



VANIK COUNCIL

formerly The National Council of Vanik Associations (UK), established 1978

www.vanikcouncil.uk

Live and Help to Live

79 Headstone Gardens, Harrow HA2 6PJ, United Kingdom

Charity Number 1137083

Minutes of the NCVA Council meeting held at 11:45 on
27th Jan 2019 at
NCVA office, 7 Arrowhead Parade,
79 Headstone Gardens, Harrow HA2 6PJ

Present: Manharlal Mehta; Mahesh Gandhi; Raksha Shah, Anil Shah
Jaykumar Shah; Bharat Parekh; Vijay Sheth; Bharat Mehta;
Jayman Mehta; Kirit Batavia; Saroj Varia, Manish Mehta

Apologies: Shashi Shah; Ramesh Shah; Bhupendra Vasa; Virendra Bakhai;
Chandrakant Mehta, Renu Mehta; Chetna Desai; Kiran Mehta; Sudhaben
Mandaviya; Anil Parekh; Harkishan Mehta; Prakash Mehta, Asha Mehta;
Yogesh Rayani; Kirit Shah, Dhiru Galani, Saroj Shah, Natubhai Shah,
Rajnikant Shah, Rajesh Selarka, Nemish Mehta

1) Prayers/Welcome

The meeting started at 11.45 with all present reciting the prayer.
All attendees were welcomed followed by introductions.

2) Approval of Minutes of 28th Oct 2018

The minutes were approved and duly signed by the Chairman and General Secretary.

3) Matters Arising

None

4) Treasurers Report

Accounts for 2018 are ready for submission.

Jayeshbhai will produce a list of outstanding subscriptions and provide it to the
Area Chairmen to help gather the subscriptions.

Some of the outstanding subscriptions notices were circulated to those who attended
the meeting.

Chairman

Mr. Manharlal L.Mehta

General Secretary

Mr. Mahesh Gandhi

Regional Vice-Chairmen

North Region

Mr. Nehal Mehta

Midlands

Mr. Rajnikant Shah

Greater London

Mr. Vijay. Sheth

South Region

Mr. Virendra Bakhai

Treasurer

Mr. Jaykumar T. Shah

Deputy General

Secretary

Mr. Bharat H.Mehta

Executive Committee

Members

Mr. Kirit Batavia

Mrs Bina Holden

Mrs.Renuka Mehta

Mr. Bharat Parekh

Mr. Ramesh J.Shah

Mr. Shashi Shah

Mr. Bhupen Vasa

Co-opted

Mr. Chirag Bajaria

Mr. Jayman Mehta

Webmaster

Mr. Bhupen Vasa

Newsletter Editor

Mr. Anil D. Parekh

Honorary Auditors

P.S.J. Alexander & Co.

Affiliated Associations:

Aden Vanik Association UK, Digamber Jain Visa Mevada Association, East London & Essex Bhagini, Jain Association of UK, Jain Network,
Jain Samaj Europe, Jain Samaj Manchester, Jain Sangh Birmingham, Mahavir Foundation, Nari Vrund Navnat Bridge Club, Navnat Vanik Association of
UK, Navnat Vadil Mandal,Navnat Vanik Bhagini Samaj, Navnat Youth Association, Oshwal Association of UK, Shree Jain Sangh East London & Essex, Shree
Navyug Jain Pragati Mandal, Shrimali Soni Mandal London, Sorathia Vanik Association, SouthEast Jain Association, Vanik Association of UK, Vanik Samaj
Coventry, Vanik Samaj of UK Brighton, Vanik Samaj Southampton, Veerayatan UK, Young Jains

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5) Secretary's Report

- Continued support to the projects undertaken on Organ Donation - meeting attendance, designing flyers etc.
- Website – Comments on the new website have been collated and provided to the designers.

Distribution of information that is useful to our community continues to be circulated to members when requested from affiliated organisations.

More recently the following has been circulated to all members in the Vanik Council database.

- **Vanik Council - Letter from Jain APPG to ONS** - Jain box in the 2021 Census
- **Funeral** details sent to members
- **Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur (UK)** – Grand Inauguration Ceremony.
- **Anaya Festive Video Waiting for A Kidney**
- **Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur (UK)**
- **Sad Demise** details sent to members
- **Navnat Vanik Bhagini Samaj** – Christmas Party

Discussions took place on the letter that has been sent from the Jain APPG. All attendees were encouraged to write to their MPs.

6) Vanik Professional Group

Discussions on resurrecting the Vanik Professional Group has taken place in previous meetings. However there has been no progress. Manharbhai gave a short summary on the background of the Vanik Professional Group for awareness to those who were not involved in the past.

