

READING PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 6th April 2018 at 20:06 hours in St Andrew's Church Hall, Craven Road, Reading.

The AGM had been planned for the group meeting in March 2018 but the meeting was cancelled on account of heavy snow fall. The AGM took place at the group meeting of 6th April 2018 following a talk by Roger Wotton of the 'Tackle' charity.

Present: 34 members (including 8 wives/Partners)

1. Apologies for Absence.

There were seven apologies received.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 3rd March 2017

The minutes had been distributed to all members before the meeting, and were accepted by the majority of the members by a show of hands in favour.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes / Action Points.

There were no points or actions from the minutes.

4. Treasurer's Report.

The 2017 accounts had previously been distributed to all members.

Treasurer Roger Bennett elaborated on the accounts, that showed a deficit over the year of about £600. He gave this summary of the main points:

Income.

The following donations were gratefully received:

- A donation of £500 from 'Tackle'.
- A donation from the family of a former member of £1000.
- £261 from the Woodley & Earley Lions.

Expenditure.

- The annual rental for St Andrews Church Hall was £450, but we have been advised that this may increase during the year.
- We made a donation of £100 to the Medical Detection Dogs charity following a talk by a speaker from that charity.
- Our laptop and projector were replaced as they were quite old and lacked modern functionality and performance.

- We purchased some wireless microphone equipment to enhance our sound capabilities, specifically using a donation that had been received from the Lions organisation.
- The majority of the deficit on the Social events was due to the Group subsidising the events in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Group, by reducing the cost to members to only £10.
- The Insurance entry is principally for public liability insurance that is required for our awareness activities.

No questions arose concerning Roger's report, and the 2017 accounts were approved by the majority of the membership by a show of hands in favour.

5. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman Ted Goodhew said that he would like to thank all of the members of the Committee, that meets every six weeks or so. He then continued with his report as follows:

"Since the last AGM Steven Murphy and Des D'Arcy have resigned. Steve gave a number of years as a very efficient Secretary and Des, in his spell as 'Meet and Greet', proved an ideal personality for the task but unfortunately could not continue. Lacking ready volunteers to take over as Secretary led to Steve Parkinson, writer of the excellent Pharos Newsletter, volunteering to take over. He has, of course, done this very well and we are all very grateful to him, but we need to elect a Secretary.

We have also had the pleasure – and good fortune – to welcome back to the committee Steve Allen and Roger Bennett. Both have made an enormous contribution over the past year. Steve's main responsibility has been to take on the awareness portfolio and he has worked very well on this, with great help from Chris Addison. In addition Steve makes a great contribution through his sheer knowledge and contacts and this is valued greatly. Roger has made a great Treasurer as well as being a very good committee man, making sure we do everything as it should be done. We have been lucky that he agreed to return to the committee and he provides a very good link with the past, as well as the future of the group.

Also making a major contribution has been Chris Webb. He has done a superb job as our webmaster and, in a world of increasing emphasis on data protection, he has led our discussions in this area, as well as providing statistical evidence on matters like attendance, contacts on the web-site etc.

Chris Addison I have already mentioned. Chris is a great support and he has worked very hard on research into the best kind of equipment we need- and can afford – to promote our cause.

We have also been lucky to have Graham Cook back on the committee, but he cannot be here tonight. Another ex-chairman, he has taken on responsibility for the social events organised during the year, and all of us have benefitted from that.

Also much appreciated is the work of Steve Smyth, very supportive of all activities and a willing photographer.

Also vital to us is Beverley Skelton. Originally our link to the hospital, she has moved to a job elsewhere, yet she has maintained her contacts and has willingly kept providing speakers for our meetings. The success of our meetings - the basis of what we do - is very much down to her.

Finally, a big thank you to my wife who has taken on responsibility for tea/ coffee and refreshments at our meetings, often helped by Sue Parkinson. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

This is a committee of talent, commitment – and very knowledgeable. We need to keep renewing the membership and are very pleased to welcome Richard Brown and Richard Joyes as new members. They have already been to committee meetings and we look forward to working with them over the coming year.

If anyone would like to join the committee we would be very happy to welcome you".

6. Amendments to the Constitution.

A sub-committee was formed recently to address the changes needed to our Constitution, the members being Roger Bennett, Ted Goodhew, Richard Joyes and Chris Webb. The amended Constitution had been reviewed by the full committee and then distributed to all members along with a precis of the changes. The amended version was approved by the majority of the members by a show of hands in favour.

7. Election of new & existing Committee Members.

Four of the committee had been previously co-opted, and volunteered to stand as full committee members. These members are Roger Bennett, Steve Allen, Richard Brown and Richard Joyes. They were elected to the committee by the majority of members by a show of hands in favour.

8. Any Other Business.

Thanks were expressed to Ted Goodhew for his two years service as Chairman.

9. Date of next AGM.

The proposed date of the next AGM is the 1st March 2019.

The Chairman closed the Annual General Meeting at 20:23.

Chairman.....

Date