



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

Charity Commission Registered No 231071

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, June 6th 2023 at 7.30pm in the Education Centre at the PRUH.

1. Welcome

Peter introduced the committee and welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Site Chief Executive Jonathan Lofthouse, Finance Director Rob Chidlow and Ken Evans Chairman of The Friends of Orpington Hospital.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Adrian Thomas, Mary Stirling, Helen Roberts, Hannah Willoughby, Maggie Brown, Gail Scott-Spicer, Pauline Allard, Kay Ash, Bernard Jayasundera and Brenda Parsons.

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on May 25th 2022

The minutes had been sent to all members. Diane Perry proposed and Sue Simpson seconded that the minutes should be approved and everyone agreed.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Annual Report

A copy of the Chairman's Annual Report had been sent to all members. Peter mentioned that, post Covid, it had been a difficult year but what we have achieved has been successful. He thanked Rob Chidlow for the time spent supporting us each month and hoped that we will be able to move forward in the coming year. There were no questions.

6. Accounts for the year ending March 31st 2023

A copy of the accounts had been sent to all members and Sally read her report. She said we have had a stable year with income of £30k, similar to last year, but two legacies have made up half of that. Fundraising has continued to be difficult since the pandemic and we had to cancel an event due to lack of support. However, we have been able to provide new chairs for the chapel and bench seating to assist surgical patients when walking. We also worked with a Rotary Club to provide items for the Discharge Lounge. Although there have been delays due to the pandemic and several strikes, we are continuing our discussions with Rob Chidlow, the Finance Director, for projects to work on which will benefit patients and staff. Sally said that the total funds at the year end were £137,840 and she thanked Paul Denby, our Independent Examiner for his assistance and advice.

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

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

The following Officers were elected:

Chairman	Peter Harris	proposed by Sally Panton seconded by Wendy Reeves
Vice Chairman	Wendy Reeves	proposed by Peter Harris seconded by Leigh Bozdan
Treasurer	Sally Panton	proposed by Diane Perry seconded by Pam Thomas
Secretary	As Pam had resigned as Secretary this position will now be decided among the committee.	

8. Election of Trustees

Clare Allen has decided to resign from the committee and Peter thanked her for all her help during the past years.

Three committee members - Leigh Bozdan, Bernard Jayasundera and Brenda Parsons - were elected as Trustees. This was proposed by Peter Harris and seconded by Clare Allen.

9. Appointment of an Independent Examiner to the accounts

Paul Denby had agreed to continue as the Independent Examiner and this was proposed by Wendy Reeves and seconded by Peter Harris

10. Update on the Hospital by Jonathan Lofthouse

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

Jonathan informed us that Covid is no longer a major problem although there are still a few patients with the disease. The wearing of face masks is no longer necessary but vaccinations are continuing at present in the Glades Shopping Centre which is accessible, central and safe.

There is a possibility that there will be a contract between The Glades and the NHS for outpatient clinics to also be located in the Glades and this would release space in the hospital.

The new car park is open and there are now over 400 additional spaces. Later this year a second MRI scanner will be installed and two CT scanners will be replaced. The refurbishment of wards will continue and 16 high dependency beds will be added which will make a difference to the care and flow of patients. The Paediatric care environment for new babies will also be improved.

A new computer system (Epic) is set to go live on October 5th and this will improve communication between hospital departments and GPs - this is a "closed loop system" which has been used extensively and successfully in America and patients will be able to have access to their own records.

Improvements to the physical environment of the mortuary and post mortem facilities

are also planned. Jonathan told us that over the past year there has been a problem with the landlord due to poor service which has continued to deteriorate and has caused some delays which have affected the new well-being hub. Planning consent was granted in March 2022 for a new Endoscopy space but this has also been delayed and, if not resolved, will be detrimental to patients.

Jonathan finished his talk by telling us that there has been £62 million of additional investment in the PRUH during the past 3½ years. He was happy to answer questions and several were asked:-

People from Kings Charity had been asking local people for funds and would this be detrimental to the Friends of the PRUH? Jonathan replied that constitutionally Kings are able to do this.

A question was asked about the closure of the shop. - This was caused by a water leak and problems with the landlord.

The artwork on the exterior walls of the corridor leading from the day care centre to the main hospital had caused some controversy. - Jonathan said that the artwork was to celebrate diversity throughout the hospital.

Peter then thanked Jonathan and Rob for their continued support.

11. Any Other Business

There was no other business and Peter thanked everyone for coming and invited them to stay for a drink. The meeting closed at 8.30pm