

MINUTES  
**Member Council – meeting 1**  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Who was in the meeting?**

- Allana
- George
- Maisie
- Sally
- Nathan
- Sally
- Johanna



**Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves.



**Purpose of the Member Council**

The Member Council will:

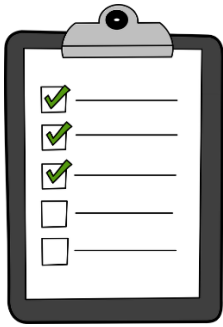
- Collect feedback about People Matters' services
- Focus on an annual theme
- Organise events and volunteer projects



**Expectations for Member Council volunteers**

The Member Council volunteers will:

- Attend regular meetings, 8 times a year
- Speak with other members to collect feedback
- Share feedback at the meetings
- Attend relevant training
- Take part in event planning and other projects



### **Ground rules for the meetings**

Johanna talked about confidentiality – we shouldn't mention names if we talk about a specific person or if we share feedback from staff or members.

The group set these ground rules:

- Don't talk over other people
- No swearing
- Respect others and their opinions
- Treat each other how you would like to be treated

Agreed that we will review the ground rules in the next meeting, and add other rules if needed.



### **Voting for the annual theme**

Members voted for an annual theme for the Member Council. One member voted for Environmental sustainability; five members voted for Mental Health Awareness. The new theme is Mental Health Awareness.



### **Ideas for possible theme projects:**



- Finding out what members find difficult about the pandemic at this point, and what kind of extra support they would need
- Sharing information about mental health services
- Awareness campaigns on social media
- Projects for theme days, like Mental Health Day



### **Opinion on AGM and Christmas Party**

Discussed what the AGM is. In 2020 the AGM was on Zoom. In 2019 AGM and Christmas party were in person.

Discussed if members would prefer to have the AGM and Christmas party online or in person this year.

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p><u>Most would like to have the AGM and party in person:</u> want to see friends and celebrate after a difficult year, more activities possible in person, a chance to meet new members, staff, volunteers and trustees.</p> <p><u>Some would prefer the AGM and party to be online:</u> the pandemic hasn't ended yet, want to be extra careful right before Christmas, people with certain health conditions could feel safer meeting on Zoom.</p> <p><u>Things to help people feel more comfortable in person:</u> big venue, limited number of people attending, not sitting right next to each other, hand sanitiser available, people can wear a face mask if they want to.</p> <p><u>Some members could feel left out if the event is in person and they don't feel comfortable to attend.</u> Solution could be having a party in person, but also arranging Christmas meeting and games on Zoom.</p> |
|  | <p><b>Anything else to talk about?</b></p> <p>Discussed people's availability for the meetings – some prefer daytime, some prefer evenings. Will try to change the time to accommodate as many people as possible.</p> <p>Members are fine with meeting in person or on Zoom.</p> <p>We took a group photo.</p>   |
|  | <p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>time and place to be confirmed</li> </ul>   |

**ACTIONS:**

- Social group members: Asking what other group members think about AGM and Christmas party – share feedback with Johanna this week
- 1-1 members: Asking what your support worker thinks about AGM and Christmas party – share feedback with Johanna this week
- Johanna: Writing meeting minutes, sharing with other staff members