

FRIENDS OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

(Incorporating the Friends of Bromley Hospital)

Minutes of the Annual General meeting held on Tuesday 4th June 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Education Centre

PRESENT:

There were 16 people present whose names were recorded in the attendance book, including Meredith Deane (Director of Operations)

APOLOGIES:

Alison Godfrey, Jan Brunton and Debbie Hutchinson

1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the AGM June 5th 2018 were approved.

Proposer: Diana Smith Seconder: Pam Thomas.

There were no matters arising.

2) CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

This had been circulated prior to the meeting along with a list of items purchased for the PRUH during the past year. In addition Pauline said that there had been more involvement with the public over fundraising this year. A bar chart on our website and our notice board saw the total rise after each fundraising event for our major projects. It was expected that the £7k goal for the bladder scanner would be reached soon. A Members' newsletter was launched with information about money raised and future events. The refurbishment of the Mortuary area had been a long time on the way but had now been satisfactorily completed and was greatly appreciated. Local funeral directors had been approached and gave donations totalling £1,350, there would be an open afternoon to show the newly refurbished mortuary area.

The Friends of Bromley Hospitals Lottery had now been wound up but many of the participants had joined the Friends instead. Everyone had been thanked individually. A variety of successful fundraising events had taken place including a Bromley Little Theatre charity performance, an Evening Meal at the British Queen, Christmas activities and several book and toy sales.

As well as the Mortuary refurbishment the Friends had funded many smaller PRUH projects including clothes for patients to return home with dignity and small food parcels to feed lone returnees for a few days.

The Chairman thanked the Trustees for their dedication and commitment over the previous year and the team of volunteers who helped with fundraising events. She also thanked hospital staff for supporting the PRUH Trustees and the fundraising events.

3) ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2019

The financial accounts had been circulated. The total income last year was similar to the previous year but with a decrease in subscriptions and an increase in fundraising activities. We were pleased to receive more funding requests for projects and equipment from staff this year as we would rather be spending our assets than building up reserves, although we have a policy of not spending more than one third of our reserves. The procedures for approval and payment of items and equipment through Kings Charity continued to be frustrating but we recently met with them to try and speed up the process.

The balance on the accounts at 31st March was £146,471. It was agreed that the accounts be accepted. Proposer: Rev Canon Tim Mercer Seconded: Carole Sissons

4) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The PRUH Trustees would not be electing a president this year, but the other officers had consented to remain in position and were re-elected: Chairman-Pauline Allard, Vice Chairman-Wendy Reeves, Treasurer-Sally Panton, Secretary-Pam Thomas.

5) ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

All the other Trustees had agreed to stand again and were re-elected en bloc: Clare Allen, Anne Edwards, Peter Harris, Rev Canon Tim Mercer, Carole Sissons and Diana Smith.

6) APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Paul Denby had passed the accounts and agreed to remain as Independent Examiner. Proposer: Rev Canon Tim Mercer Seconded: Pam Thomas.

7) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Talk by Meredith Deane (Director of Operations) on the challenges ahead.

The PRUH was in Special Measures due to its financial situation. There was a goal to make considerable savings by becoming more efficient but without losing staff. Performance standards were not being achieved. A number of ideas were being considered including "No. 1 Bromley" - developing integrated pathways for keeping people healthy and treating people as much as possible at home so that a visit to hospital would be short. There was now an Ambulatory Care department in the hospital. A frailty strategy was being developed, especially as there were many frail/elderly people in the area, and so the aim was to treat them quickly so that they did not have to stay long in hospital. Other aims included more endoscopy rooms and faster treatment for cancer patients so that the PRUH would be the best district general hospital.

Question: Could you explain "No.1 Bromley"?

Answer: This would be the vanguard of integrated services, joined-up healthcare a few pathways at a time with a lot of work around the frail elderly and Orpington Hospital. Two sorts of workforce would be needed, those in the community and those in the hospital with a good division of labour and resources.

Question: In general how stable was the workforce?

Answer: In general nurses were retained but keeping doctors was more difficult. A consultant had just been recruited into Geriatrics. Agency costs were still high but the nursing bill had been greatly reduced.

8) CLOSE OF MEETING

As there was no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15 pm.