

MhIST, Mental Health Independent Support Team

Annual General Meeting held at Bolton Parish Church Hall

Wednesday 24th November 2010

Present: Alan Ainscow, Alan Maden, Janet Cassidy, Alison Standish, Noel McNabb, Aileen Holt, George Ramsay, Marlene Wolstenholme, Lilian Chamberlain, Jean Haslam, Sheila Tracey, Sandra Clarkson, Julie Larkin, Peter Worsley, Ian Taylor, Stephen Gent, Jill Roberts (Chair), Mike Wilson, Paula Walsh, Karen Hodgetts.

In attendance: Melvin Bradley, Judith Sumner, David Procter.

Apologies: Tracy Williams, Simon Booth, John Rutherford, Andrew Kilpatrick, Emma Greenough, Flo Standish, Heather Fairfield, Janice Evans, Margaret Bailey-Varey, Pam Senior, John Sumner, Jo Walker, Kay Lomax, Gay Ryder, Gerald Prescott, Julie Pendlebury, Barbara Eastham.

Confirmation of minutes

The minutes from the last A.G.M. held on the 25th November 2009 were proposed by Lilian Chamberlain and seconded by Alison Standish.

Matters arising

Lilian Chamberlain asked what the situation is regarding election of Directors. Melvin confirmed the policy, which is that the Directors would step down and be re elected at the AGM each year.

The wages and salary figure query raised by Gerald Prescott at the last A.G.M. was satisfied by Melvin the day following the meeting.

There were no other matters raised.

Confirmation of directors

Melvin named the nominees for the Board as:

Sandra Clarkson

Barbara Eastham

Noel McNabb

J P Quinlan

Jill Roberts

Hilary Mercer

Steven Gent

A vote was held, 13 people voted for everyone's election, nobody voted against or abstained. They were all formally elected for the following year.

Melvin thanked the directors who had stepped down last year for their help. They were Sylvia Dobinson and Ian Taylor who are now paid staff, Lilian Chamberlain and John Sumner who are stepping down due to ill health, Elaine Hodson, Michael Hope, Delia McGeehan and Steve Lenehan.

Chairs Report

This was delivered by the new Chair, Jill Roberts. She reminded people that it was the Report for 2009/2010.

Alan Ainscow asked if there were any new properties available via the NHS. He facilitates a group at the Crompton Way Health Centre and there seemed to be unused rooms there. Melvin pointed out that the NHS don't actually own the building but rent it. A discussion followed regarding buildings.

Melvin pointed out that the counselling service still existed but had been omitted from the Report.

Jill thanked Alison Standish for her hard work producing the A-Z Directory.

Independent examiners Report

Melvin passed around copies of the report. David Procter read the report. Melvin clarified the sources of funding and how the payments are made. He explained that the Directors had previously decided that they wanted MhIST to have a 6 months reserve. The policy is explained in the accounts. Melvin informed everyone that John Sumner completes the accounts records.

There were no problems that needed to be reported to the board and members.

Lilian Chamberlain asked a question about cleaning expenses and was answered appropriately.

It was noticed that the sundries figure was incorrect; this was due to work being done with the Move Forward Bolton project.

Janet Cassidy asked why the local authority grant had gone from £48,000 to £30,000. It was explained by Melvin that it would probably go down a further 30% in March 2011. Bolton Council is still discussing how to reduce costs for next year.

It was explained that the PCT money includes the IMHA service at MhIST.

Jean Haslam asked about the future of the PCT, no clear answer could be given.

Karen Hodgetts said that in future the GPs plan to commission mental health services as a group. Alan Maden said it was the same for Salford and Trafford.

Sheila Tracey asked why the insurance figure had gone up so much. It was explained that costs had risen generally.

Aileen Holt commented on the low interest rates. Again it was explained these are low for everyone but deposit rates for charities are worse than those for individuals.

Alan Ainscow asked what was being done to increase donations. Melvin replied that in the next couple of months some business ideas should be in place.

Melvin said he was in the process of tendering for services outside of Bolton, namely Manchester for older people's advocacy. He should know if he is successful by 8th December. Jill Roberts reinforced the idea that MhIST will need to spread outside of the district.

Alison Standish asked if the Move Forward Bolton consortium would bring in money. Melvin clarified that it is for the protection of services and to allow collective bidding for larger bids. He confirmed that MhIST will continue to run as MhIST. A general discussion followed.

Melvin added that surrounding areas to Bolton could add up to a 25 to 30 mile area. One problem that MhIST might have is building capacity.

Marlene Wolstenholme suggested MhIST could target people to leave money from wills.

Appointment of Independent examiners

Lilian Chamberlain nominated David Procter, everyone present agreed.

Alan Maden, chair of Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Alan Maden delivered a power point presentation covering the trust's visions, values and objectives. The presentation also gave an overview of the trust and explained who it's service users are.

Various questions were asked and were answered appropriately.

Alan invited people who wanted to discuss individual experiences to meet up with him at the end of the meeting.

Any other business

Mike Wilson informed everyone that there was now a monthly depression group, meeting at 7pm until 9pm on the first Thursday of the month at MhIST. He is hoping that a new depression group will be starting at Brightmet Health Centre at the end of January 2011, alternative Mondays 10am until 12pm.

Date of next meeting

The next AGM will be held at 1pm on Wednesday 23rd November 2011 at Bolton Parish Church Hall.

The next half AGM will be at 1pm on Wednesday 25th May 2011 at Bolton Parish Church Hall.

Further details to follow.