include:

- 200 word summary at end of each day
- 3 video interviews
- 2 audio interviews

Action: (1) Vassika, Munisha and Dassini to sort out details. (2) Members to communicate and concerns or thoughts to Vassika, Munisha or Dassini in advance of meeting.

Appendix: Amended 2015 Development Fund Budget.

	2015 Budget
<u>Income</u>	
Centre dana	109000
Fundraising Consultancy	2000
Miscellaneous + interest	500
Major gifts	52282
[Full cost recovery]	-4900
Total Income	158882
<u>Expenditure</u>	
DT support	55650
DT expenses	8500
Fundraising budget	2000
Liaison budget	1550
ECA Expenses	2500
Singhamati support	7440
Singhamati expenses	1200
TBCO	20000
Int. council secretary	2500
Newsbyte'	6000
Translations fund	5000
Growth Fund	7000
Clear Vision	10000
Windhorse Publications	12000
Preceptors College	10000
Return to reserves	7000
Total Expenditure	158340
Income / Expenditure	542