



## CSPA - WIRRAL GROUP - NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2023

Dear Group Members

A very Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a very good Christmas and New Year and that celebrations were trouble and virus-free.

Like many Groups around the country, our Group is struggling to exist but action is taking place to address these difficulties. Groups are struggling because of a lack of volunteers to take on Officer roles of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and in some cases Membership Secretary. The lockdowns have had a dreadful impact for many organisations and while CSPA have had a number of closures which easily happens during lockdowns, it is much more difficult to re-start Groups after a lengthy lay-off. Some Groups remain highly active having used Zoom meetings to survive. This situation was debated at the AGM in October following a Motion from the Winchester Group. A working Party has now been set up with the following terms of reference – *'To review the effectiveness of the current CSPA Group and Regional structure in England and Wales, taking account of the escalating rate of closures of local Groups and the decline in membership participation. To make recommendations to the EC for wider Group consultation, on improvements to the current structure, whilst ensuring that those Groups that continue to have active membership involvement will not be undermined, with the overall aim to encourage better member participation and interest in the work of CSPA and its aims on behalf of members'*.

The Working Party (which I am Chairing) met for the first time on 10<sup>th</sup> January and consisted of delegates from selected Regions and Groups. Members were very enthusiastic and a total of 47 issues emerged from the discussion. The next meeting will be on 30 January and I will report progress to you at our AGM in March. Meanwhile consultation is taking place at Group AGM,s around the country and you can have your say at our AGM.

Back to Wirral and HQ are in the process of changing the membership database and I will have current figures available at the AGM.

Our AGM will be on **Thursday 9th March 2023 at the Lauries Conference Centre in Birkenhead (opposite ASDA) at 11.00am**. Coffee/Tea available from 10.30am and we will import lunch for 12.45pm.

## AGM Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022
4. Matters Arising
  - a) Meeting venue: costs and location
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Membership Report
7. Regional Representative's Report
8. Report of Working Party on Group Structure
9. Elections: Nominations for
10. Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Committee
11. Campaigns update and issues of concern to members.
12. Other business
13. Date of next meeting

**For catering purposes, please let me know that you are available to attend preferably by email to [mike.lawler@live.com](mailto:mike.lawler@live.com). If you would prefer to chat, call me on 0151 345 7207.**

*This is a clarion call. I don't think we want to close the Group which has been in existence for some 50 years. Please try to attend and offer your services.*

Best wishes to you all and your families.

**Mike Lawler**  
Chair