

Sickle Cell Society

37th Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

Saturday 23 July 2016 at 10.30am

Grand Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DA

1. Present

Kye Gbangbola- Chair
Michele Salter – Vice Chair/Treasurer
Florence Anichebe - Trustee
Sheree Hall – Trustee
Phillip Udeh – Trustee

2. Apologies for absence

Kingsley Ibeke- Trustee
Ima Obong Ogbonna- Trustee

3. In Attendance

John James – Chief Executive

4. Welcome and Introductions

The Vice Chair/Treasurer welcomed guests of the Society, members of the Society, Stakeholders and Support Group representatives, family members and Society staff/volunteers to the 37th Annual General Meeting of the Sickle Cell Society.

She drew attention to the sad loss during the year of one of the Society's Medical Advisers Dr Norman Parker. Dr Norman Parker and his wife were regular attendees of the Society's Annual General meetings over the years and he would be missed by not only the Society staff but many friends and families living with sickle cell disorder. In respect of Dr Parker, the Vice Chair/Treasurer asked the audience for one minute's silence in his memory. This was fully observed.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer took the opportunity to thank Joseph Ezeakunne, whose term of office as a trustee had ended, for his contribution to the work of the Society over the years.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer drew attention to the vacancies for trustees (which are advertised on the website) and encouraged those in the audience who had the passion, boardskills and

available time commitment to apply for the vacant positions if they were interested. The closing date was the end of August 2016.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer thanked Novartis and Terumo BCT for supporting the AGM and the Patient/Carer Education event that would follow the AGM.

5. Minutes of the Annual General meeting on the 18 July 2015.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18th July 2015 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

6. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

7. Annual Report of the Board of Trustees for the financial year 1st April 2015 to the 31st March 2016.

The Chief Executive introduced a summary of the annual report. He gave presentation providing an overview of the key areas of progress against the Society's corporate objectives for 2015/16. He also drew attention to page 6 of the Annual Report referring to the joint statement from himself and the Chair. He said that the financial year April 2015 to March 2016 had been one of continued focussed effort to improve the Society's finances and sustainability alongside working with people living with sickle cell and their families, together with a range of statutory and independent stakeholders to meet the Society's objectives.

The Chief Executive summarised that he was pleased that it was another year of all round good performance.

In conclusion he thanked the AGM meeting, supporters, Donors and staff and volunteers for their continued support and hard work for the Sickle Cell Society.

8. Audited Accounts for the financial year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016.

The Vice Chair/ Treasurer presented the independently audited accounts for the financial year 2015/16. She endorsed the statement of the Chair and Chief Executive in confirming that it had been a good year all round. In this regard and referring to the financial statements, the Vice Chair/Treasurer said that the Society continued to make steady financial progress, having regard to the tough financial climate in which the Society operates. She added that it was to the Society's credit that despite the tough financial

climate, the Society had built on the improved financial management of the organisation resulting in achieving a surplus for the second consecutive year.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer drew attention to pages 15 and 16 of the Annual Report which showed a clean bill of health for the financial year and highlighted the specific areas of the financial accounts which substantiated that opinion from the independent Auditors BDO LLP.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer endorsed the annual accounts to the meeting.

9. Appointment of Auditors

The Vice Chair reported that the independent Auditors BDO LLP had done a thorough and timely piece of work in finalising the Annual Report and Annual Accounts, working with her, the Society's finance lead Miriam Williams and the Chief Executive. She therefore endorsed the continued appointment of the independent Auditors BDO LLP to the meeting.

10. Conclusion

The meeting concluded with a fully participative open session of comments, questions and feedback.

The Annual General Meeting concluded at 1.00pm

