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 17th 2025 at 7.30pm in the Education Centre at the PRUH

1. Welcome

Peter introduced himself and the Trustees and then welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Angela Helleur (Chief Executive PRUH), Iona Joy (Director Grants & Insight), Gail Scott-Spicer (Chief Executive King's Charity), Jo Lloyd (Chair Friends of King's College Hospital), Nikki Greenwood (Director of Finance PRUH) and Ken Evans (Chair Friends of Orpington Hospital).

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Sam Dale (Business Manager), Hannah Willoughby (King's Charity), Sue Simpson, Maggie Brown, Kay Ash.

Peter then asked everyone present to record their name in the Attendance Book.

3. Approval of the Minutes held on June 4th 2024

Before the approval of the minutes, a correction was made in Item 4 (Mr John Wilkins) which should read:- " Mr John Whitley asked about the second MRI scanner."
Diane Perry then proposed that the minutes should be approved. This was seconded by Leigh Bozdan and everyone agreed.

4. Matters Arising

A question was asked about the shop which was still closed after two years (Item 6). Angela Helleur, Chief Executive of the PRUH, replied that, due to PFI (Private Finance Initiative), there had been a number of challenges and complications which had delayed the opening, but she was still hopeful that it would open this year.

10. Address by Angela Helleur, Chief Executive of the PRUH

Item 10 on the agenda was then brought forward so that Angela could leave the meeting. Angela said that she was now in her second year at the PRUH. There had been some improvements but it had been a difficult year with financial pressures and demand on services. Following a complete re-organisation there will no longer be an Executive Team at the PRUH. Professor Clive Kay is Chief Executive of Kings and, from July 1st, Angela will be his Deputy. The PRUH will move into a clinically led organisation with three divisions (Medical, Surgical and Specialities) each led by a doctor. By doing this, our community will be supported in a better way.

5. Address by Gail Scott Spicer, Chief Executive of Kings Charity

Gail explained that King's Charity funds are used for the benefit of all the hospitals in the Trust, including the PRUH, and they work with each hospital to support the patients and families with a variety of fund raising and grant giving. People will still be able to give a legacy or donation specifically for the benefit of the PRUH. Iona acknowledged the support of the Friends of the PRUH and explained how the benefits for the PRUH will continue. There is a Grants Committee for grants over £50,000 and smaller grants over £5,000 have to be approved. Grants for the staff improve staff training and motivation and help to provide better care for the patients. Grants have already supported the Chartwell Unit, Emergency Department and the Chapel. In answer to a question, Iona said that they do not fund anything that should be provided by the NHS. Clare Allen asked if there would be someone available to keep personal contact. Gail replied that inevitably there would probably be less personal contact but they work closely with the hospital volunteers and an annual report is produced each year.
Peter thanked Gail and Iona for giving such a helpful and informative talk.

6. To receive the Chairman's Annual Report

Peter said he is very pleased that we have been able to work with the hospital and have been able to support various projects this year. Sam Dale has been a close point of contact and we are very grateful for her time and energy. Events have included bucket shakes at Christmas, Table Sales at the hospital, stalls at Chelsfield Village Fair, a Charity Evening at Bromley Little Theatre, and friends running in the Brighton Marathon. Along with other donations, these have raised over £20,000 which has enabled us to support many projects at the PRUH which could not be funded by the NHS.

During the past year several Trustees have retired and we have been operating without a Secretary. Our Treasurer is also retiring and, despite our best efforts, we have been unable to replace them. Following long discussions during the year we have reluctantly decided to propose a resolution to close the Charity.

Peter thanked all the Trustees, committee members, volunteer helpers and friends who had helped us to support the hospital during the year and for many years in the past.

7. To receive and approve the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Sally Panton said that copies of the Annual Accounts are available in the room and also on our website. She said that, although fundraising has become more difficult, we have been pleased to spend the funds on various projects for the hospital. We will continue to do this for the rest of the year until we close and any further donations and legacies will be available for the PRUH. She was confident that staff will still be able to make requests and that King's Charity will use our funds for the benefit of the PRUH. There were no questions.

Johnstone Brown proposed that we approve the accounts. This was seconded by Diane Perry and accepted by all those present.

8. To adopt the resolution to close the charity and transfer unutilised assets to King's College Hospital Charity in an account designated for use by the Princess Royal University Hospital.

Peter Harris said that, since 2016, £372,000 has been given to the hospital. There have been many discussions during the year concerning the difficulty of finding a new Secretary and Treasurer and also satisfying legal obligations and the demands of the Charity Commission. Several Trustees were standing down and there had been a reduction in the number of volunteer helpers. Because of this we decided that the only option was to close on December 31st. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Peter then thanked everyone for their support and Sally and Wendy for continuing to act as Trustees until December 31st. There is a plan in place to use our funds responsibly by the end of the year.

9. To appoint an Independent Examiner to the accounts.

Sally Panton said that Finsbury Robinson Ltd have confirmed that they will act as Independent Examiner to the final accounts. Bernard Jayasundera proposed that they be appointed, seconded by Wendy Reeves and passed unanimously.

11. **Any Other Business**

Peter thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and said that our activities for the rest of the year will continue to be recorded on our website. Mary Stirling thanked The Friends for all they had done throughout the years and this was followed by applause.