

THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF ALDEBURGH AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL (Charity No 247890)
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3rd MAY 2017
AT 2.30PM IN THE PARISH CHURCH HALL

Introduction:

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, the Chairman welcomed Neill Moloney, the Managing Director of Ipswich Hospital. Neill explained the organisational structure and the link between Ipswich and Colchester Hospitals. He talked about his new role as Managing Director. His talk centred on an explanation of current strategy the 'sustainable transformation plan' or STP in which proposals for integrated care in East and West Suffolk and North East Essex are set out. In doing this he explained that the aim is a more joined-up approach between acute community and social care in which community hospitals will play an important role.

The Chairman then introduced Michelle Fletcher, who is the new Modern Matron at Aldeburgh Hospital. Michelle has now been in post for one year and during that time has introduced a new more flexible staff rota system which has been very successful; they now have 7 staff nurses and have only two positions left to fill. She explained that although different sections of staff report to several different bodies they work as one team and present a united and caring front to patients. The bed base is now permanently at 20 and they hope it will rise further. Michelle stressed that although they have a close relation with Ipswich Hospital they are all fiercely protective of their status as a community hospital and she described several community links namely the recent initiative with the local Primary School where the children are made aware of dementia whilst also learning about good nutrition.

AGM

The President Jean Flick took the chair and the formal meeting commenced at 3.20 pm.

1. Apologies

These were received from a number of people including B. Mellor, M. Haste, V. Hitchcock and J and E Tipping.

2. Minutes

Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 4th May 2016 were adopted and unanimously approved and signed, with Marion Wilton and Val Simper proposing and seconding.

3. Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Michael Bone, presented the Accounts, copies of which had been given to all present. The accounts have been reviewed by Francis Clarks of Ipswich and will be presented to the Charities Commission. The Treasurer thanked everyone who had made donations and reported on the success of the Garden Party and the Coffee Morning and Collection Boxes (thanks to Nicky Gray). He emphasised the value of donations and cited the example of one couple grateful for the time their granddaughter had spent in the Renal Unit donated a considerable sum from their Golden Wedding Celebration. Again this year he commented on the very low interest rates. The Friends have continued to financially support the Day Centre, the Garden and the Parish Nursing Scheme. Future expenditure includes the possible purchase of a new X-Ray machine and a major project for the Garden is planned.

Marion Wilton proposed that the Accounts be accepted and Elizabeth Matthias seconded this. The Accounts were approved unanimously.

5. Election of examiner of the accounts

The Treasurer recommended that Francis Clarks of Ipswich should continue to audit the accounts. Val Simper proposed this and Frances Paul seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

6. Chairman's Report

This report had been circulated to all members of the L of F with the Agenda of the AGM. The Chairman reported that it has been a year of stability for the Hospital which is able to put the problems of SERCO behind it. He explained that the League of Friends has pledged financial support for the publishing of a Health and Care Directory, now available at local surgeries and he thanked Pauline Quinn for her efforts in this new initiative. The Book Trolley has been reinstated at the Hospital and he appealed for donations of magazines. He explained the situation re. the X-Ray machine and his efforts to get a commitment from Ipswich Hospital and the Clinical Commission Group before committing League of Friends' funds to its replacement. Tony explained the hopes for the back garden project and thanked both the committee and all garden and other volunteers.

The audience were shown a picture of the splendid bird table now in situ which has been presented to Jean Flick on the occasion of her retirement as President. Tony spoke warmly about Jean's longstanding commitment to L of F and of her love and knowledge of the Hospital. He presented her with some bird seed and Mike Bone presented a bouquet on behalf of the Friends.

7. Election of the Committee for the year 2016/17

Jean Flick thanked Anne Parsons (not present) as she is retiring from the Committee although remaining as Project Manager for the Garden. Graham Dawson and Sue Donald stood for election as new members. Tony Bone stood for election as the new President, Mair Dawson as the new Chairman and Graham Dawson as the new Secretary. These posts were proposed and seconded by Val Simper and Marion Wilton and were approved unanimously. Jean thanked everyone for her gifts then the committee and the members of the League of Friends for their support over the years.

8. Any Other Business

The Chairman reminded people to put the dates for the Garden Party and the Coffee Morning into their diaries. He said that extra help from volunteers would be appreciated at these events. He thanked the committee for all their hard work and welcomed the new members.

Date of Next Meeting The next AGM will be held on 2nd May 2018.

The President closed the formal AGM at 3.50pm.