

**Draft minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of PCN Britain held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021, via Zoom. Voting carried out in advance by post and online voting.**

Background to the 2021 Annual General Meeting

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic it was not practical to convene a conventional AGM. Although the Coronavirus restrictions have been relaxed sufficiently to allow in person gatherings given the distances that would need to be travelled, the varying vaccination statuses of attendees and the need to obtain a quorum, it was decided that an online meeting would be the best option. As in 2020, the Trustees decided that voting by post and electronic communication would satisfy the requirements for each member to have the opportunity to cast their vote. The timetable of the AGM was as follows:

Relevant documents comprising the 2020 Annual Report and Draft minutes of the 2020 AGM were sent to members on the **19<sup>th</sup> May**. Details of nominees were sent to members as part of the May Monthly Bulletin on the **28<sup>th</sup> May**.

On **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June** voting opened either by post to the office, via an online survey, and in three cases via email when the other alternatives were not possible. The voting remained open until **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June**. The votes were counted and presented at the AGM on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June**.

The PCN Britain constitution requires that the next AGM take place no later than one calendar year unless circumstances dictate otherwise, the recorded date of the 2021 AGM is the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021, the day of the online meeting.

**Members present:** Adrian Alker, Jeyarajan Anketell, Chris Avis, Keith Baker, Martin Bassant, Patricia Brook, Peter Brophy, Michael Burn, Linda Byrne, Janet Carpenter, John Churcher, Peter Cotton, Simon Cross, Mike Evans, Jane Francis, Ian Geere, Howard Grace, Sandra Griffiths, Julia Grove, John Hack, Gillian Harrison, Jenny Jacobs, Andy Lowe, Cliff Marshall, Lynn McAllister, Marianne Mead, Deirdre Munro, Paul Onslow, Nicola Phelan, Jennifer Ridley, Teresa Rose, Tony Rutherford, Josephine Stein, Robin Story, Peter Stribblehill, Richard Tetlow, Ben Whitney, Christine Whitworth, Jackie Wiegman, Roger Wikeley, Mo Wills, Carole Wynn, Tim Yeager

Welcome by Adrian Alker

Adrian Alker, as Chair of the Trustees, welcomed the members to the Annual General Meeting. He reiterated his thanks to Sarah Guilfoyle for coping with her increased workload resulting from the challenges of the pandemic.

1. Appointment of Chair for AGM

Paul Onslow, the vice-chair, had agreed to chair the meeting, and welcomed those present and received the apologies for absence.

2. Apologies for absence: David Crocker, Robert Ellis, Lorraine Evans, Tina Everett, Astrid Fielden, Ana Gobledale, Tod Gobledale, Judith Halford, Michael Hell, Susan Hinds, Tom Hinds, Mary Kenchington, Roger Lasko, Fran Lovett, Ian Lovett, Ros Murphy, Tony Sanchez, Roy Squires, Val Trinder, Meryl White, Robert Williams, David Wood

3. Adoption of minutes

The Draft minutes were circulated in advance of the meeting and no amendments were proposed. The result of the vote that took place in advance of the meeting was as follows:

Do you accept the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting as a true record of that meeting?

Yes: 66

No: 0

Abstain: 24

**Decision: The members accept that the minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting are a true reflection of that meeting.**

#### 4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the 2020 Minutes.

#### 5. Adoption of chairs report

The report was circulated and voted upon in advance of the meeting. The results are as follows:

Do you accept the Chair's report as sent to you on or around the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021?

Yes: 89

No: 0

Abstain: 1

**Decision: The members accept the Chair's Report.**

#### 6. Adoption of Treasurer's report

The report was circulated and voted upon in advance of the meeting. The results are as follows:

Do you accept the Treasurer's report as sent to you on or around the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021?

Yes: 89

No: 0

Abstain: 1

**Decision: The members accept the Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Peter Stribblehill, commented to accompany a powerpoint presentation. (Note. The comments are not verbatim)

Thanks to Sarah Guilfoyle for her support and assistance, and to Janis Knox, our Social Media editor, for managing our social media so effectively.

The accounts have been independently examined. The deficit shown was fully expected and of the overall deficit of approx. £4800, £3400 was brought forward from 2019. This was planned for and is less than the £5,000 that was projected to be taken from reserves for the Film Project. The General Fund deficit is just over £1400.

The Covid pandemic has had varying effects on the accounts; for example, the Trustee meetings haven't happened but we have had expenditure on the Made of Stories film project. Five of the short films that we initially commissioned were released and have had a very good reception both within the PCN membership and beyond.

All of our planned events were cancelled apart from one Trustees meeting, and due to Covid there were no publications made but we managed to produce all four issues of Progressive Voices, that was not without difficulties as our usual publishers were all in lockdown. Operating costs have reduced due to Covid and an inability to travel. There has been a non-financial cost to that and we are all looking forward to meeting again.

Income: subscriptions were slightly down but membership levels remained stable. Gift Aid increased as there was an appeal for those who did not have Gift Aid declarations to complete them. There were some residual sales of publications. Interest received will be minimal for this year as interest rates have fallen.

Expenditure: the newsletter costs shown include the costs of postage as well as publication. There has been significant spending on developing the website and hopefully you will be able to see the results when you look at the website. Costs associated with Trustees have fallen due to lack of meetings and lack of travel. Bank charges have fallen as we have had no events booking so the charges that we pay to PayPal and similar have not been due.

Balance sheet: PCN still has assets of nearly £33,000 which is in excess of our necessary reserves. These are held between Co-op current account and the CCLA deposit account. The Gift Aid appears to be lower but the 2019 amount included the Gift Aid that was collected on the film Fund donations and so was abnormally high.

The Other debtors sum is made up of an advance made to a speaker for the MBMC which was postponed, that money has now been returned but with a loss relating to exchange rates. The other part of the debtors relates to deposits paid for meetings that had to be postponed or cancelled, these amounts have been held over for future use.

## 7. Appointment of new Trustees

The details of the nominees were circulated and voted upon in advance of the meeting. The results are as follows:

Please indicate whether you accept the following nominees to be Trustees: Martin Bassant, Simon Cross, Jenny Jacobs, Peter Stribblehill, Jacqueline Wiegman

Yes: 90          No: 0          Abstain: 0

**Decision: The members accept the nominees.**

Four of the five Trustees are returning, one Jackie (Jacqueline) Wiegman is a new Trustee and took the opportunity to introduce herself:

I have been a prison chaplain for 15 years but wasn't ordained until 2013. I work in a prison and that eventually took me to questions of ordination and I had to go through the usual hoops and was found wanting by the evangelical member of the panel who decided that I had a weak understanding of salvation and that I didn't have a good grasp of the need for repentance despite my prison experience. During the three years of my curacy, I was introduced to PCN and the writings of Crossan, Borg and Spong. I then met PCN members at a Swanwick event and it was wonderful to find other people like me and liberating to be able to ask the questions about the things that didn't make sense to me, like some areas of church doctrine, without making everybody angry. I then joined the Oakham PCN group, it has been an affirming experience to be part of the group. I am not experienced on committees but very willing to support PCN.

Paul Onslow as Chair of the Annual General Meeting and Adrian Alker as Chair of PCN Britain thanked Jackie and welcomed her to the Trustees.

This concluded the business of the Annual General Meeting.