



MINUTES of the 37th Friends of East Surrey Hospital AGM held on 20th September 2023 at 5:30pm in the PGEC Post Graduate Education Centre, Maple House, East Surrey Hospital, Canada Drive, Redhill.

Present:

Jo Sadler (JS)	Chair
Stephen Otterman (SO)	Treasurer
Tarn Shannon (TS)	Secretary
Sue Brankin (SB)	
Roy Davies (RD)	
Sere Davoudi (SD)	
Margaret Lydon (ML)	
Denise Moseling (DM)	
Lisa Perowne (LP)	
Jackie Redman (JR)	

Guest from the Surrey & Sussex Healthcare Trust:
Ed Cetti (EC) (Medical Director)

Attendees:
16 Shop volunteers
1 Lifetime Member

The meeting opened at 5:34pm.

Item Title

1. **WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR**

JS welcomed EC from the Chief Executive Team. He gave a talk to all present.

EC explained that the hospital is still in the 'recovery stage' from the pandemic which has been far reaching and will still take years to recover from especially regarding waiting lists (along with other Trusts in the country).

Patients arriving in the emergency department are more unwell and need more long term care.

Discharging patients is also a problem. The hospital are working on improving the process to get patients home with the best independence possible.

East Surrey has a fully recruited nursing staff. Recruiting internationally has been a big success along an improved numbers locally.

The NHS is challenged financially, we now have a set income and a deficit with huge pressures on cutting costs.

Two new single storey wards are to open in the next three weeks which are to be intermediate wards (named Surrey and Sussex) with 60 new beds along with day rooms and a gym. This will help the movement of patients in the hospital allowing better access to the stroke unit etc.

Car parking is now better with staff, patients and visitors all benefiting.

The Maternity unit had a CQC inspection last week with some very positive initial feedback. The final report will be available in 1-2 weeks.

The hospital is using Virtual Wards where community teams visit patients at home to monitor their recovery. These patients would otherwise be in hospital.

The cardiac unit is running at full capacity with more patients than ever before.

The cancer waiting list is right down.

JR asked about the benefits of the new Coffee Shop against getting our original space back. EC explained that one of the biggest challenges in the hospital is competing for inside space.

EC was asked if the hospital had a problem with RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete). A repeat survey had recently been carried out and it confirmed the hospital has no RAAC.

SO asked about the chances of catching a disease from the hospital. EC said the risks were low with approx. 1:1,000 chance of getting COVID and 1:100 chance of getting a clot/infection.

EC was asked how much the recent strikes had affected the hospital. The hospital had done huge amounts of planning and staff had been volunteering to step up. At any one time 20-25% had chosen to strike.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from:

- Richard Shaw (Chair at Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust)
- Andrew Bickerdike (SASH Charity Manager)
- Joy Matthews (Volunteers' Manager at East Surrey Hospital SASH)
- Sue Woodall (SW) (Trustee)
- 16 shop volunteers
- 36 Lifetime Members

3. **MINUTES OF THE 36TH AGM (7TH SEPTEMBER 2022)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2022 were approved and signed by JS.

4. **CHAIR TO PRESENT THE ANNUAL REPORT**

JS spoke about the Christmas Stalls which were well received and appreciated.

As the shop was closed and The Friends had low visibility, very few grant applications were submitted. Looking to the future, the Trust have allocated £250,000 to build a new Coffee Shop. The head of Estates (Paul Simpson) has confirmed that the works have been put out to tender. Being in a separate building (located on the East Entrance island) will protect our trading income. The Friends will be able to repay the hospital quite quickly looking at our past income/profits. The whole area will be a hub of activity including a charity shop (run by Chief Nurse Paula Tucker), greengrocer and coffee van. Seating will be available inside and out, with public toilets and a volunteer toilet. The works to start this financial year.

JS thanked:

- all the volunteers
- Ruth Baker (Infection Control team) to giving back the space to re-open
- Paul Simpson (Chief Financial Officer and Head of Estates/Facilities & Deputy Chief Executive) for being a driving force to re-open in the current space and moving forward with the new build
- Charlotte Rowbotham (Patient and Public Engagement Lead) for driving the process forward
- Joy Matthews/Andrew Bickerdike for providing useful contacts and all their help

JS reported that Richard Burford (RB), our former Chair, died in March and Alison Stagg (former Trustee and Shop Manager) died in February.

5. **TREASURERS TO PRESENT THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS**

SO began by saying little activity had taken place. He thanked all those who helped raise the money.

SO spoke about RB as a tremendous and tireless worker who will be sorely missed. He has left a great legacy with the strength of the new Trustees coming on board.

DM proposed to accept the audited accounts, with ML seconding the proposal.

It was a unanimous vote in the room to pass the accounts.

6. **THE ELECTION OF THE AUDITOR**

JS proposed that Cheeld Wheeler & Co (Redhill Chambers, 2d High Street, Redhill, RH1 1RJ) be re-appointed as the auditors, with RD seconding the proposal. This was unanimously agreed.

7. **THE ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS**

SW was due to retire and, prior to the meeting, had offered herself up for re-election.

Lis Atkinson acted as a proposer and DM as a seconder.

Three new Trustees for the Committee were approved:

- SD (Marketing/Website) was proposed by JS and seconded by Lindsay Reiners
- DM (Gardens) was proposed by JR and seconded by TS
- LP (Coffee Shop rota and Volunteers) was proposed by TS and seconded by SD

SO AND ML stepped down from the Committee. ML was presented with a gift from the Trustees as a token of their appreciation. (SO has previously been given a leaving gift.)

8. **APPOINTMENT OF NEW TREASURER**

SB offered herself to become the new Treasurer.

Satinder Madan acted as the proposer with SO acting as a seconder.

9. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERS**

As there were no further questions JS formally closed the meeting at 6:22pm.

LONG SERVICE AWARDS: JS presented Long Service awards to; Sue Brankin (10 years), Anne-Marie Brigg, Jenny & Tony Corner, Helen Keene (all 15 years), Margaret Lydon (20 years) and Jeni Stewart (25 years).

Tarn Shannon, Secretary

25th September 2023

Signed: Date:.....

Chair of the Friends of East Surrey Hospital