In summary, the Vanik Professional Group was setup by NCVA(now Vanik Council) many years ago and was affiliated to NCVA(Vanik Council), however due to various reasons stopped operating. It was agreed that it would be useful resurrect this group with a defined set of aims and objectives. The aims and objectives however must consider the service it can provide to the community. The group also needs to be self-financing, following initial setup, costs using the budget that has been set aside.

Details of previous discussions on the purpose of this group are detailed below -

Objective:

Main objective of the group is to provide tools, platform, help and assistance to professionals and Business persons of Vanik Community to create or/and enhance knowledge of the professions or businesses.

How to achieve the Objective:

By organising seminars, talks and gathering for following matters.

- Health Awareness
- Financial Awareness

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- Taxation Awareness
- Networking
- Business/professional support, guidance and mentoring
- Information Technology training
- Seminars and Mentoring for leadership and public speaking
- Political awareness/participation and help in getting in politics and further progression
- Immigration and Visa Guidance

Dr Natubhai and Vijaybhai volunteered at previous meetings to be part of this committee. Unfortunately, due to key individuals' commitments to other projects (e.g. Living Organ Donation) it has not been possible to take this any further. More volunteers are required to support this initiative with the aim to kick this project off. Any organisation who is able to assist has been requested to put forward names of volunteers.

A meeting will be initiated as soon as possible.

7) Speed Dating

- The next speed dating event has been arranged on the 19th May 2019 and will be held at the Navnat Centre in Hayes.

8) Matrimonial Register

Current Register: 55 Boys and 40 Girls .

All Payment & New Registration is through Eventbrite

Candidate's details when requested by a member are e-mailed by the coordinator.

The current registration is manual, however will be electronic once our new website is up and running.

Unfortunately, at the last Speed Dating, due to lack of promotion not many individuals have registered.

9) Spiritual Care and Community Care

Spiritual Care

- Manharbhai gave a summary on activities which Vanik Council undertakes on Spritual Care. This was for the benefit of the new attendees.
- Manharbhai has discussed and agreed with Barnet Hospital for a Jain Chaplin to attend.
- Vanik council is in the process of providing a service to help people in their home for those who are unable to leave their house. However due to other commitment on other projects it has not been possible to take this further.
- Details of Chaplaincy to be sent to Raksha with the aim to seek volunteers from South London to attend hospitals.
- Hospice visits are under scrutiny. We are liaising with other chaplaincy such as Muslim and Christian and learning from their experiences. At present, we are considering visiting informally to learn and then decide on way forward. A small team has to be ready and prepared; outlining their function and duties before publication of leaflets.

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- Funeral Services – Manharbhai summarised the service which Vanik Council provides to the new attendees. Previously a number of individuals have shown interest. This includes individuals in Leicester and Manchester. Further discussions to be held with these individuals. Manharbhai indicated that anyone who wishes to find out more information should get in touch.
- Manharbhai has asked if attendees know of any volunteer who wish to be included. The demand for funeral rites is high on the current individuals and therefore Manharbhai has requested more individuals to help with these services.
- Previously Dr Natubhai indicated that grants are available to support patients at home if there are sufficient volunteers 'home champions'. This should be considered by the sub-committee - Continues
- Previously Chandrakantbhai mentioned that a ministry of loneliness has been formed. Vanik Council should investigate to determine if our community can be assisted. Continues.

10) New Project – Living Organ Donation

Vanik Council has been engaged on campaigning for organ donation.

Summary of 2017-2018 Project by Vanik Council

Period: February 2017- March 2018

- Vanik Council UK produced a leaflet and video which was circulated to all on our database.
- In total 4 seminars with 700 people attended
- Our achievements

Criterion	Target	Actual
Number of people interested	10	96
Number of people assessed	5-6	4
Number of people suitable	1-2	2

- In summary Vanik Council achieved more than any other Project run by NHSBT.
- We introduce a special form to record the interest in donation and is also being adapted by others and by NHSBT

There are two projects that are being executed by Vanik Council.

- **Living Organ Donation Phase 2(2018-2019)** – UK wide – Details of conferences are as follows:
 - Vanik Council collaborated with Oshwal Centre at the EKTA Centre – Jun 2018
 - Vanik Council collaborated with Jain Samaj Manchester to hold a Kidney conference on the 6th October 2018 in Manchester. The feedback received from those who attended was very good and most were appreciative of the insight that was given on Living Organ Donation and issues faced by patients faced with Kidney problems. In conclusion, the conference was a great success with more than 160 people who attended with 58 people who showed an interest in finding out more on living organ donation. The people who have shown interest will be invited on a follow-up session led by a Lead Donor Coordinator to provide more information that may help them to firm up their interest in registering their names for living organ donation.

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Vanik Council (Uk) would like to thank Jain Samaj Manchester in organising this event and all members of the community who attended this conference.

