

PARKINSON'S UK

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Minutes of virtual committee meeting held on Tuesday, 9th March, 2021 at 11.00am

Present: Terry Kendall, Philip Thompson, Ann Marie Sephton, George Spencer, Sheila Ireland, Ken Booth,
Doris Wragg, Susan Grant and Bronia (exercise class) for a short time audio only.

1. Terry welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Everyone present.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on February 9th (previously circulated). The minutes were accepted as a true record.
4. Matters arising

Doris said that she could not open the link on the Barnsley branch website. Ken made a note to check it.

Service development section. A list of committee members is to be included in the AGM papers so will not need to be included in the March newsletter which will be sent to members at the same time.

Tuesday, March 23rd there will be a virtual meeting with the Barnsley hospice.

5. Acting Chair's Report, Terry

a. Regional Zoom meeting held on 3rd March

i Road map out of lockdown. It appears that nothing much will happen until the autumn as regards activities. It is probably too early to make decisions until people get used to going out. We do not know our venue when we start functioning because Emmanuel is insisting that we need to clean the room after use. We need to know the government's thinking on cleaning and distancing. We also need to explore the cost and suitability of other venues. Bronia said that there is a possible room at the Shaw Lane Rugby Club.

ii Parkinson's Day 11th April. Our original idea was to produce a poster advertising the special day. Instead of us producing our own poster it was felt more appropriate we should await a corporate version from Parkinson's UK. The media team at Parkinson's UK is planning to devise some new resources and there was also a suggestion that public buildings should be lit up in blue. Another idea was a sponsored relay walk over a period of time covering the distance to the moon and back. It was agreed we should try to re-establish contact with our members by holding a one-off Zoom meeting. In order to gauge the interest from members an item should be published in the newsletter. The newsletter is nearly ready so its distribution can be timed to coincide with Parkinson's Day.

iii GDNF. There is no certainty of a second clinical trial taking place even though Parkinson's UK has announced its intention to do so. It is an unusual situation and there is still the challenge of devising a better way to run the trial to give the best chance of success. Sufficient funding also needs to be raised.

iv Data protection. Once a year we need to take data protection training and we should delete any personal information after 3 years unless the information is still being used. We need to have a form

for passing information between Bronia and Respite care. We also need to be in touch with Carolyn Turton the specialist nurse.

v A message from Rose. She is circulating information about 2 review meetings on 23rd March and 7th April. The rules that regulate how branches operate are out of date and make too many demands on volunteers. Volunteers are needed to address the problems caused by the complexities of the present rules and to suggest ways of making volunteering more attractive.

b. Carers' Day, Philip

i The Holiday Inn still holds the deposit that we paid last year for the Carers' event that had to be cancelled. Depending on whether people are happy to mix in public places the day could be reorganised for autumn. Philip made the suggestion that the grant given for the carers' day could be renewed and, if not, can it be transferred to respite care.

ii Wii Fit. Susan agreed to resume her role of i/c the exercise game. A notice will be put in the newsletter giving details of how to borrow the machine.

6. Treasurer's Report, Kathie

There has been very little activity in the branch bank account, not surprisingly. The total amount in the account is £26,445.00. Cheques have been made out to Crossroads and we have receipts of £75 from Head Office. The cheque that was made out to the hospice has not yet been presented.

Andrew has completed the audit and it has been submitted to Head Office.

It was decided to leave setting a budget until the situation is clearer.

7. Secretary's Report, Doris

Doris said that the branch manual was out of date. Philip said the Group Rules were available on the Parkinson's website.

8. Service Development Report, Sheila.

As with last year most of the plans for general meetings in 2021 have had to be cancelled because of distancing requirements. It was thought that October might be a reasonable date to restart our plans. Our first meeting should be someone from Parkinson's UK giving details of 'Daily Living Aids' for helping people with Parkinson's to cope better. Hopefully, everyone can look forward to the Christmas party.

9. Fundraising, Philip

The South Yorkshire Community Foundation grant may be available although we don't really fit the criteria regarding turnover. We could probably qualify on the issue of mental health. Perhaps our link to Parkinson's might be a possibility. We need some guidance from Head Office. Philip to send for an application form.

10. Assistant Treasurer, George

George is still waiting for Crossroads details for February. The total paid so far this year is £222.60.

11. Membership Secretary, Ann Marie.

Ann Marie said she had been sent details by Head Office but could not gain access because the passcode would not open the document.

12. AOB None.

The meeting finished at 12.15 pm.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 13th 2021 at 11.00am.