



The Friends of the Princess Royal University Hospital
(Farnborough, Kent)

Charity Commission Registered No 231071

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, May 31st 2022
at 7.30pm in the Education Centre at the PRUH.**

1. Welcome

Thirteen members attended the meeting. Vice Chairman Wendy Reeves welcomed everyone and explained that Chairman Pauline Allard was unable to be present.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Pauline Allard, Anne Dyson, Gail Scott-Spicer, Hazel Brady, Debbie Hutchinson, Sam Dale, Brenda Parsons, Catherine McAnena, Helen Roberts, Carole Sissons, Paul Denby, Sue Price and Hannah Willoughby.

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on May 25th 2021

All members had been advised that the minutes were available to see on our website. Diane Perry proposed and Bernard Jayasundera seconded that the minutes should be approved and everyone agreed.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Annual Report

Vice Chairman Wendy Reeves had written the Annual Report and a copy had been sent to all members. There were no questions.

6. Accounts for the year ending March 31st 2022

Sally Panton gave her treasurer's report and copies of the accounts were distributed. In response to the question, "Is there a limit to the amount of funds you have in the Charity?" Sally replied that we usually like to spend one third of our funds each year, keeping the remainder as a reserve. She was also asked about "Restricted Funds". She explained that sometimes people donate money and ask for it to be used for a specific project. As an example, we hold a fund which is restricted for use in children's cancer. Since the closure of the Children's Cancer Unit at the PRUH, The Friends have used the fund to pay for a taxi service for parents to transport children suffering from cancer to other hospitals for treatment.

Sue Simpson proposed that we approve the accounts and Peter Harris seconded this.

7. Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary

Wendy said that Pauline had decided to resign due to health reasons and thanked her for all her hard work and everything she had done for the charity for many years.

The following Officers were then elected:

Chairman	Peter Harris	proposed by Sally Panton seconded by Clare Allen
Vice Chairman	Wendy Reeves	proposed by Peter Harris seconded by Leigh Bozdan
Treasurer	Sally Panton	proposed by Diane Perry seconded by Pam Thomas
Secretary	Pam Thomas	proposed by Sue Simpson seconded by Wendy Reeves

Peter then introduced himself and said that he had spent 40 years working in the teaching profession and was an Acting Head Teacher before retiring in 2012. He had been involved in The Friends of the PRUH since 2015 and a Trustee for 5 years. Peter paid tribute to Pauline who had been the Chairman since 2010 and had been very involved with raising funds and working with the hospital to benefit the patients and staff. Her hard work during all these years will be recognised at our next committee meeting.

8. Election of Trustees

Clare Allen and Sue Simpson were prepared to continue as Trustees and Diane Perry was elected as a new Trustee. This was proposed by Sally Panton and seconded by Peter Harris.

Bernard Jayasundera and Leigh Bozdan will continue as Committee members and Peter thanked Bernard for his knowledge and work with the website.

9. Appointment of an Independent Examiner to the accounts

Paul Denby had agreed to continue as the Independent Examiner and this was proposed by Peter Harris and seconded by Sue Simpson.

10. Update on the Hospital by Jonathan Lofthouse

Peter introduced Jonathan Lofthouse, the Site Chief Executive for the PRUH and South Sites, and Rob Chidlow, the Financial Officer.

Jonathan expressed his thanks for all the help we had given during the past two difficult years of Covid - the hospital has 540 beds and during one period in 2021 there were 301 patients with Covid which meant that all operating plans had to be amended. Now the situation is far more stable (around 50 patients) and in future weeks it is hoped to reduce some of the safety measures that had been put in place.

There have been several recent developments some of which are:

- Funding has increased by £43million and is being spent on the building and also on new staff;
- An Imaging Service is now offered 7 days a week;
- Emergency doctors on duty have been increased by 26;
- £2.9million has been invested in the Frailty Assessment Unit so patients will be transferred quickly from A&E to the Frailty Unit and then home care. There will be a Changing Places toilet with a hoist for disabled patients;

- Medical 1 and 2 have now been refurbished and are a lot safer and calmer for patients;
- A wellbeing area adjoining the Memorial Garden has been constructed for staff and should be finished by late July. We will be able to help with soft furnishings etc;
- £18 - £20 million will help to improve the Day Care Unit and a bridge will be constructed to link the Unit with the hospital;
- There are plans for a £25 million Ambulatory Endoscopy Unit;
- A plan is being formed to enhance the Paediatric Emergency Service and Special Care Baby Unit.

Jonathan said that now we are coming out of Covid there is a great need to improve all the waiting lists for appointments and operations. Doctors are in training every year and therefore there will be more doctors in the hospital. There have also been some work experience places and some of those people have now been employed as porters and chefs etc. While new car park spaces are being constructed there will be a "Park & Ride" facility from Dobbies Garden Centre. The new deck will have 197 spaces and number plate recognition cameras will be installed at the A21 entrance. A question was asked about the link between the NHS and Health & Social Care. Jonathan replied that this needs to continue to improve and work better together - there is now a coalition called OneBromley. He said that coming out of Covid there was a "new level of normality" with improvements in the hospital and an increased number of doctors and nurses.

11. Any Other Business

Leigh Bozdan asked when we would be able to hold our meetings in the hospital and Jonathan replied that this would hopefully be in the next few weeks. Bernard commented that the more publicity we can give The Friends the more donations we will get.

12. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.45pm and Peter thanked everyone for coming.