**NATIONAL DIGNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD ON 17TH OCTOBER 2024**

**VIA ZOOM MEETINGS.**

The Chief Executive Officer Jan Burns MBE opened the meeting at 1.03p.m., welcoming all those present. She also pointed out that the meeting was being recorded.

Present: Jan Burns MBE Chief Executive Officer and Trustee

 Lesley Flatley Co-Chair and Trustee

 Roisin Burton Co-Chair and Trustee

 Alex Downey Trustee

 Amanda Cain Co-opted Trustee

In Attendance:

 Liz Taylor Honorary Secretary

 Three dignity champions

Apologies: Jane Finnerty Honorary Treasurer

1.4.24 Conflicts of Interest:

 No conflicts of interest were declared.

2.4.24 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2023

 The minutes of the meeting held on 18th October 2023 were accepted without amendment. Proposed Alex Lewney, seconded Roisin Burton, carried without dissent.

3.4.24 Matters Arising:

 There were no matters arising.

4.4.24 Annual Report:

 Jan Burns MBE introduced the Annual Report, thanking Liz Taylor for its preparation. She highlighted that we had a growing number of registered dignity champions, and that the number was steadily increasing. The numbers on the Facebook page were also increasing, and whilst it was not part of the 2023 -2024 Report she did comment that following a vote, the Facebook page would become an open one rather than a closed group in the near future. The postcards continue to be popular with over 80,000 having been sent out [please note that in the meeting Liz Taylor mistakenly said 15,000]. They are also available for download on the website. The Council continues to participate in a number of stakeholder groups, including the Care Provider Alliance and Jan Burns MBE continues to maintain and develop strategic links.

Jan Burns MBE commended the Report to the meeting.

Acceptance of the Report was proposed by Roisin Burton and Seconded by Lesley Flatley. Carried without dissent.

5.4.24 Accounts:

 In the absence of the Honorary Treasurer, Jan Burns MBE asked if there were any questions to the accounts. None were forthcoming. She reminded the meeting that the Council did not receive any direct funding and was dependent on donations and fundraising.

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Lesley Flatley and seconded by Alex Lewney. Carried without dissent.

6.4.24 Appointment of Trustees:

 Lesley Flatley retires this year but is willing to stand again.

 Amanda Cain has been coopted onto the Council, and is standing for approval.

The appointments of Lesley Flatley and Amanda Cain were proposed by Roisin Burton and seconded by Alex Lewney.

7.4.24 Appointment of Chair for 2024-2025:

 Alex Lewney was nominated by Jan Burns MBE and seconded by Lesley Flatley. Carried without dissent.

8.4.24 Appointment of Honorary Treasurer:

 Jane Finnerty had indicated her willingness to continue in this role. Jan Burns MBE proposed her re-appointment and this was seconded by Lesley Flatley. Carried without dissent.

9.4.24 Any Other Business:

 Thanks were extended to Rekha Elaswarapu who has stood down from her involvement in the Council. She has been a stalwart member for many years and will be much missed.

 It was also noted that there was a need to recruit more Trustees and it was agreed that steps would be taken during the coming year to address this.

 Jan Burns MBE formally recorded the tanks of the Council to Liz Taylor fir her work as Honorary Secretary and to the Trustees for their support over the year.

There being no further business the formal meeting closed at 1-23p.m.

There then followed a presentation by Amanda Partington-Todd on the CQC dementia strategy development.

This was then followed by a general and extremely stimulating discussion on the involvement of those with variable capacity in making decisions about their long-term future. Zoom recording link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/9Ct5tlwVLdlIC2sbbWNtN9_Co3vxHkFyF2JhsFQOxbSH7SpqM6bbFF9QGRFSDrdy.DkQbyS34q8n1hvKR>

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