

Annual General Meeting and Annual Members' Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 16 September 2019
Room 2, Education Centre, East Wing, Dorset County Hospital

AGM19/001

Welcome

Mark Addison, the Trust Chairman, welcomed everyone present to the meeting. He outlined the history and future mission of the hospital. He highlighted the role of charitable funding in the hospital's history and how this was reflected in the development of the new cancer centre and the current chemotherapy appeal. He described the importance of collaboration in the healthcare sector and highlighted some of the many achievements from around the hospital in 2018/19. He gave thanks to all the staff at the Trust, to the hospital volunteers and Friends of DCH, the Council of Governors, the non-executive directors, the executive team and especially the Chief Executive Patricia Miller.

AGM19/002

Staying Well for Winter as Adults

The meeting received a presentation from Christian Verrinder, Associate Medical Director at the hospital and a local GP. Dr Verrinder talked about health vulnerability, resilience and robustness. He highlighted Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group's Stay Well for Winter campaign, focusing on the key messages of 'how to stay well' and 'how to get better'. He especially encouraged attendees to have their annual flu vaccination.

Staying Well for Winter as Children

The meeting received a presentation from Clare Hollingsworth, Consultant Paediatrician at the hospital. Dr Hollingsworth talked about the vulnerability of babies and children to common ailments, and the importance of everyday preventative measures and vaccination. She discussed the importance of good lifestyle choices around food, sleep, exercise and screen-time, and reminded adults of their influence as role-models to children.

The Chair thanked Dr Verrinder and Dr Hollingsworth for their excellent and highly relevant presentations.

AGM19/003

Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19

Highlights of the Year

The Chief Executive gave an overview of the challenges the Trust had faced during the 2018/19 financial year and highlighted the hospital's many achievements despite these challenges.

Inese Robotham, the Chief Operating Officer provided an overview of the Trust's performance during 2018/19, including the hospital's performance

against key national waiting time and cancer standards.

The Director of Nursing and Quality, Nicky Lucey gave an overview of patient experience at the hospital and reported that feedback from patients' remained largely positive despite the operational pressures.

Mark Warner, the Director of Organisational Development and Workforce gave a summary of the key human resources developments during the year, around the themes of deployment, development and health and wellbeing.

The Director of Strategy, Transformation and Partnerships Nick Johnson provided a summary of the NHS Long Term Plan and how the focus in healthcare was increasingly on helping people to live well.

b) Quality Report

The Director of Nursing and Quality, Nicky Lucey summarised the contents of the Quality Report, which forms part of the Trust's Annual Report. She gave an overview of the Trust's achievements against its 2018/19 quality priorities and outlined the quality priorities for the 2019/20 financial year. She said the hospital was proud to have achieved a rating of 'good' from the Care Quality Commission and was now working towards achieving a rating of 'outstanding'.

c) Annual Accounts

Paul Goddard, the Director of Finance and Resources, provided an overview of the Trust's Annual Accounts for the financial year 2018/19. He reported that the hospital had ended the year with a deficit of £8.6 million. He explained where the hospital's income had come from, the key areas of expenditure for the year and the investments in equipment and services that the Trust had made.

The Chair thanked the members of the executive team for their summaries of the Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19.

AGM19/003

Volunteering at DCH

The meeting received a presentation from Hannah Robinson, Volunteer Coordinator and young volunteers Olivia Pearson and Lilian Tan. They reported on the progress that had been made in the hospital's volunteer service over the last 12 months and the positive impact this was having at the hospital. They explained the roles undertaken by volunteers, and outlined the volunteer project work that had been undertaken around the hospital. They focused particularly on the young volunteers programme and highlighted collaborative work with the Pears Foundation, the Prince's Trust and the Dorset Youth Council amongst others.

The Chair thanked the team for their presentation and for the excellent work being undertaken by volunteers of all ages around the hospital.

AGM19/004

Lead Governor's Report

Dr David Cove, Lead Governor, reported on the activities undertaken by

the Council of Governors during the year 2018/19 including members' events, area meetings, attendance at Governor committee meetings and observing on Board committees. He outlined the results of the Governor elections that took place during the financial year and reported on the changes that had been made to the Trust's constitution during the year. He stated that the Trust had an outstanding Board under the excellent leadership of the Chair and Chief Executive.

The Chair thanked Dr Cove and the Council of Governors for their work.

AGM19/005

Questions from the Floor

A member of the public asked, with the imminent closure of Poole Hospital's Accident and Emergency Department, whether an influx of patients from Purbeck and Swanage was expected and how the Trust would cope with this prior to the proposed developments to the hospital's Emergency Department. He also said that the estates masterplan suggested that housing would come in the later phases of development, but he believed that key worker housing was required now to help with the shortage of nursing staff.

The Director of Strategy, Transformation and Partnerships explained that the demand models suggested there would be an increase of 2,000 to 2,500 patients, and that this would have minor impact on the hospital's Emergency Department as the department was already seeing over double the amount of patients it was designed for. However he said that these figures would be taken into consideration as the expansion plans for the Emergency Department were developed.

A member of the public asked about the starting age for young volunteers at the hospital. The Volunteer Coordinator explained that currently the hospital took volunteers from age 16, although the hospital was considering lowering this to 14 to tie-in with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

As there were no further questions the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.