

MINUTES OF ALICE HOUSE HOSPICE'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 6.00 P.M. IN ALICE HOUSE HOSPICE, ALICE HOUSE, WELLS AVENUE, HARTLEPOOL, TS24 9DA

PRESENT

Trustees	Members	Staff
Ainslie, Jim Bowes, Peter Brown, Angela Chacko, Thomas Jones, Lorna Priestman, Ray Regan, Joanne		Britten, Sandra Burrell, Kay Gibson, Karen Haggan, Nicola Hildreth, Greg

1.0 APOLOGIES

These were received from:

Trustees	Members	Staff
Druce, James	Allison, David Allison, Lyn Charlton, Keith Coull, Margaret Lindridge, Norman Niland, Honor Newbury, George Rumney, Kay Welch, Freda Wrenn, Margaret	

2.0 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (01 December 2022)

The minutes were **ACCEPTED** and **SIGNED** as a true record.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chief Executive Operational reported that there were no other matters arising.

4.0 REAPPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

4.1 Thomas Chacko

The following Director stood forward for reappointment:

- Thomas Chacko

RESOLUTION: The reappointment of Thomas Chacko as a Director was **APPROVED**.

5.0 **REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OPERATIONAL AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE NON-OPERATIONAL**

5.1 **Challenges 2022/2023**

The Chief Executive Non-Operational reported on the following challenges during 2022/23:

Change in Leadership

- Former Chief Executive left 07 September 2023.
- Appointment of Co-Chief Executives to give stability and continuity to the Hospice at time of significant financial challenges.
- Costs savings as both Co-Chief Executives had retained their original substantive duties as well as absorbing the CEO role.

Fundraising

- Continued impact of COVID-19.
- Cost of living crisis, increased operating costs.

Shops

- Reduction in donated goods.
- Increased rental/utility costs.
- Lack of Volunteers.

Lottery

- Declining membership.

Grants/Trusts

- Competition.

Long Term Care Unit

- Unsustainable operating costs.
- Restrictions of Continuing Healthcare funding only covering 50% of costs.
- Started consultations with staff and service users to close in March 2023.

Community Bereavement Service

- Heavily utilised with no funding – closed December 2022.
- Re-opened May 2023 with grant funding from the Masonic Charitable Foundation managed by Hospice UK.

VR Studio

- End of Kickstart Scheme.
- Cost of living crisis affecting disposable income.

CQC

- Last inspection March 2015.
- New single assessment framework being introduced.

5.2 **Achievements 2022/2023**

The Chief Executive Non-Operational reported on the following achievements during 2022/23:

- £226,000 funding for 2 Emergency End of Life Beds.
- £100,000 funding NHS Staff Wellbeing Services.
- £70,000 over 2 years from the Musgrave Family Trust for Children's Bereavement Service.
- £286,756 additional funding for Stockton patients during the temporary closure and subsequent restrictions on Butterwick Hospice.

5.3 **Strategic & Collaborative Working**

The Chief Executive Operational reported on the following strategic and collaborative working during 2022/23:

Petitioning Parliament with Jill Mortimer MP

- Tees Valley Hospice Chief Executives visited Parliament in January 2023 which resulted in further meetings regarding the funding challenges faced by the Hospice with Sam Allen (Chief Executive, North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board) and Helen Whately (Minister of State in the Department of Health & Social Care).
- Helping hospices to remain high on the Government's agenda.

North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (including Task & Finish Groups)

- NHS Tees Valley Place ICB's 'Adult Palliative & End of Life Care Strategy' – historic disparity in the way that service providers are funded, reflective of the historic footprints of Clinical Commissioning Groups.
- Member of Task & Finish Groups which had been established to make recommendations to the ICB's Executive Committee on Service Specification, Contracting & Finance, Education & Training, Information & Communication).

Hospices North East & North Cumbria Collaborative (including Working Groups)

- 12 independent hospices.
- Joined up working and sharing best practice.

North Tees & Hartlepool Education Alliance

- Training in care homes to reduce A&E admissions.

Hartlepool Economic & Business Forum

- Linking in with local businesses.

5.4 **Plans for 2023/24**

The Chief Executive Operational reported on the following plans for 2022/23:

- Continued funding for 2 Emergency End of Life Beds.
- Continued funding for NHS Staff Wellbeing Services.
- Continued funding for Stockton patients whilst Butterwick remained under CQC restrictions.
- Funding/grants for Children's Bereavement Service.
- Funding/grants for Community Bereavement Service.
- Closure of Long Term Care Unit and future uses.
- Identifying grant funding for Hospice at Home model and Virtual Wards.
- Pay award review.

5.0 **QUESTIONS**

With regard to the grant funding received from the Masonic Charitable Foundation for the Community Bereavement Service, Peter Bowers enquired if the Hospice had any contact with John Thompson, the Provincial Grand Master for the Province of Durham and offered to facilitate an introduction with a view to arranging an invite to visit the Hospice.

6.0 **ANY OTHER NOTIFIED BUSINESS**

There was no other notified business.