

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF HELSTON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Minutes of 62nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE HOSPITAL

ON MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2017

Present : Captain D.T.P. Stembridge, Ronnie Williams C.C., Matron Lynda Mc Hale, 13 Committee Members and 5 members and friends

1. **Dr Ken Whittle welcomed everyone to the Meeting.** Thanking members for coming along and wishing them an enjoyable afternoon and apologized for the low numbers because it coincided with the Fat Stock Show.
2. **Apologies:** The Mayor Gillian Geer, Philip Confue (Chief Executive of the Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust), Candy Baker (Chairman of the CIOS LOF), Chris Roberts, Derek Thomas MP, Inspector Thompsons, Anne Russell, Mrs E Harris, Joy Gunter, Debbie Osborne, Maggie Wherry, Paul Phillips, Jean Simmonds, Sandy Bartlett, Frieda Curnow and Tiffany Truscott.
3. **Minutes of the 61st Annual General Meeting** had already been circulated to members and put on the website, Ken asked for their adoption
Proposed Ian Wort, seconded Barbara Crabb AGREED
4. **Matters Arising:** Ronnie said he had not had a copy of last year's Minutes and perhaps this could be addressed.
5. **Chairman's Report:**

Jo welcomed everyone to the 62nd Annual General Meeting . Once again we have had a very busy year raising money through the sponsorship of Sainsbury's fulfilling the requests for equipment from the Hospital. We started with the Wine and Cheese Evening with a talk by John Strike on "Old Porthleven and Cornish Shipwrecks". His father's old photographs were fascinating and very good quality. We had a Raffle in store on Sainsbury's busiest weekend in December. The Kerrier Male Voice Choir performed for the early evening shoppers – which unfortunately clashed with the final of "Strictly" as I was informed by the Choir Leader. Sainsbury's provided the prizes and nibbles. Our big event was a Review performed by 3 retired G.P.s called Medical Maelstrom. We filled the Old Cattle Market', fed and watered everyone and made lots of money. Such a talented trio and so very funny, passionate about their music. The Car Boot Sale on Easter Sunday morning was another success for us. Sainsbury's donated the entry money and the Manager, Mr Blackburn, delivered Easter Eggs to the patients with the help of the Easter Bunny. Joy Michell arranged for Easter Cards to be made by the Breage School Children.

In May we were visited by Paul Marston, Head D.N. at the Community Hospital. He informed us of a Leg Treatment Service to be set up at the Hospital for patients who suffer

with leg ulcers. The idea is that patients come along this clinic to have treatment, socialize with each other which gives them confidence to get out and become more involved in making decisions about their own treatment. I have been informed this service has actually started.

We had our Fete in July and the sun was shining. It was opened by our Mayor Gillian Geer and we had Radio Cornwall interviewing us regarding the purchase of new beds, bedside cabinets and tables. These had been requested by Matron as the old beds were unfit for purpose – they had been condemned.

Our Volunteer gardener “Chuck” Williams comes to the Hospital daily and seems to be able to turn his hand to anything that needs attention, he also does a good job of putting on smile on the faces of the patients and staff.

The Committee come in to do a swoop on the garden and we were helped this October by the Helston/Lizard Rotary Club as part of their Community Service. We were very grateful. There has been a separate grant made available from the Commissioning Group to provide additional services being offered through the Hospital. It will be used to revamp the Outpatients Waiting room and coffee shop. It will be a showcase for lots of activities that are going on in and around Helston that people may not be aware of.

This year we said ‘goodbye’ to Margaret Drew and a welcome ‘hello’ to Maggie Wherry who joined us.

We finished our association with Sainsbury’s in June and felt very grateful for the experience. It had been beneficial to us not just in raising more money for the hospital but it proved to us that we could do more than we thought we could. I would like to thank the Committee for all their hard work this year. To Sue and Wendy for their efficiency in what they do and for keeping me on track. I would like to thank Audrey Johns who organizes the flower rota and wish her all the best as she is in Penzance Hospital following a fall over 2 weeks ago. I would also like to thank Barbara and her team for organizing the goodies for the tea at the Fete and of course today. Thank you Ken for your support and for your generosity of your time. I look forward to my third and last year of Office. Thank you. Jo.

6. **Treasurer’s Report:**

Sue Atkins gave the following report for the year ended 31 July 2017

The Treasurer reported our Income totalled £17391 comprising of Fundraising activities Annual Fete £1226; AGM Stall £59; Cheese and Wine Evening £696; Medical Maelstrom Concert £2579; Mince pie and Mulled Wine evening at Sainsbury’s £540; Donations in lieu of flowers £3395; Pippa Englefield Jazz Evening £2550; The Cellar shop Porthleven £250; Breage Snooker Club evening £400; True and Faithful Masonic Lodge 318 £262; Masonic Eagle Lodge 9472 (Perranporth) Ladies Night £300; Nurses Sponsored walk £1609; Nurses Godolphin Club Disco £743; Heather Gilbert sponsored walk £330; Collection tins at Sainsbury’s £777. Raffle and collection at Sainsbury’s 6th and 7th August £402; other donations £507; Interest on reserves £546; Subscriptions £220 with those for the current year now falling due.

