

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING (1) OF THE GAY LONDON POLICE MONITORING GROUP  
HELD ON 15.06.82 @ MARCHMONT STREET COMMUNITY CENTRE, WC1

PRESENT: BRIAN STOCKDALE (CONVENOR)

GEORGE ALLAN  
RICHARD ALLEN (RELEASE)  
JOHN BENNETT (NCCL)  
NICK BILLINGHAM (CHE)  
FRED BROUGHTON (CAMDEN POLICING THE POLICE)  
MATTHEW CHELL  
CLARE DEMUTH (GLC POLICE COMMITTEE SUPPORT UNIT)  
JOHN HEIN (SHRG)  
PAUL HIGHAM (GLAD)  
JOHN KENDALL (HARINGEY INDEPENDENT POLICE COMMITTEE)  
PETER LANDIN  
JOHN MEREDITH  
ANDY PICCOS (SWITCHBOARD)  
BARBARA POWIS (CAPA)  
[MARTIN WILSON (MINUTES)]

1.1 PURPOSE OF MEETING

- 1.1.1 An attempt to create a federation of London Police Monitoring Groups had failed.
- 1.1.2 There is a need to collate data from existing agencies (GLAD & SWITCHBOARD) and to service the various Law Reform Groups.
- 1.1.3 There are specific needs for police accountability to gays & an organization to monitor police treatment of gays. To this end we intend to gather information and put a case.
- 1.1.4 Our brief is police practice and not law reform.

1.2 EXISTING AGENCIES

- 1.2.1 These should be used where sympathetic but do not have gays as a priority. In any event, it was argued, only gays can speak forcefully for gays.
- 1.2.2 GLAD is under-subscribed.
- 1.2.3 CAPA operates a 24-hour help and support service and has a policy of non-liaison with the police. The local press ("East London Advertiser") in its area is hostile.
- 1.2.4 All the agencies see a need for visible independence of the police and have as their aim accountability to local communities. Some operate surgeries.

1.3 FACTORS PECULIAR TO LONDON

- 1.3.1 The police are directly accountable to the Home Secretary.
- 1.3.2 The size of the GLC area could lead to dissipation of energy.
- 1.3.3 One means of concentrating effort might be a "flying gay picket" to deal with specific problems.

#### 1.4 THE GLC

- 1.4.1 The monitoring groups encouraged by the GLC see their functions differently from borough to borough.
- 1.4.2 Many areas are now covered but the whole of Greater London is not yet blanketed.
- 1.4.3 The next opportunity for a grant application is 09/82 and thereafter at 6-weekly intervals.

#### 1.5 POSSIBLE GROUP ACTION

- 1.5.1 Encourage awareness of civil rights (e.g. on arrest - at present lamentably low).
- 1.5.2 Encourage public awareness which must be achieved by a strong gay initiative backed up by firm evidence.
- 1.5.3 Obtain secondary information from gay, community & alternative groups.
- 1.5.4 Obtain primary information from a survey - over one week? - of cases heard in a Magistrates Court. Bow St. / Marylebone will be excluded in view of the size and specialisation of the local vice squads in those areas. An inner London court will be selected.
- 1.5.5 John Hein agreed to reconnoitre the Horseferry Rd. court and report to Brian Stockdale.
- 1.5.6 Tactics for the survey will be considered before the next meeting. In particular please think about:-

MANPOWER  
PROCEDURE  
NOTES TO BE MADE (ON A SCORESHEET/LOG?)  
RECOGNIZING SIMILARITIES OF POLICE EVIDENCE  
NOTING NAMES OF POLICE OFFICERS

- 1.5.7 The above should provide a statistical guide to the use of police resources.
- 1.5.8 The recent LT case (?Micky Green) has shown that political pressure (by Ken Livingstone) can successfully be brought to bear.

#### 1.6 OTHER MATTERS

- 1.6.1 There was some discussion of police corruption in the matter of licensing laws.
- 1.6.2 There was mentioned the difficulty of access to (?internal) police statistics.

#### 1.7 PRESS RELEASE

Reproduced on p.3 is the text of a release sent to "Gay News" & "Capital Gay".

#### 1.8 MEMBERSHIP / CIRCULARISATION

Listed on p.4.

#### 1.9 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 07.07.82 @19.30 (7.30 p.m. ) @ 23, King Henry's Rd., NW3 3QP - Brian Stockdale's flat. The bell is marked "Stockdale/Bristow" & the nearest public transport is Chalk Farm (LT) & Camden Road (BR).

PRESS RELEASE

AN INAUGURAL MEETING HAS BEEN HELD OF THE GAY LONDON POLICE MONITORING GROUP WHICH HAS NOW BEEN SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED. ENQUIRIES, INFORMATION AND OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE CONTACT BRIAN STOCKDALE, 23, KING HENRY'S ROAD, LONDON NW3 3QP.

MEMBERSHIP/CIRCULARISATION

*	Richard Allen	(Release)
	John Bennett	(NCCL)
	Nick Billingham	(CHE)
	Fred Broughton	(Camden Policing the Police)
	Matthew Chell	
*	Clare Demuth	(GLC Police Committee Support Unit)
*	Anna Durrell	(CHE)
	John Hein	(SHRG)
	Paul Higham	(GLAD)
*	John Kendall	(Haringey Independent Police Committee)
	Andy Piccos	(Switchboard)
*	Barbara Powis	(CAPA)
	Brian Stockdale	(CHE)
*	Ex Officio	