

Enable Ability

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Thursday 7th November 2019 at 7:30pm
At Fratton Community Centre

Present:

Staff: Richard Soutar (Manager), Robin Pryde-Jarman, Hollie Sherred, Adam White

Trustees: Jon Muller (Chairman), Joe Harbour (Treasurer), Stuart Elsom (Vice Chairman), Bill John, Alison Bowie, Paul Fielon, Nicole Quinquenel

Others: Martin Harris

1.Welcome The Chairman, Jon Muller, opened the meeting by welcoming all present.

2.Apologies Paul Underwood (Morris Crocker), Louise Chappell, Louise Teal, Phil Williams, Julie Nethercote, Mary Ive

3.Approval of the Minutes of last year's AGM, held on 20th November 2018:

Everyone confirmed that they were happy with the minutes from last year (although Robin advised he was missed off the attendee list). They were proposed as a correct record by Stuart Elsom and seconded by Paul Fielon. The minutes were then duly signed by the Chairman.

4.To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2019:

Joe advised that the charity is being run well financially, and informed attendees that the full audit of accounts tells you much more information and is available on our website. Joe explained that a lot of money has been spent on wages to meet the demand of the minimum wage, but we did break even this financial year which he is pleased about.

Joe also mentioned that we will not be running Christmas Playscheme this year or next, and that we may not be able to run for a further week during the next financial year (dates tbc) due to a reduction in funding this time round. He was concerned, if we do have to do this, then it will hit our families more than us.

As of today, Joe announced that a friend has donated £50,000 to the charity- which will become £62,500 with gift aid.

Joe thanked Louise Chappell as our finance officer for keeping a tight eye on expenditure, and for her work in general. He then asked for the accounts to be accepted- Jon Muller proposed, and they were seconded by Bill John.

Jon thanked Joe for all of his hard work this year.

5.To appoint Auditors:

Messrs Morris Crocker, Chartered Accountants were proposed as auditors for the forthcoming year by Nicole Quinquenel and seconded by Stuart Elsom.

6.To Elect Members of the Executive Committee:

The following Trustees were re-elected to the committee:

Nicole Quinquenel- Proposed by Stuart Elsom and seconded by Joe Harbour

Jon Muller- Proposed by Bill John and seconded by Paul Fielon

7.Enable Ability Manager's Report

Richard Soutar was glad to say that progress has accelerated in 2019. Highlights included:

- Adult Befriending- we are subject to a CQC inspection every 2 years, and we were rated 'GOOD'. The report we received was the best to date. Adult Befriending has been in slow decline in recent years, but we have seen an 18% increase during the last financial year.
- Child Befriending- This has increased by a massive 46%, mainly due to receiving a small number of large care packages.
- We passed our 3 yearly Investors in People (IIP) assessment. We received great feedback from the questionnaires and interviews that were conducted, and we achieved a ranking of equal 6th out of 76 other providers in the sector.
- Our web presence has greatly increased- Richard thanked Bill John for his hard work.
- Bill John has also created a '25 Years of Playscheme' booklet (which was shared with attendees).
- Completing a feasibility study with Mary meant that we took over Landport Community Centre from July of this year; this now includes our new social enterprise project – which is called 'InterActiv' and incorporates Game Over, a Café, a PC repair shop and more!
- The pace of our development is promising, and we are looking forward to bringing on more Trustees and staff.

Richard thanked everyone for coming along this evening.

8.Chairman's Comments

Jon Muller started by saying that this has been a very significant year for us, with so much development within such a short timeframe. He said he looks to Richard, Julie and Mary for support to drive us forward. He also looks at the monthly reports from across all the projects, and is very pleased with the efforts that are made. He went on to say that he is aware that many people are saying that we provide quality services - and our new website reflects that.

The Chairman reiterated that we really are beginning to achieve a lot more - we started a young adult's projects in 2018 and now have a project for younger children running at Landport , which will really help parents who are being faced with unexpected and difficult times. He is very pleased that we are looking at broadening our services.

Jon went on to thank the Trustees who give up so much of their time; particular thanks went to:

- Joe, who is dealing with much more work with Landport in the spotlight now
- Bill, who has taken on the website and marketing
- Drew, who has taken on being Vice Chair and also mentors the steering group at Landport
- Paul, who has taken on the additional responsibility of safeguarding in recent months as well as having a focus on inclusion.

and lastly to:

- Ken, who we sadly lost at the beginning of the year. He was a really committed trustee who chaired the charity for 4 years & supported us greatly with safeguarding for many years. We will be dedicating a room to him at Landport.

Jon also said that without our support staff and trustees, we wouldn't be where we are today. The group of trustees is growing- and we do now really need people who have the necessary skills to be able to contribute to the charity. We currently have another potential trustee; she is a Disability Officer and has a child with disabilities who previously accessed one of our services - and we very much hope that she too will bring her experience and skills to this role.

Jon also thanked Bill, Hollie and Monique for getting the partnerships they have this year, and all because they are able to see the great work that we do now. He sent thanks to Steve Lowe for helping to drive our services, and thanked all the funders who raise money for and donate to us.

Jon finished the meeting by saying that we have lots to look forward to, and that we are a very well regarded charity in Portsmouth. He thanked everyone for all their support.

9. AOB

Richard mentioned Landport open day- 24th November, 2-4pm. All are welcome

The meeting closed at 8:08pm.