

## **Proposal to Establish a Management Committee for Sanctuary in Chichester**

Throughout its 7 years Sanctuary in Chichester has consistently grown in the range and scope of its work. Everyone involved in this work – especially our volunteer cadre - is to be congratulated on their efforts, talents and most of all the faithful sustained demonstrations of compassion across these years. The work has been and still is memorable.

I am deeply moved to have had the privilege of gathering so many fine people into this organisation and to see so much of its work flourishing.

To secure the foundations we have laid together SiC needs to ensure that it functions in the way we contracted with the Charity Commission under the Charities Act 2011 it needs some adaptation to its structure. This will guarantee that it will operate securely as an Association Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with Voting Members which is the basis of our recognition as a charity. It has not been doing this to date and without some adaptation will become vulnerable in the future.

### **The way forward**

Almost all public institutions in our democracy, including most medium-sized or large charities, have two tiers of what can loosely be called 'governance'. This holds many advantages for Sanctuary in Chichester, and will secure its future

As its founder I propose that SiC follow that pattern. This would entail the existing board of trustees becoming its Management Committee responsible for most of its operational functions (eg drop-in, adult education – including language – nations united). A new Board of Trustees should then be appointed with strategic responsibility for working strictly in accordance with the Constitution approved by the Charity Commission adhering consistently to due process norms of our public democratic institutions, and to guarantee the key principles of an association CIO.

The Chair of the Board of Trustees – appointed in accordance with para 19.2 of the Constitution – will chair Board Meetings (3 times a year) **and** meetings of the Management Committee (6 times a year). Otherwise the Constitution is to stand unchanged with the chair simply chairing the meetings.

### **Motion to be put to AGM 2022**

- 1(a) A Management Committee be established as from 01 March 2023 separately from the Board of Trustees to manage all operational matters (eg drop-in, adult education, football etc) on behalf of SiC. It is to consist of up to 12 persons – to include all lead trustees responsible for specific major aspects of SiC's work and paid staff if they so wish. (All current Trustees to be invited to become members of the Management Committee.) (Power to create such a committee is already enshrined in our constitution.)**
- (b) The Constitution to be amended to reduce the number of Trustees to between 3 and 7.**
- (c) The Management Committee to be accountable to the Board of Trustees who in turn will be accountable as at present to the Charity Commission for the conduct of the CIO.**

**2. A small working group be established immediately to agree the details of this arrangement by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 – to consist of the founder of SiC, the current chair of the Board of Trustees and one person with relevant legal experience/knowledge. This group may call upon the services of outside advice or the CIO's paid staff.**