



Greater London Tamil Sangam - Minutes of Meeting

- Meeting Title** : General Meeting
- Meeting Venue** : Holywell Community Centre, Chaffinch Lane, Watford WD18 9QD
- Meeting Date/Time** : 19-May-2019, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- Meeting Chairperson** : Kannan Renganathan & Ganesh Mahesh Kumar
- Meeting Participants** :

Name	In Person / On Call	Notes
Kathiresan Kaliyaperumal	In Person	
Sooriya Kumar Coimbatore Rajendran	In Person	
NandaKumar Palani Gounder Sivaswamy	In Person	
Anand Krishnamurthy	In Person	
Ramachandran Raghu	In Person	
Selvaganesan	In Person	
Chezhan Veerasamy	In Person	
Ajoykumar Srinivasan	In Person	
Arul Jesua Bennatraj	In Person	
Senthil Rajendran	In Person	
Senthil Kumar Pachaiyappan	In Person	

Absent from Meeting:

- N/A

Meeting Agenda:

- Discuss about various Charity models
- Current status

Greater London Tamil Sangam

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- Discuss on next activities

Meeting Minutes/Notes:

Below points were discussed and resolved in the meeting,

- Various UK Charity model overview by Nanda
 - All models are governed by UK government. Reference – GOV.UK. There are 4 common charity structures.
 - **1. Charitable company**
Like a standard company. The charitable companies will have to be limited by guarantees rather than shares. Mainly for sales by charities.
 - **2. Charitable trust**
A 'charitable trust' is a way for a group of people ('trustees') to manage assets such as money, investments, land or buildings.
 - **3. Unincorporated charitable association**
An 'unincorporated charitable association' is a simple way for a group of volunteers to run a charity for a common purpose.
 - **4. Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)**
 - A CIO is an incorporated structure designed for charities. This is monitored by Charity Commission. Must create a 'governing document' (or 'rulebook') for your charity that explains how your charity is run.
 - 4.a Foundation - Typically used for a newly formed charity inline with CIO model.
 - 4.b Association - Usually formed, when there is a 'original unincorporated charity' and want to come under CIO. Mainly used for CSR activities.
 - Both models of 4a) and 4b) should have trustees to run charity. Difference is voting rights.
 - **Greater London Tamil Sangam has adopted CIO Foundation Model.**
 - How to change your charity's structure? - A charity can usually change its structure if its trustees decide that a new structure would better suit the way it plans to operate
 - Foundation model: Organisation managed by trustees, trustees can move in and out.
 - Signatory – trustees
 - Association model
 - Signatory – Trustees, added feature is voting rights. When a decision needs to be made trustees make the decision.
 - All the trustees have to be defined in the Constitution document.
- Sooriya: The selection and value of first Charity trustees was detailed and clarified. All agreed for First Charity Trustees (except 2 members).
- Ben: Asked the forum to confirm the discussion points from the previous meeting.



- Kathir: On the question posted by the forum on tenure for trustees and office bearers, Kathir clarified that tenure for trustees and office bearers can be made as 3-year.
- Kathir: Also provided a quick background on where the initiative to start a Tamil Sangam started. Explained that in discussions with Sooriya both had spoken to the Watford councillor how to initiate the process. Following that a Tamil initiation group was started and the initiative to form a Sangam was triggered.
- Chezian and Ajoy: Indicated that “Foundation model” might not appropriate for Sangam.
 - Chez has suggested increasing the trustee/member to increase to 10 or 12 members
 - Tenure is 2 or 3 years.
- Nanda: Members to be added, office bearers to be added – President, treasury, etc, ladies to be involved.
- Sooriya: All agreed that Foundation model is the way forward. 5 trustees have signed for the foundation model.
 - With all being in the same vision of progress, Election (voting) is not appropriate for Sangam office bearer selection. Election in a way split the small groups further, Hence lucky draw will be used for all office bearer selections.
- Selvaganesh:
 - Activities of similar registered charity groups (London Tamil Sangam) were briefed. Few benefits include Access to parliament, support from council.
 - Suggestion: only members who have held membership for one year are eligible to be trustees. The process to be regularised. Anyway define the tenure for the trustee/member.
 - Who can question in the organisation (defined member), how to question (procedure), how long will a question will be heard. Trustees are responsible (liable) for all the accounts, inspection procedures (fit and proper test), when 5000 GBP is reached charity can be registered (or CIO authorised one).
 - Odd numbers for the committee is a good option.
 - Possibility of constitutional document amendments and further membership inclusion discussed.
 - Sangam has to be transparent. Minimum tenure is better and Move forward.
- Ajoy: Previous meetings MoMs and activities done over last few years discussed. He insisted on simplicity model.
- Anand: Membership data to be maintained as per GDPR compliance.
- All: No election, only by lucky draw for office bearer and trustee selection.

Planned Activities / Next Milestones:

- GLTS Membership induction.
- Repository for members’ access and contribution.
- Office Bearer selection and appointment.
- Trustee expansion to 9 members.



Action Items:

- Membership document to be shared with wider group.
- Forum for members to share their comments on documents (like a shared drive) to be created.
- Trustee nomination date and trustee selection date to be finalized.
- WhatsApp group for members/trustees/office bearers, Kannan to decide.
- Group discussed about next events and activities, charity walk, kids events, family get together.
- Code of Conduct to be prepared and shared with members. Meeting participants to follow code of conduct.
- Event in late June/July.