

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD 11 NOVEMBER 2020
VIA ZOOM

Present: As shown on the attendance list.

1. Welcome

Hugh Strickland, Chair of Trustees, welcomed everyone to the meeting whilst acknowledging Shropshire RCC 60th Anniversary and first virtual AGM.

Hugh clarified items where a vote is required which for paid members would ordinarily be counted by showing a yellow slip would, for the purposes of this meeting, go on a trust basis. He also highlighted that a video of the meeting was being taken for use by Shropshire RCC for the purposes of producing minutes.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 13 November 2019

The minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting held on 13 November 2019 and were approved by vote with no objections. It was noted that a quorum had been achieved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no further matters arising from the minutes.

4. Report of the Board of Directors

Review of the Year and presentation of the Annual Review 2019-20

Julia Baron extended her welcome to those present and gave her presentation based on examples of the three strategic areas of work of the organisation:

- Reducing isolation
- Alleviating rural poverty
- Helping communities help themselves

Julia highlighted the challenges of the pandemic for the organisation and in particular the demand for support from village halls and support from the hearing support volunteers. Funders have worked with us during this time.

A highlight of the year included the continuing success in the Wellbeing and Independence Partnership in supporting vulnerable people in the community during the pandemic.

Julia thanked all staff, trustees and volunteers for their work and support.

There were no questions.

5. Financial Performance Presentation and consideration of Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 31 March 2020

Sue Homden thanked all members, individuals and volunteers for their support, and shared that the number of hours contributed by the organisation's 159 volunteers last year reached in excess of 12,000 which is over £152,000 in financial value. Members are currently at 210.

Support from companies and individuals continues.

60% of monies comes from grants. Highest proportion of funds spent in combating isolation.

The government furlough scheme has enabled certain members of staff to be on flexible furlough.

Stacey Teece was recruited as Fundraising Manager starting in September.

There were no questions.

6. Election of Trustees

Nicki Cooper will retire as trustee by rotation however she is happy to be re-appointed and is recommended by Hugh who recognised her experience and vital work in Chairing the Finance Committee and Grant Committee. A vote was held and with there being no objections, it was confirmed Nicki has been re-appointed as a trustee for the next three years.

7. Appointment of Auditors

There is no longer a requirement for a full auditor however we do have an Independent Examiner, from TCA Accountants who was present at the meeting. Members were asked to authorise the Board to appoint an Auditor or Independent Examiner to complete the Annual Accounts and to fix the remuneration.

Agreed by all members present by show of hands with no objections.

8. Any Other Business

Anna Turner, High Sheriff of Shropshire and Patron of Shropshire RCC extended a huge thank you to all those Board members, staff and volunteers who have continued their valued contribution throughout the recent difficult circumstances and recognised the commitment given. Anna urged all not to lose heart through these very difficult circumstances.

Hugh Strickland also thanked the Board members, staff and volunteers for their support and stated the organisation couldn't do what it did without this support.

9. Celebrating 60 years

Julia recognised that unfortunately due to the current climate it had not been possible to fully celebrate the 60th Anniversary.

The Shropshire Council of Social Service as we were then known, held its first meeting in November 1960 at The Shirehall, Shrewsbury attended by 75 people with the President being the Lord Lieutenant and Treasurer Mr Hilton-Jones.

Julia gave a presentation detailing the potted history and noting that in some respects nothing had changed over the last 60 years. For the future Julia confirmed there will be a rebranding and will confirm details at a later date.

The AGM was brought to a close with thanks from Hugh Strickland for all those able to join.