



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of RP Fighting Blindness

Saturday 23 June 2018 at 16:40

One America Square, London, EC3N

The charity's formal AGM was the final session of The RP Conference 2018.

An audio recording of this session is available on request in MP3 format.

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman, Mr Don Grocott opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

2. Introductions

The Chairman introduced Ms Janet Crookes (Treasurer) and Mrs Tina Houlihan (CEO).

3. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes from 24th June 2017 were approved as a true record by all Members and signed by the Chairman. Mr Peter Belcher proposed and Mr David Rainbow seconded with all in favour by a show of hands.

5. Annual Report & Accounts for 2017

a) The Chairman invited Ms Janet Crookes to make comments on the previously circulated accounts for 2017. These were as follows:

- The Annual Report and accounts have been available via the website and were signed at the Trustees meeting on 2nd May 2018.
- 2017 brought less income but a similar level of expenditure so a reduction in funds overall. The main reduction was in the amount received from legacies.
- Costs of raising funds and running operations were well managed and similar to the previous year. A larger percentage of the total charitable spend was invested on information and support services.
- Awards to medical research projects decreased in 2017 as the major funding of the UKIRDC in 2016 was concluded and the start of various collaborative research projects did not come to fruition until 2018. This was why the year ended with funds being restricted than unrestricted.

- Many charities saw depleted balance sheets in 2017 but RPFB ended the year with a strong platform to take forward 2018 plans.
- The auditors have provided a clean audit report and did not need to highlight any issues regarding governance or charity systems. Ms Crookes has been satisfied with their work and proposed they are formally reappointed today.

b) There were no questions from the members.

c) Resolution: to adopt the Report and Accounts for 2017.

Ms Janet Crookes proposed and Mr Don Grocott seconded with all votes in favour.

6. Resolution: To appoint Davies Mayer Barnett Audit Services as auditors

In 2017 a formal review by the audit committee was undertaken, using a framework of questions to assess competence, efficiency and value for money. The committee recommendation to reappoint Davies Mayer was accepted by the Board. The appointment will be kept under review annually and the next major review, held in 2020.

The proposal from Ms Janet Crookes was seconded by Mr David Adams with all votes in favour.

7. Resolution: The retirement and re-election of Trustees

a) The Chairman announced the following Trustees retire by rotation and are standing for re-election:

Ms Janet Crookes - Mr Don Grocott proposed and Ms Lucy Withington and seconded with all votes in favour.

Ms Rachael Stevens – Mr Don Grocott proposed and Mr Stephen Jones seconded with all votes in favour.

b) The Chairman announced Mr Stephen Jones was retiring by rotation but was not standing for re-election. The Chairman formally thanked Mr Jones for his contribution to the Charity and wished him well.

The Chairman also thanked all Trustees for their continued support and hard work.

8. Any Other Business

There were no questions or any other business.

9. Chairman's closing remarks

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the AGM.

END