

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF HELSTON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Minutes of 63rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE HOSPITAL

ON MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2018

Present: Mr Clive Addington from Blood Bikers our Speaker, Derek Thomas M.P. Deputy Mayor Councillor Tim Grattan-Kane, Pat Liddicoat representing the Volunteer group at the Hospital, Adam Riddel and Don Windsor representing True and Faithful 318 Lodge, Councillor Ronnie Williams, guests, friends and Committee Members. There were 38 present including 12 Committee Members.

1. **Dr Ken Whittle.** Ken Welcomed everyone to the meeting including the Deputy Mayor and said Matron was not well and asked if she could speak first and disappear back to her bed!
2. **Apologies:** The Mayor of Helston Councillor John Martin, Councillor Gillian Geer, Chris Roberts Cornwall and IOS League of Friends, Ann Ferris, Moira Dixon, Maggie Wherry, Sandy Bartlett, Audrey Johns, Crete Pooley, Ruby Davis, Penny Whittle.
3. **Minutes of the 62nd 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 would like it corrected that he was not a County Councillor, merely a Councillor.
5. **Matron Lynda McHale**

Lynda welcomed everyone to the Hospital and apologized for having to leave again but was not well and Trudy Addington the new Hospital Sister would be on hand for the rest of the afternoon. We have had a good year. We have had our ups and downs but we are still here. The future is looking more positive for the Hospital. The staff have worked very hard as normal. We have reduced our average long stay to 18 days. Our aim is to get the patients home as soon as possible. The League of Friends have continued to work hard to raise money for this hospital and bought us lots of useful equipment this year. We are waiting for 10 electric beds which should arrive shortly. Patients' needs are changing and to have electric beds will be a great asset not only to us but for the patients. "The Singing Seagulls" came to sing to the patients last week and presented us with a cheque for £2,500 and we have ordered another bed and bedside locker with this money. May I take this opportunity of thanking the LOF for all their support.

6. **Chairman's Report:**

Jo welcomed everyone to the 63rd Annual General Meeting. We have had a quieter this year compared to the last 2 years. Having said that we did start off with calling an Extra-

ordinary meeting just after last year's AGM. Matron wanted to give us more information about plans for the H.U.B. in the Hospital, developing the unit for Primary Care. The G.P.s want to run Clinics from the Hospital – at first they will do this out of hours and at the weekend – but they hope to extend this service in the future. The Waiting area and Entrance hallway would be used to house computers for patients to access the internet and any services available in the area. We were concerned they were going to ask us to help fund this enterprise, but N.H.S. England has agreed to provide a Grant for the transformation of this area of the Hospital.

We had various events throughout the year such as our Coffee Morning and Annual Summer Fete. The Nurses held their Annual Spring Walk to Porthleven. A few organisations have kindly raised money for us, such as a Pub Quiz at the Halzephron and Open Garden with Cream Teas. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall gave us a generous donation as did the Choir "The Singing Seagulls, who also came and performed beautifully for the patients and staff. We have been spending a lot of money this year as Sue will tell you. Joy Michell arranged for the Easter Cards to be made by Breage School Children and were handed out with Easter Eggs we provided. Also at Christmas we provide money for Christmas presents which 2 nurses thoughtfully purchased and are much appreciated by the Patients. Chuck is still beaver away in the garden and is always adding colour and interest where he can. Helston/Lizard Rotary have come when we have asked for help with the front borders. We have financed a group of Volunteers who provide company, games or cards for the appropriate patients.

We were informed a few months ago that the Hospital was losing the local G.P. Cover. Since then they have been able to employ part time Doctors to cover the care of the patients and it is all working well. Unfortunately we lost Audrey Johns from the Committee, she felt she had done her time after 30 years. We miss her sense of humour and her army of friends she could call upon for support. Anne Russell has taken over Audrey's job of organizing the volunteers who do the flower arrangements in the Entrance Hall. This year we welcomed 3 new members Sally Robinson, Helen Nelson and a very new member Suzanne Sampson. This is my last AGM as Chairman and I would like to say it has been an honour to serve in this position especially with the support of such professionals with Wendy as Secretary, Sue as Treasurer and Ken as President.

I would like to close this report by thanking my Committee for their support, the Staff of this wonderful Hospital for their kindness and Care they give their patients and it makes me proud to be associated with them.

I wish Heather, my successor, all the best and I hope she enjoys it as much as I have. Thank you. Jo Coward.

Proposed by Ian Wort and Seconded Penny Truscott. AGREED

Ken thanked Jo for all her hard work as Chairman over the last three years and presented her with a bouquet from the Committee.

7. Treasurer's Report:

Sue Atkins gave the following report for the year ended 31 July 2018

The Treasurer reported our Income totalled £14474 comprising of Fundraising activities Annual Fete £1674; AGM Raffle £48; Jo Cowards Coffee Morning £583; late donation re 2017 Fete £100; Donations in lieu of flowers £4936; Collection tins at Sainsbury 20 April to end of their collection year £535; Helston/Lizard Rotary Club £100; Sainsbury 5p Carrier bag monies £2171; Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall £500; Yorkshire Building Society Charitable donation applied for by Nicola Futtit £1795; Kerrier Male Choice £250; Halzephron Inn Quiz Night £220; Nurses Sponsored Walk and Tea Party £536; Aquarium Collection tin £58; Other Donations £150; Interest on reserves £613; Subscriptions £205 with those for the current year now falling due.

