

**FRIENDS OF STAMFORD HOSPITAL**  
**Minutes of the 56th Annual General Meeting**  
**Held on 24 April 2019**

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| <b>Apologies:</b> | Margaret Anderson<br>Morag Roberts<br>Brendan Alston<br>Laura Pollock<br>Michael Bratley<br>Bridget Carr<br>Joan Laycock<br>Malcolm Wells<br>Janet Johnson<br>John Westcomb<br>Margaret McGregor | <b>Present:</b> | 27 Members<br>12 Committee members |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|------------------------------------|

### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair, Dr Mike Dronfield, welcomed everyone to the meeting and read through the apologies.

### **2. Minutes of the 2018 Minutes and Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising. The minutes were therefore proposed as a true record by Fiona Ruddick and seconded by Viv Mitchell.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

The Chair (MD) welcomed Caroline Walker to the meeting. Caroline is the new CEO for North West Anglia Foundation Trust. MD reported that he was very pleased that Caroline was a great advocate of Stamford Hospital and well aware of its worth to the Trust.

Two newsletters have been sent out during the course of the year in order to keep members up to date with events. The Friends website has been upgraded during the past year. The main functions of the website are to attract funds and to articulate the strength of support that local people have for the hospital. MD reported that he is a member of the Stamford Hospital Development Advisory Committee, and feels that we have had an influence. The hospital still survives and sees over 100,000 patients per year. The substantial investment of the Trust is a sign they mean business in the South Lincs area.

Gill Langley joined the hospital as matron in 1981, and her title changed a dozen times until her retirement. Gill has been a member of the Friends committee for 38 years, but she has now decided it is time to step down. Gill has been a great supporter and has seen the hospital through some very difficult times. MD presented Gill with flowers as a small token of our appreciation. Gill thanked the Friends from the patients point of view for donating amenities. She stated that there were 212 beds at Stamford Hospital in 1981 – a lot fewer now.

Sue Brooks, the current matron, is also leaving in a months time. MD said that Sue had been an inspirational leader of the hospital, promoting it wherever she could and developing new services. She also set up the Stamford Hospital Museum. She will be very much missed by patients, staff and the Friends.

### **4. Matron's Report**

Sue Brooks welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sue reported it had been highly successful year with 130,000 patient episodes over the last year. All services remain busy and there are more exciting developments planned. Sue reported an additional ultrasound machine, an MRI scanner and shortly they will be undertaking the scanning of tiny babies using a piece of kit funded by the Friends. There will be more paediatric clinics and the Friends have funded the painting of a mural in the children's waiting area. A one-stop service for patients with prostate problems has also started. A private, quiet room has

also been provided – all these things are provided to improve the patient experience. Stamford has a great future in North West Anglia Foundation Trust. Sue reported that she will be retiring at the end of May. She reported that she has wonderful memories of the place and that it is a very special hospital. She was proud to have worked here and has made many friends over the last ten years and will miss everyone.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

Douglas Matthew (DM) reported that the accounts had been approved at the Trustees meeting in January and they have been overseen by our independent auditor, Ian Graham. Our thanks to him. Income for the year amounted to just over £11,900, in line with the previous year. Donations amounted to just over £5000 in 2018 and our thanks again to the Burtle Preservation Trust and many other donations, large and small. DM also reported that Gift Aid will show a more realistic figure going forward. Indirect payments have been just over £1000, mainly from refreshing the website. Charitable payments have been listed. In November the committee agreed to £13000 spends. £9,500 was set aside for redecorating the John Van Geest Unit with Rempod specialist wall coverings. The excess of receipts over payments amounted to £6,600 leaving a balance of £26,881. Unfortunately book sales have seen a downfall.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by: Trish Mason, seconded by: John Mitchell

## 6. Election of Trustees

The following committee members agreed to stand for re-election

|                       |   |  |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Mr David Baxter       | ) |  |
| Mr Douglas Matthew    | ) | Proposed en bloc: Carrie Armitage, seconded John Schools |
| Mrs Margaret Anderson | ) |  |

Ms Marion Pitt (new committee member) Proposed: Michael Dronfield, seconded David Baxter

All were duly elected.

## 7. Any Other Business

Caroline Walker thanked the Friends for their support and for contributing to projects at Stamford Hospital. She thanked Sue Brooks, who makes the site special. She also thanked Mike Dronfield for his valued contribution.

There being no further business, the chairman introduced this year's speaker – Dr Emilia Wawrzkowicz, Consultant Paediatrician,

"Have we all gone nuts?"

Dr E (as she is known) had been a junior doctor and consultant at Peterborough Hospital for the last 12 years. She has been instrumental in bringing new services to Stamford, which is very popular, and sees patients from a wide area. She has a special interest in allergy and is the Trust safeguarding lead.

Following a very interesting and enlightening lecture, dispelling some myths about certain allergies and answering questions on a host of issues, a vote of thanks was given by Annette Beaton.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm