

Annual General Meeting of Hospice Hope - Charitable Incorporated Organisation no. 1169561

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Hospice Hope held on Monday 7th August 2023.

Members present: Vera Harding, Tony Hodkinson, Kate Last, Peter Last, Stewart Shepherd, Jan Shepherd, Roy Stobbs, Susan Stobbs, Marlene Waugh, Jane Reynolds, Brian Williams, Gill Hout, Lesley Notghi, Marjorie Nicholls.

Staff present: Jane Hagreen, Matt Buckley, Megan (contracted counsellor), Laura Mackie (contracted wb2w)

Non-members present: Daphne Hodkinson, Roger Ellis, Bryonie Mellor + 1, Ian Garside, Chrissie Henderson, Sharon Smith,

Apologies for absence were received from Ann & Tim Dawson, Delyth Perry, Carol & Geoff Hill, Felix Fenning, Lisa McMenamin, Bill & Sue Spiegler, John Milner.

1. Appointment of chairperson for the AGM

Peter Last, a member and trustee of Hospice Hope, offered to chair the meeting. It was proposed by Stewart Shepherd and seconded by Roy Stobbs that Peter Last be appointed as Chair for the meeting. The proposal was approved unanimously. Peter introduced the meeting as being "Building on Successes"

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held 21 June 2022

The minutes of the last AGM held 21 June 2022 had been posted on the website for all to view. It was proposed by Kate Last and seconded by Susan Stobbs that they were a true and accurate record. All voting members in attendance were in favour.

3. Reports and accounts

Peter Last began the presentation with an over view that the charity, financially at December 2022 was:

- We have maintained a good financial position
- Had a cash balance of £200k
- Had been externally examined by Jack Fargher, Ashby Town Clerk. Our thanks to him for this voluntary service to us.
- Had, in 2022, an income of £190k with expenditure of £189k generating a cash inflow of £1k.

The financial performance was significantly better than that budgeted with income being stronger with budgeted £55k and actual of £190k, stronger by £135k, and expenditure lower by £42k, £231 being budgeted and actual being £189k.

Income for the year at £190k comprised £152k from various Trusts and Foundations. This funding was directly targeted at providing services namely Community Engagement, Counselling, Befriending, Long Covid, and On-Line services. Various events raised the sum of £20k, donations raised £11k and other income being £7k.

£91k of our expenditure at £189k was funded by restricted grants and the remaining £98k from other unrestricted income.

The cash position at £200k was strong and remained at that figure on 30th June 2023.

The legacy left by our fundraiser, Caroline Mason, has been continued by the Charity Manager who has now moved on to pastures new.

Mr Last thanked Jan Shepherd for her work on the day to day book keeping and banking.

Our focus for the coming year is to appoint a new fundraiser as this is a crucial role for the charity along with a treasurer, the work being done jointly by Peter Last and Jan Shepherd.

He thanked all of our supporters and contributors for their continued support.

4. Auditors

It was confirmed that the charity does not require a formal audit due to its income level and therefore there is no need to appoint auditors, but the charity will continue to require External Examination in accordance with the Charity Commission requirements

5. Appointment of Charity Trustees and Officers

- 5.1 Appointment of Trustees. No new trustees have been appointed this year and none are due for re-election.
- 5.2 Officers were elected at the AGM in 2022 and no officers are to be appointed this year.

No nominations for the position of Trustee had been received by the secretary or administrator other than the ones for re-appointment as listed above.

6. Presentation on the opening of Bright Hope House

Roy stated that this is a unique partnership between a local business, Bloor Homes, the District Council and the Charity. The building is now well under way and, having seen inside before this meeting, it is large, very large. He emphasised the fact that NWLDC provided the land on a 150 year lease at a peppercorn rent and that Bloor Homes were providing the building, fixtures and fitting, and furniture at no charge to the Charity. We will have 6,300 square feet of building. He showed some slides of the work as it has progressed from breaking the ground to the present. It was noted that there will be electric car charging points in the car park and the rooms will be fully furnished when we take over the building.

