



Minutes of the Friends of the Yeatman Hospital's Annual General Meeting 2020 held on Monday
November 16th at 6:00pm via Zoom

Attended by Mr David Hayes (Chairman), Ms Jill Warburton (Vice-Chairman) Mr John Thompson (Treasurer), Mrs Elizabeth Turnbull (Hon Secretary), Mrs Celia Harvey (Trustee for Friendship), Mr Tony Meehan (Chair of the MCT), Mr Peter Neal, Mrs Fiona Hartley, Ms Rebecca Tillin, Mr Roger Marsh, Mrs Jane Carling, Dr Rob Childs, Mrs Linsley Withers (Administrator), Mr Nick Baker, Col Walker, Mrs Pauline Walker, Mr Ron Tomlinson, Mrs Rosie Tomlinson, Mrs Judith Austin, Mr Paul Austin, Mrs Margaret Baker, Ms Judy Goodman, Mrs Carolyn Cawood, Mrs Jill Crosthwaite-Eyre, Dr Christine Byfield, Mrs Marjorie Pearson, Mrs Philippa Sherwin, Mrs Mary Kachel, Mrs Cathy Campbell, Mr Philip Bell, Mrs Gillian Gunner, Mr Michael Rawlinson and Mrs Louise Sandy.

1. Welcome:

Mr Hayes, Chairman of the Friends, welcomed all present to the first virtual Annual General Meeting of the Friends. He appreciated everyone's commitment and dedication through this challenging year.

2. Apologies:

Apologies received from Mr and Mrs Mike Hatch, Mr Raymond Wood, Mrs Gillian Zanetti, Mrs Juliet Pentolfe, Mr David Havard and Sir John Garnier.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting:

Mr Neal proposed that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019 on September 13th were a true and accurate record of the meeting. Mrs Turnbull seconded and all present agreed.

4. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report:

Mr Hayes reminded those present that the purpose of an Annual General Meeting is to inform our Friends on what we have achieved while encouraging questions to ensure we are meeting our objectives. He believes his written report addresses these issues.

Even though Covid 19 has not allowed us to do any fundraising our finances are healthy mainly due to donations via Standing Orders and legacies. Thankfully we do not have the challenges many charities are facing, and we are on sound footing. We have been able to continue our routine support throughout the year. Capital Spending has been paused as DHCT concentrates on Covid-19. We have taken a lead from the Yeatman in branching out into the local community to support projects that fulfil our objectives. Mr Hayes also thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their wisdom, hard work and dedication.

6. Report by Matron:

Mrs Helen Hunt could not attend as she was on Annual Leave. She did however record a video message that one can see on our Website.

7. Treasurer's Report:

Mr Thompson explained that due to the second Covid lockdown the accountants have not been able to complete the full set of accounts for this meeting. He has however produced a summary of accounts which he talked through. Full sets of accounts will be available on our Website when they have been approved by the Executive Committee.

8. Ratification of the new Constitution:

Mr Neal shared background information and explained the reasoning behind drafting a new Constitution. These include updated banking practices such as BACS payments, expanding our outreach in line with current hospital practices and recommendations in governance by the Charity Commission.

Mr Hayes proposed that the current Constitution of the Charity be deleted and replaced with the proposed Constitution circulated via the website and based on the most recent Charity Commission model. Mr Thompson seconded.

27 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 6 abstained.

9. Appointment of Auditors:

Mr Thompson proposed that the reappointment of Milsted Langdon LLP by the Trustees as independent examiner of the Charity's annual report and accounts be approved. Mr Meehan seconded. 24 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 9 abstained.

