

Minutes for the meeting of the Human Givens Institute (HGI) Board.

Meeting Location: Via Zoom

Date: Thursday 20th August 2026

Start Time: 3pm

Chair: Abigail Darling (AD)

Minutes: Shelley Walker (SW)

1. **Attendees:** Ivan Tyrrell (IT), Jennifer Broadley (JB), Michelle Buckles (MB), Abigail Darling (AD), Graeme Layzell (GL), Denise Winn (DW), Jayne Timmins (JT)

Apologies:

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

Human Givens Foundation	IT
Human Givens Publishing	IT
Human Givens Services	IT

Confirmed	Yes
-----------	-----

3. **Previous Meeting**

Previous meeting was an interim meeting – no minutes

4. **ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:**

JB reported that onboarding for all new HGF trustees was complete.

DW reported that the Advertising Standards Authority wrote declining to take on our case against the National Hypnotherapy Society for misrepresenting our member benefits, saying 'your complaint was kept as a contribution to the intelligence that we gather to inform our work'.

5. **AGENDA**

A/B Revenue Streams – Workplace Mental Health Training - Suffolk Mind - MB

MB reported on discussions with Suffolk Mind about their workplace mental health trainings, with a view to developing/extending something similar (incorporating the ideas around honorary corporate membership – see D below). AD proposed discussions with CGG about practicalities and GL suggested a steering group be put in place.

C. Supervisors' membership fee increase, agree and action – All

All agreed the supervisors fee from 1st September 2026 will be £125.00.

D. Honorary Corporate Membership – JB and AD

A draft document, eventually designed for the website, explaining the concept of corporate training and awarding of charter marks, was circulated for discussion, with a view to eventual publication on the website once details are agreed. GL will set up a meeting with the college and tutors to discuss the idea and get their views and input. JB, MB and JT, with IT attending, will form the initial steering group from the board.

E. Lack of HGI/PSA recognition for therapists seeking work - DW

Many emails are received from members complaining about insurers and others who won't accept HG credentials. JB suggested asking, at the next HGI webinar 09/09/26, for voluntary help in the form of 'engagement ambassadors', to take on the task of seeking meetings with other bodies currently resistant. Those who respond will be guided to form a steering group, reporting to the board every three months on progress/difficulties encountered.

F. AI Coalition Commitment - AD/GL

The board agreed to sign up to the 2025 Shared AI Charter for UK Counselling and Psychotherapy Organisations.

G. Annual review for all HGI sub committees – ALL

Deferred till next meeting.

H. Risk Register – All

Section 5 – GL confirmed that he is working on business continuity plans, required by the PSA, with Andy Tarrant from RPSC.

The board is currently looking to recruit new members and the possibility of an external person to join the board and possibly an external person to become Chair. JB will research HGI members for potential new board recruits and will report back.

UPDATES:

The RPSC presented a report, updating on their work.

1) Clinical Governance Group (CGG): Board liaison DW –

Closing practice and adult safeguarding guidelines are now up on the website.

AD asked about checking claimed CPD hours, supervision contracts and media checks for membership renewals. DW will raise the mechanics of random checks with the CGG/Supervisor leads.

2) HG Group Merger: JB

It is expected that work will start in September on implementing the merger enabling the HGF to become a CIO. The college will then be incorporated into the Foundation. Eighteen people attended an initial meeting, including the 8 new trustees of the Foundation, with much useful feedback received during and after. It is recommended that meetings are held monthly, with 2 reps each from the college, board and foundation forming a steering group.

3) RPSC Liaison: MB

MB will be attending an RPSC meeting on 16/09.

4) HGI Administration: AD

AD checks in with the membership secretary once weekly and hopes to spend a day in the HG head office soon.

5) Partnership of Counselling and Psychotherapy Bodies (PCPB): GL

A consultation document will be distributed for board comment in early autumn.

6) New AI Group feedback: AD

AD reported that a meeting had taken place for members interested in the potential and risks of AI in therapy and that there is a plan to discuss with CGG guidance/awareness information for members.

7) Membership Figures at the end of July

MHGI scoped column A

Practising – 283

Non-Practising – 13

MHGI scoped column B

Practising - 9

MHGI scoped column C

Practising - 6

Total MHGI practising members = 298

Total MHGI Non practising members = 13

FHGI scoped column A

Practising - 8

Non-Practising - 6

FHGI scoped column B

Practising - 1

FHGI scoped column C

Practising – 1

Total FHGI practising members = 10

Total FHGI Non practising members = 6

GHGI Trainees

Practising - 61

Non-Practising – 7

13) Finance/Audit Update: JB/MB

Year-end 2025 accounts to be signed off by MB/JB and IT. Bank balance is £23,500.00 including all costs from the conference with a small profit of £4,000.00 for the year end.

14) Any Other Business:

The board reviewed the action-oriented therapy exchange Reframe/Resolve, presented to it as a matter of interest by a former HG trainee, and agreed that it is not appropriate formally to endorse it.

Confirmed that annual HGI Live Webinar to up date all members on board activities and initiatives will be on 9 September 5.00pm-6.30pm. JB to draft the agenda and share with board for feedback and confirmation of attendance/presenting.

Finish: 5.30PM

Date of Next meeting: Thursday 17th September 2026
START TIME 3.00pm

Chair – Graeme Layzell