

Parkinson's UK

Barnsley and District Branch

Minutes of 'virtual' committee meeting held on 9th February 2021

Present

Terry Kendall, Philip Thompson, Ann Marie Sephton, George Spencer, Sheila Ireland, Susan Grant, Ken Booth, Granville Dransfield, Doris Wragg

1. Appointment of Acting Chair

Ann-Marie, as Vice Chair, opened the meeting by asking for nominations for the post of Acting Chair and Terry was duly elected.

Terry thanked Philip for including him in meetings and spending time updating him on the role. He had been impressed by the way everyone worked together as a team before he joined the committee and was looking forward to the committee's valued help and support.

2. Appointment of Acting Membership Secretary

Nominations were sought for the post of Acting Membership Secretary and Ann-Marie was duly appointed.

Terry thanked Ann-Marie for continuing her role as Vice Chair. He also thanked Granville for all the work he had done as Membership Secretary and wished him well on behalf of the branch.

3. Welcome

Terry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Kathie (internet problems)

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2021 were agreed as a true record subject to Terry's name being added to the second paragraph of item 5(c), i.e. "Philip and Terry have met Crossroads Care via Zoom....".

6. Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

- (a) Philip reported that Doris had agreed to receive emails from 'info@barnsleyparkinsons.org.uk' as well as being the link to receive enquiries from the national website.

- (b) SLA mid-term reviews - Philip referred to Rose's comment at the last meeting that his exchange of letters instead of formal documents did not establish a legal agreement. He felt that he may have misled Rose by his phraseology as the Chief Executive Officers of Crossroads Care and the Hospice had signed documents to confirm they were carrying on with the service and he had also sent copies to Head Office.
- (c) Ann-Marie reported that she had now received a supply of the revised membership application forms.

7. Acting Chair's report

(a) Regional Zoom meeting held on 3rd February

Terry reported that a presentation had been given by Local Advisers Janet Edmunds and Lauren Arnold describing the range of help they can provide. However, Terry found this confusing as they were both still liaising with their original branches, Sheffield and Doncaster, but they had had no contact with our branch, having been in post for nearly a year. When Terry had asked why this was, Lauren said they were part of the national team and referred the enquirer to the appropriate service.

They also said they had produced an information sheet for clinicians outlining the services provided by Parkinson's UK and branches. Terry thought it would be useful to have a copy of this to reprint in the newsletter so that members are aware of what is available.

Terry has sent an email to Rose regarding his concerns and will let Doris have a copy to circulate to the committee with the minutes of this meeting.

Philip has written to Carolyn, the Parkinson's Nurse, asking for a meeting with Terry but has not received a reply.

(b) Parkinson's Day, 11th April

As we are unable to hold the usual information stall in the town centre, Ann-Marie suggested we include a poster with the newsletter for members to display in their windows.

8. Treasurer's report

Philip referred to the rule that branches should keep a reserve of 12 months expenditure, which in Barnsley's case is £12-15,000. However, the situation this year is that branches are not spending anything but may still be receiving an income from donations. Head Office are looking into this so that it does not cause problems but as we have £25,000 in the bank, the implication is that we may have to offer £5,000.

Kathie had been unable to produce the normal report due to internet problems but had emailed the information. In January we paid Crossroads £360.80 for December, the Hospice £259 for the quarter October to December, and £25.84 to George for print cartridges. £30 was banked which included £10 for the sale of bottle lamps and cash of £13.07, leaving a bank balance of £26,515.22.

The audit is well underway and hopefully we will be well within the time limits for reporting to Head Office.

9. Secretary's report

Doris read out a letter that she had received from Philip thanking the members of the branch and the committee for the privilege and honour they had bestowed on him by electing him to the chair and continuing to confirm their confidence in him over the past ten years. He also acknowledged the achievements of his predecessors who had laid the foundations for the developments which have followed.

It was agreed that Sheila would include the letter in the next newsletter.

10. Service Development report

Terry will email Ian McMillan to introduce himself as the new Acting Chair and to cancel his visit in April.

Sheila will cancel the speaker from NatWest who was coming in May.

Items for the March newsletter – Chair's Chatter, Philip's letter, respite care, list of committee members, research report, medicine shortages, poster for Parkinson's Day.

11. Fundraising report

Philip reported that the half-year SLA meeting with Crossroads Care had been held but the Hospice had asked for their meeting to be put back to the end of March. However, they have produced a half-yearly summary of referrals and feedback which Philip will circulate to the committee. Both SLA's will be renewed formally at the end of May/June.

With regard to the recovery grant of £2,000 (£1,500 for respite, £500 for counselling) we are going to underspend. The Hospice have submitted an invoice for £259 but they have an ongoing case so Philip will put a figure of £380 for counselling in the end of grant report. The invoices from Crossroads Care from October to December total just over £1,000. Philip will ask if it would be possible to continue the grant for a further three months.

12. Assistant Treasurer's report

Nothing to report other than the Crossroads Care invoice for January should be arriving any time now.

13. Acting Membership Secretary's report

Granville reported that the last report he had received up to 31st December showed 135 members, one less than the previous month.

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9th March 2021 at 11.00 a.m.