- In Collaboration with Jain Network, Mahavir Foundation and Navyug Jain Pragati Mandal a conference has been arranged to take place on the **17th Feb 2019**.
- In Collaboration with Gurjar Hindu Union(GHU CRAWLEY) & South East Jain Association(Crawley) a conference has been arranged to take place on the **10th Mar 2019**.
- In Collaboration with Jain Samaj Europe and Oshwal Association UK Leicester Area a conference has been arranged to take place on the **17th Mar 2019**.

As part of Living Organ Donations, Vanik Council has set target in the following areas –

- Number of people indicating an interest in living donation
 - Number of people who are referred for assessment as potential donors
 - Number of people donating a living kidney
- The first target has already been achieved. More effort is now required for the second and third target.

- **Organ Donation after death** - Raising awareness after death donation and changes in Govt. legislation (Deemed Consent)

Following NHS Blood and Transplant calling for applications from community and faith-based organisations to positively engage local communities in organ donation, Vanik Council submitted a proposal to NHSBT and we are pleased to announce that we have been selected to promote this project within our community. A meeting has been held where discussions have taken place to plan events to promote this project. Further details will be made available as soon as they are confirmed however the intent will be to promote through events that have been planned as part of events organised on Living Organ Donation. Further any event that is being held by the affiliated organisation should use that as an opportunity to publicise this project.

Vanik Council is seeking volunteers for all future events and has requested attendees of the meeting to provide names from their organisation. Volunteers are needed for attendee Registration, food serving, collecting Live Donation interest forms and After Death registration forms.

11) E-Newsletter and Website

Website

Vanik Directory - The developers have provided a version of the migrated Vanik Database. This is now complete and is awaiting final testing by Vanik Council before launch.

Last directory was published in 2014. As soon as the new website is available, VC will start to promote this facility for families to begin updating their information.

General website is still under development. Comments have been supplied to the developers following release of an interim version of the new website. Progress has been slow due to delays in providing comments back to the developers.

E-Newsletter(Vanik Voice)

- Vanik Voice was circulated in Sep 2018.

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- All affiliated organisations were asked to provide details of events and articles for publication into the next issue of Vanik Voice.
- Manharbhai has requested all affiliated organisations to send Vanik Voice to their members as soon as they receive a copy.

12) 40th Year Celebration

There is a plan to celebrate 40th Anniversary next year. A sub-committee has been formed and will include Bharatbhai, Binbaben, Renuben, Virendrabhai, Yogeshbhai, Rajnibhai, Rameshbhai, Vijaybhai, Chetnaben, Sarojben, Kiritbhai. Meeting to be called as soon as possible. The lead for this celebration will be discussed at the first meeting.

Manharbhai has proposed two dates for this event to take place either on 20-Oct-2019 or 10-Nov-2019. The attendees recommended 10th Nov 2019 as the most preferable date for this event. This is because Diwali and Navratri will have already taken place. Manharbhai has asked all attendees to take this date back to their organisation to ensure this does not clash with any other event.

Possible venues - Royal Albert Hall, Harrow Leisure Centre, Wembley Arena, Crawley - Temple

13) Area Chairmen's reports.

London Area Chair

Summary of Jain Network

- The Jain centre work will start from April 2019.
- Ambil oli & M J K event will continue in front part (hall) at Jain Centre.
- Vanik Council is organising next kidney Seminar on 17th February 2019 at Jain centre Colindale, 10th March at Crawley & 17th March at Jain Centre Leicester.
- Jain centre is looking to hire the place nearby Colindale or Edgware area for future activities.
- The project now needs more support from UK organisations & members for awareness & information including 3 years bond (refundable loan) system

Summary from Navnat Vanik Association

- Ram Navami – Apr 2019
- Playground work has started and will be ready in the summer
- AGM in Jun 2019

Summary from DJVM

- Mahavir Jayanti, Paryushan dates to be planned

Summary from Vanik Association

- 24th May 2019 – Russia Tour, 7 days, 6 Night, Meals included etc. Approx £1400, Visa needed.

Summary from Navnat Vanik Bhagini Samaj

- 2nd Mar 2019 – Women Association
- 30th Mar 2019 – Ladies only – Cooking

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- 1st May 2019 – China Tour – Already full

Summary from – Navnat Vadil Mandal

- No report available

Summary South East Jain Association

- No report available

SHREE NAVYUG JAIN PRAGATI MANDAL

No Report available.

14) AOB

Vijaybhai commended on services that is being provided by Vanik Council over the past few years. In particular Living Organ Donation, Jain Funeral Rites and interest shown by other affiliated organisation in services provided by VC.

Request all affiliated organisations to provide a summary report in advance of the Vanik Council meeting. This should include a summary of previous programmes and of events/programme taking place over the next few months.

20) Date and Venue of Next Meeting

TBC