Expenditure for the direct benefit of the Hospital totalled £20964 made up as follows Arjo Standing aid £5889; 4 x Dynamaps £4781; 2 x Phase 3 Mattresses with pumps £3100; Doppler Machine £2478; 2 x Cosi chairs £1800; INR Machine £812; Maintenance of the

Aquarium in Outpatients Waiting room £546; Maintenance of Sensory Garden £525 Rondish Bed Mat Kit £507; Christmas monies for patients and Table decorations £380, Bench with secure Storage Box for Sensory Garden £146. Other expenditure included the annual subscription to Attend (our National Association) printing, advertising and sundry items amounting to £1195.

The total expenditure of £22159 against receipts for the year of £17391, produced an excess of expenditure over income of £4768, which reduced our reserves to £113579, and include £265 restricted funds bought forward from previous years to be used for the Jack Johns Suite. At the end of our financial year, provisions of £29900 were made to provide various items for the Hospital. Copy of the accounts is available on request. This concludes the Report for another successful year, for adoption. Sue Atkins – Hon Treasurer.

Ken asked if it were the wish this report was adopted.

Proposed Penny Truscott, Seconded Moira Dixon AGREED

Ronnie Williams asked it be Minuted that he would like to thank Sue for the degree of excellence in the way she had presented her Report.

7. Captain D.P.T. Stembridge was welcomed to the meeting by Ken Whittle and asked to say a few words.

Captain Stembridge said he was asked to give a brief history of his background. Born in Portsmouth and brought up in North Somerset. On leaving school he had an apprenticeship in Avonmouth and decided to join the Navy in 1990. After training on Sea Harriers saw active service in Bosnia and Somalia, had 3 years in USA and California. Worked in the Ministry of Defence in London and became selected for Commander at Culdrose.

Culdrose is a large base employing over 3000 civilians and its primary roles are as follows:

- a. Primary Role is Nuclear Deterrent. The base has a 24 hour watch against such an attack.
- b. Counter –Terrorism – There are forces ready to be deployed anywhere at any time.
- c. Aircraft Carriers The two new aircraft carriers of 6.2 billion pounds will be manned by personnel trained at Culdrose from the kitchen chefs to the mechanics, pilots and Officers. All the armed Forces use Culdrose for their training and 5000 people are trained at Culdrose every year. There are 9 Squadrons at Culdrose from Helicopter, Fixed wing, Jets, Firefighters, Ante Submarine Warfare and Culdrose still maintain a base in Prestwich.

There will be an exercise taking place at Culdrose from 13 November until 23 November when there will be flying 24 hours a day. The primary purpose of this exercise is to ensure the Navy can reach and protect our Carriers. Our Merlin Helicopters are one of the best in the World and we are ready for whatever comes.

Captain said they missed the Search and Rescue side of Culdrose because it brought them into contact with the community but it does give them more time to concentrate on their primary roles at Culdrose.

The Navy is still recruiting and recruitment is keeping pace with demand.

As a matter of interest Culdrose has interacted with over 200,000 people since the beginning of the year!

Ronnie Williams said he would like to take this opportunity of thanking Captain Stembridge for the support Culdrose gives to the local community.

Ken thanked Captain Stembridge for giving up his time and coming along to talk to us which has been so interesting.

8. Election of Committee Members:

Ken said the Committee would like to Elect Mrs Maggie Wherry onto the Committee

Proposed Joy Michell Seconded Heather Gilbert AGREED

Member retiring by rotation and willing to be re-elected Moira Dixon

Proposed Barbara Crabb Seconded Ian Wort AGREED

9. Election of Officers:

The committee is proposing the following be re-elected

Chairman Jo Coward

Vice Chairman Heather Gilbert

Treasurer Sue Atkins

Secretary Wendy Wallis

Assist Secretary Jenny Mann

Publicity Officer Heather Gilbert

Proposed Ian Wort Seconded Penny Truscott AGREED

10. Appointment of President 2017 to 2018 – Mrs Jo Coward

Jo took the chair and proposed Dr Ken Whittle on behalf of the Committee to continue as President for the year 2017 – 2018

Proposed Barbara Crabb Seconded Heather Gilbert AGREED

11. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiners

Ken said the Committee proposed Linda Dunford of Kitchen & Brown continues in this role.

Proposed Sue Atkins Seconded Ivan Perry AGREED

12. Appointment of Bankers

Messrs Barclays Bank plc –

Proposed Sue Atkins Seconded Ivan Perry AGREED

13. Thanks from the Hospital – Matron Linda McHale

Linda said we have had another busy year and fully supported by the League of friends. Jo spoke briefly about the proposed HUB at the Hospital which will host collective services where patients can get information on all services available from medical to community services which may be of interest. This is in its development stage at the moment and we have some Grants available to refurbish this area. Linda thanked the League of Friends for all their support and looked forward to working with them in the future. There had been an inspection at the Hospital but this had not been published as yet but felt she could work

with her staff to provide the best service to patients and would take on board any recommendations made in the Report.

14. **Any other Business:**

Ivan Perry said he felt it was cold today in the Day Hospital. Linda apologized and said the heating had broken down and was being repaired and would soon be up and running. The patients had been given additional heaters.

Ivan also said he felt the garden in the front of the Hospital needed weeding. Ken said this was not the responsibility of the League of Friends but the NHS Property Management Company. The LOF members do maintain on a voluntary basis the Sensory Garden and the Internal area and try to do some weeding outside when there is time. All volunteers welcome!!

15. **Closure of the Meeting -**

There being no further business Ken declared the meeting closed at 3.20 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming along this afternoon.

Signed Chairman

Date