# **MyVision Oxfordshire**

Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting held at Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7JN, on Thursday 13th October 2022 starting at 2pm.

**Present**

Moira Darlington (Deputy Lieutenant), Mandy Wood, Annette Hornby, Andrea Warren, Sandra Coleman, Lesley Rubies, Mark Upton, Carmel Linnane, Joanna Waton, Margaret Hart, Laura Finnis, Molly Davis, Nathan Tree, Devante Clarridge, Jamie Sargent, Gail Webb, Guy Lawfull, Michelle Lawfull, Julian Bagwell, Barbara Bagwell, Alexander Bagwell, Margaret Simpson, Janet Johnson, Simon Lewthwaite, Aimee Tuzzio, Andy Smith, Tina Wren, Arty Zalutskiy, Savita Shah, Tara Shah, Adrian Hill, Lisa Hill, Brian Baker, Sabine Savage, Christine Tomlinson, Geraldine Beer, Elizabeth Roberts, Chris Turner, Peter Stutfield, Lady Macclesfield, Danny Lazarescu, Charlotte Allen

Guy Lawfull opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jane Stewart, Steve Baker, Town Mayor of Banbury, Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Abingdon and Thame Town Council, Cllr Pam Siggers

**Prof Adrian Hill (President)**

Adrian welcomed everyone that attended the AGM held in Didcot and mentioned it is the first time it was held outside Oxford and the first formal meeting under the new name. He thanked all the dedicated volunteers, including trustees, and the staff for all their hard work for charity. He has asked for continual financial support from its members and public.

**Minutes of 2021 AGM**

The minutes of the 2021 AGM were approved unanimously.

**Chair’s Report for 2021-2022**

Guy Lawfull thanked his fellow trustees, staff, and volunteers for their tremendous work for the charity.

Guy said that the cost-of-living crisis will continue to have an impact for the foreseeable and this will have an impact on funds. He mentioned that there were several sad losses during the year of clients, and volunteers, and they will be greatly missed. He also mentioned the sad loss of one of the trustees Edward Piling during the year.

**Treasurer’s Report for 2021-22**

The Treasurer, Robin Birch, stated that the finances are in good order.

The Independent Examiner is satisfied with the accounts, her report appearing on page 20 of the Annual Report and Accounts.

Pages 17 and 18 of the Annual Report and Accounts shows that there was a surplus on unrestricted funds in the year of £28,423 compared with a surplus in the previous year of £102,907.

Including both restricted and unrestricted funds, there was a surplus in the year of £21,380 compared to £105,459 in the previous year. It was noted that during the year expenditure exceeded income before legacies by £30,609 and prior year by £31,705. This can be attributed primarily to investment in recruiting fundraising and finance staff to enable the organisation to remain sustainable in the longer term

Reserves are sufficient to meet 6 months of total expenditure.

The financial results so far in this financial year are meeting expectations. However, the cost-of-living crisis has put trusts and grant-making charities under serious pressure and therefore it will be harder to achieve funding from them.

Robin thanked his fellow trustees and the staff and repeated last year’s appeal to assist the organisation if possible as there is no room for complacency. He advised that we need to reach out and find new revenue streams if all existing streams have been exhausted.

**Election of Independent Examiner for 2022/23 accounts**

Nicola Cadwallader was elected unanimously as the Independent Examiner for the 2022/23 accounts.

**CEO Report**

Mark paid tribute to the staff, trustees, and volunteers for being able to reach out and support clients in these challenging times. He mentioned the services have gone from strength to strength reaching out to more clients. We have seen a sharp rise in clients visiting the resource centre. It has been a great year for expanding the counselling services. Jill is now joined by a student counsellor and longer term we can expand that area of expertise. The sight desk has been relaunched at the eye hospital. This is a real step forward in reaching out to the wider community. The sight desk is operated by volunteers. He has advised of some personnel changes Arty is the new Communications Officer, Devante is the new Community Engagement Worker in the South, Margaret joined as a Fundraising Assistant. This year was the launch of the community engagement project. The aim is to have a staff member in every district.

Mark emphasised the need to keep the momentum going in terms of fundraising. MyVision Oxfordshire is looking for more volunteers to get involved in the local community events. He mentioned that there are various ways to contribute, attend events, organise independent fundraising events (cake sales, tandem bike rides, charity runs, and give donations. He reiterated the need for members to stay involved. Mark stressed the importance of more multi-year grant funding.

Currently, the finances are as good as could be expected.

Mark introduced Amy and Andy both explained how MyVision has supported them throughout the years and were very thankful for all the support they have received. Andy has done a lot of fundraising for the charity too, bike rides, and latest effort oxford half Marathon.

**Election of trustees 2022/23**

Under the Articles of Association, three trustees must step down each year. This year

* Guy Lawfull
* Margaret Simpson
* Gurjeet Jutley

Both Guy Lawfull and Margaret Simpson will be re-standing for election whereas Gurjeet Jutley will not be re-standing.

1. Guy Lawfull has been proposed by Colin Cure and seconded by Andy Smith
2. Margaret Simpson has been proposed by Amanda Wood and seconded by Michelle Lawfull

Both were re-elected to the board

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association the trustees elect the officers of the Board. The trustees have agreed that the officers for this year will be:

Chair – Guy Lawfull

Vice-Chair – Julian Bagwell

Treasurer – Robin Birch.

And the remaining board members are:

* Prof Adrian Hill (President)
* Margaret Simpson
* Yvonne Rainey
* Simon Cruden
* Janet Johnson

Guy introduced guest speaker Robin Christopherson MBE from AbilityNet who gave the presentation on online resources to help with visual impairment via Microsoft Teams. .

**Any Other Business**

In response to a question from the floor on making the Annual report more accessible for visually impaired people. Mark is currently reviewing this.

Guy Lawfull then closed the meeting.