7. Members proposed resolutions

No resolutions had been proposed by and sent to the Secretary or Jane Haggren and therefore, there is nothing to discuss at this point.

8. Report from the Chairman

To update the attendees on the aims, objectives and strategic direction of Hospice Hope, its recent successes and short and long-term objectives. Presentation by Stewart Shepherd.

8.1 Introduction of Care Services Manager – Stewart informed the meeting that the Charity Manager had moved to pastures new very recently. With the handing over of Bright Hope House drawing ever closer, the trustees had taken the decision to appoint a Care Services Manager to oversee the opening and running of our wonderful new home. He introduced Mr Matt Buckley as our Manager and took this opportunity to welcome Matt publicly and to introduce him to all at the meeting. Matt has been with the Charity for just one week and is already having a major input to plans for opening up and the services we are offering.

8.2 Clare Shilton, our Community Engagement Lead presented a brief overview of the work she is doing in the community and the partnerships that are being built with various organisations and people. Her work involves working with the Health and Wellbeing Team at North West Leicestershire District Council. Quarterly meetings are held and the partnerships are developing steadily. The Community Focus Team are part of this group and all are working together with the NHS to establish the needs of the people of North West Leicestershire. The focus for the first full year is on cancer prevention.

She is building partnerships with the LCC Public Health Team which includes working with the local area coordinators, Community Recovery workers and the mental health network, Sonia Lear being the main contact there.

The NHS team of Social Prescribers are a team who support individuals and they have a huge remit. We have a lot of referrals for our services via this team and they are supported immensely by our Counselling service to which they have referred a large number of clients.

Aslide showed a large number of groups who Clare also works with and they include the MRC, Coalville CAN, Rainbows, LOROS, McMillan, Carers Centre, schools and VAL. She has recently begun networking with Cognates, a local business network for NWL.

A number of other charities supporting people with dementia, bereavement, carers and cancer support are also part of her networking reach.

8.3 Rebranding

Jane Hagreen led on this topic. She pointed out the importance of social media in the work of rebranding with the centre point of focus being the website. An example given was that one post had been sent to 20 people who had shared the post. The result of the number of people sharing that one post was that 90,000 people saw the post. This example shows the reach of social media very effectively. A new logo has been agreed and is ready for use as is a new strap line.

Jane showed the new logo on the screen along with pictures of mock up leaflets etc which will be needed for our rebranding. A date will be set and everything will change at the same time.

She pointed out that the name Hospice Hope will still exist and will continue to be used for the Charity Commission, Bank accounts and legal documents but everything else about the charity will be known as Bright Hope in North West Leicestershire.

8.4 Services and conclusion

Stewart, our Chairman, concluded the evenings presentations with a presentation of the services that we are currently running including tablet loans, online activities, befriending, long Covid, well-being, counselling.

He informed the meeting that we are expecting the handover of keys to Bright Hope House to be on 16th October when we will spend some time familiarising ourselves with the building. A new cook will be recruited to enable meals to be provided at BHH when we start our Day Care Services again. It is planned to run our therapy service from BHH and Day Care building up to three days a week by the end of the year initially which may be seeded from the Support Cafes. Tours of the building will be conducted through November to as many potential supporters as possible. We need companies to find us and support us so company leaders will be invited to see what we have to offer. He is hoping that we will be able to host a Christmas Party at BHH this year but will continue to hold Lights of Love at The Ferrers Centre on December 3rd.



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The formal opening is expected to be held in April 2024 when the Lord Lieutenant, who is presiding at the handing over of the keys ceremony, will endeavour to secure a member of the Royal Family for the big opening.

Stewart closed the meeting by asking that all present made known the fact that we need more volunteers, more members, more donations and more sharing about the work that we are doing which is needed now more than ever. He thanked everyone for their attendance, for their support in the work of the charity over the years.

9. Any other business

A member of the Social Prescribing Team asked if she could thank the charity on behalf of the team because they received so much support from the charity and we, as a charity, were their go to charity because they knew they could depend on our support for their referrals to our services.

There being no other business, Peter thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.