

Action on Disability Annual General Meeting 2017

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on: Thursday 17th August 2017 at Cambridge School, 61 Bryony Road, W12 0SP

1. Welcome and Introductions

Patrick McVeigh, AoD's Vice Chair (VC), opened the meeting and explained he was standing in for the Chair Victoria Brignell who is on holiday. He welcomed AoD's patron Baroness Wilkins, fellow trustees, members and AoD's new CEO David Buxton.

The VC introduced Cllr Ben Coleman as the new Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care for Hammersmith and Fulham. He invited Cllr Coleman to address the floor.

Cllr Coleman outlined his role in cabinet as it affects disabled people and talked about some of the initiatives the council have introduced to support disabled people in the borough including the Disabled People's Commission and no charging for Home Care. The council also plan to build a £6 million center for disabled people and their families.

FROM THE FLOOR: The Council did a big thing for the Independent Living Fund. They saved it for the borough, they were the first borough in England doing that because they listened, people came and said we need to do that.

Cllr Coleman: We decided that Hammersmith and Fulham would continue to fund the independent living fund or our version as long as we are in power... we want to be the best possible council that there is and the only way we can do it is by listening and doing things with residents, with you and not to you.

FROM THE FLOOR: I find it very difficult to find help. There is never any sort of support, apart from Action on Disability or where to go for things. I find difficulties like getting here today, I couldn't get Dial-a-Ride to bring me here. There were obstacles that make you feel so isolated within the borough....

Cllr Coleman: ...That is where Action on Disability and groups can help you better. If they understand issues they can feed them back to us. I am going to stop here now, I really appreciate the time you have given me. If you want to email me, you can do it through action on disability Ben.Coleman@LBHF.gov.UK

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Vivienne Lukey, Cllr Caroline Ffiske, Cllr Joe Carlebach, Cllr Iain Graeme Cassidy, Victoria Brignell (AoD Chair), Peter Harden (AoD Treasurer), Vanessa Lowndes (Member), Helen Jeffreys (Member), Felicia Morgan (Member), Niovi Mina (Member), Shirley Allen (Member), Jacky Heron (Member), Maralyn Safar (Member), Edwin La Micallef (Member), Jean Cairns (Member), Jaswants Hindocha (Member), Abdula Khadra (Member), Limby Kwong (Member), Jackie Oswald V Brenda Ryan (Member)

3. Minutes from last AGM on 18th August 2016

Minutes approved and accepted as a correct record.

4. Chair's Report

The VC presented the Chair's Report and gave a summary of the achievements of each of the services run by AoD. He welcomed AoD's new CEO David Buxton who joined the organisation in May. David came from the British Deaf Association, where he was the Director of Campaigns and Communication.

The VC outlined some of the challenges facing AoD including the need to raise additional funds due to the cuts to central government grants. The trustees are working very closely with David Buxton to work out what AoD should be prioritising going ahead. AoD wants to implement a supporters group willing to contribute their time and energy to help the organisation.

Finally, the VC thanked all the volunteers and staff at AoD for their tireless work. He also thanked Kamran Mallick who as previous CEO was with AoD for 12 years. When he arrived, our income was £300,000 and he has left us with a revenue of £1.2m.

The full CEO Report and the Chair's Report are available on AoD's website together with the Financial Statement

5. Approval of Annual Accounts

The VC asked that the minutes note that the auditor did not attend. AoD will ask that they provide their statement of the annual accounts in writing.

AoD received proxy votes: 23 accepted the annual report, 22 approved the accounts and 21 approved re-appointing the auditors.

Fiona Anderson proposed that we re-appoint the auditors Michelle Bose seconded this.

6. Election to the Board of Trustees

Every 3 years all the trustees must resign and also every year we take the opportunity to appoint new people. The new people this year are Amy Rait and Kate Betteridge.

The 3 trustees who stepped down this year and wish to be re-appointed are Angeleca Silverside, Gabriella Zepf and Peter Harden. The number of applications for the role of trustee is the same as the number of vacancies so all applicants are approved.

The Vice Chair closed the meeting and thanked those in attendance.