10. Election of Officers of the Executive Committee:

(Proposed by David Hayes Seconded by Liz Turnbull)

(a) Resolved that Mike Hatch be reappointed President of the Charity;

28 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 5 abstained

(Proposed by Liz Turnbull Seconded by Tony Meehan)

(b) Resolved that David Hayes be reappointed Chair of the Charity;

24 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 9 abstained

(Proposed by David Hayes Seconded by Liz Turnbull)

(c) Resolved that Jill Warburton be reappointed as Vice-Chair of the Charity;

25 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 8 abstained

(Proposed by David Hayes Seconded by Tony Meehan)

(d) Resolved that Elizabeth Turnbull be reappointed Secretary of the Charity;

28 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 5 abstained

(Proposed by David Hayes Seconded by Liz Turnbull)

(e) Resolved that John Thompson be reappointed Treasurer of the Charity.

28 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 5 abstained

11. Election of New Trustees:

(Proposed by David Hayes Seconded by Liz Turnbull)

(a) **Resolved that Fiona Hartley be appointed a trustee of the Charity;**

27 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 6 abstained

(Proposed by David Hayes Seconded by Liz Turnbull)

(b) **Resolved that Rebecca Tillin be appointed a trustee of the Charity.**

26 Friends present voted yes, 0 Friends voted no and 7 abstained

12. Questions from Friends:

- ***In what ways can the Friends enable long term support of the Yeatman which would reflect the desires of local residents?***

The number one priority of the Sherborne community is that the Yeatman remains open. To this end, the Friends, the staff and local political leaders, of all parties share the same goal. Our constant support of innovation and upgrades are tangible expressions of our immediate and long-term commitments to support this objective, which I believe meets the expectations of the local community.

- ***The Yeatman is a much-loved institution which of course needs to be fit for purpose in the 21st century. We can't return to the (not so) old days of maternity wards etc but there are forward looking matters such as modernising in a sustainable way parts of the building as well as ensuring that the MIU is returned .***

This question assumes the Yeatman is not fit for purpose – which is an unfortunate statement because as we all know, the hospital continues to meet an important need in our community.

When considering consider the building is more than 100 years old and has been subject to continuous upgrades and extensions during this time.

In recent times the Friends have contributed substantial funds – in excess of £500,000 - to support upgrades and improvements to the clinical services provided by the Yeatman.

The facts it is not all shining, and purpose built for the 21st century, does not mean it is no longer fit for purpose. Sadly, it will always require investment to keep it functioning as a place of clinical excellence.

The Friends focus is what happens inside the building – not the way it looks.

- ***I am aware, for example, that the up to date use of the part of the hospital as a hub is actually constrained by space, poor ventilation with all those laptops blasting out heat, and lack of privacy. Could we not help to improve that?***

In its supporting role, the Friends of the Yeatman Hospital has little input on day to day management matters. Under the hospital's Matron there is an excellent

management team who monitor these aspects, and together with the clinical staff ensure the ventilation meets the needs of the hospital.

As a local charity our funds are limited, and therefore we are restricted in the number and the size of capital projects we are able to support

Two years ago, three local surgeries presented a £multi-million proposal to expand the hospital and relocate all GP services to a new site which we supported. For cost reasons this was not feasible.

- ***Mental health provision is insufficient in the Sherborne area. Could we not support that in some way?***

There is no single easy solution or simple answer to this question.

The impact of mental health illness across our society is of growing concern because it touches all ages and social groups in our community. This results in increasing emotional distress to those affected, including both patients and family members. It also places increased demands on a wide range of resources including social and public services, education sectors, clinical care and home care.

The Friends have already demonstrated its willingness to provide support for specific mental health projects in our community and will continue to do so when we believe it to be appropriate.

Mr Marsh also shared that he had as Chairman of the Grove Health Centre PPG attended a meeting recently with over 100 health providers looking at the future of mental health support in Dorset.

13. Any Other Business:

There were no additional comments.

14. Presentation to Mrs Celia Harvey:

Mr Hayes thanked Mrs Harvey for her three years of service to the Friends, two of those as Trustee for Friendship. Her input with the database has been most welcome as well as her relationship with our loyal Collectors. Mrs Harvey showed the flowers the Friends gave her with a gift certificate to Castle Gardens.

The meeting closed at 7:06pm.