Expenditure for the direct benefit of the Hospital totalled £17796 made up as follows 18 Bedside cabinets £10495; Sabina Hoist £2359; Careflex Hydrotilt Chair £2009; 6 Bedside Tables £1696; Maintenance of the Aquarium in Outpatients Waiting Room £609; Christmas monies for Patients £299; Maintenance of Sensory Garden £249; Easter Eggs for patients £80.

Other expenditure included the annual subscription to Attend (our National Association), printing, advertising and sundry items amounting to £716. Total expenditure of £18512 against receipts for the year of £14474, produced an excess of expenditure over income of £4038, which reduced our reserved to £109541, and includes £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 £14027 were made to provide various items for the Hospital. Should anyone require a copy of the accounts, these can be made available on request.

This concludes the Report for another successful year for adoption. Sue Atkins, Treasurer.

Proposed Barbara Crabb , Seconded Ivan Perry AGREED

Ken thanked Sue from the Chair for her excellent work at Treasurer.

8. Election of Committee Members:

Ken said the Committee would like to elect Helen Nelson, Sally Robinson and Suzanne Sampson onto the Committee

Proposed Anne Russell Seconded Heather Gilbert AGREED

Member retiring by rotation and willing to be re-elected Sue Atkins, Sandy Bartlett, Jo Coward, Barbara Crabb, Barbara Gales, Heather Gilbert, Joy Michell, Anne Russell.

Proposed Ian Wort Seconded Penny Truscott AGREED

9. **Election of Officers:**

The committee is proposing the following be re-elected

Chairman	Heather Gilbert	Seconded Joy Michell	AGREED
Vice Chairman	Ann Ferris	Seconded Anne Russell	AGREED
Treasurer	Sue Atkins	Seconded Barbara Crabb	AGREED
Secretary	Wendy Wallis	Seconded Heather Gilbert	AGREED
Assist Secretary	Jenny Mann	Seconded Penny Truscott	AGREED
Publicity Officer	Heather Gilbert	Seconded Barbara Crabb	AGREED

10. **Appointment of President 2018 to 2019 – Mrs Jo Coward**

Jo took the chair and proposed Dr Ken Whittle on behalf of the Committee to continue as President for the year 2018 – 2019

Proposed The Committee Seconded Anne Russell 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 Barbara Crabb AGREED

12. **Appointment of Bankers**

Messrs Barclays Bank plc – Proposed Ivan Perry Seconded Heather Gilbert AGREED

13. **Any other Business:**

Ivan Perry said in view of the recent thefts in the area of collection tins he asked us not to leave any Collecting tins unsupervised.

Ken said it was difficult to park today and asked Trudy to look into the scaffolding in the car park now blocking of 9 parking bays. This has been there for some time and could be moved to allow parking in these bays.

14. **Councilor Tim Grattan-Kane, Deputy Mayor**

Thanked members for coming along this afternoon. It is 100 years since the End of the First World War and this Hospital was built at the end of the First World War by the people of Helston. There was much public concern when the Doctors withdrew their services. I am glad we got in touch with the NHS about the Hospital and I am pleased to say the 24 beds are now up and running again now there is part time Doctor Cover at the Hospital. The Committee must be thanked for their hard work and fundraising which does make a difference to the patients at the Hospital.

Ken thanked Tim for his kind words and for the Civic support given to the Hospital which is very much appreciated.

15. **Speaker – Clive Addington “Blood Bikers”**

Clive said he would like to say “Our Blood Bikers” because without the public support there would be no Blood Bikers. The Charity runs purely on donations from the Public. There is no funding from the NHS. They offer an out of hour’s service to the hospitals from 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. - weekends and Bank Holidays and carry items the NHS consider to be urgent. There are 80 volunteers working through the County men and ladies. No one can ride a bike until they have done a specific bike test. Not all volunteers ride the bikes, we need coordinators and website designers etc. There are no offices or garages, everyone works from their own homes. The Bikers carry blood, samples to be taken to Treliske, medication, notes, medical equipment and breast milk etc. We are called out about 200 times a month. No one gets paid for their work and the money raised is used for maintenance, petrol, and all bikes are purchased by the Charity.

Ivan asked if they have applied for Grant. Clive said they have secured a grant from Aviva. The Masonic Lodges are very supportive and in fact they have purchased a brand new bike for the first time with their help.

Barbara Crabb asked if all the Country is covered by the “Blood Bikers”. Clive said most of the Country is now covered but all Counties run their own service.

Ken thanked Clive for an interesting talk and thanked everyone for coming including the late arrivals of Derek Thomas and Paul Hendy who he was so pleased to see come along.

There being no further business Ken declared the meeting closed at 3.30 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming along this afternoon.

Signed Chairman

Date



Sue Atkins, Wendy Wallis, Dr Ken Whittle,
Clive Addington, Jo Coward and
Hospital Sister Trudy Addington