

BENEVOLENT FUND OF THE COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS AND THE ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE 24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held virtually on 15th March 2023 by Zoom

at 15:30

PRESENT

Vivian Bush (Chair)
Daniel Ehrlich (Vice Chair)
Keval Dattani (Treasurer)
Richard Broughton (Trustee)
Francesca Marchetti (Trustee)
Manbir Nagra (Trustee)

Lynne Brown (Administrative Secretary)

Olga Perivoliotis (optometrist)

1. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from Tushar Majithia (Trustee), Alison McClune (Trustee), Aishah Fazlanie (Trustee), Jane Macnaughton (incoming Trustee) and Ian Humphreys (College)

2. Chair's Address:

The presentation is available as a separate Powerpoint document and was distributed in advance of the meeting. The main topics included:

- Structure of the Benevolent Fund
- The Trustees & what they did during the year
- The purpose of the Benevolent Fund
- Who the BenFund supports including new avenues of support
- The Fund's activity
- Financial summary
- Developing and raising the profile of the Fund
- Retirement and renomination of Trustees
- How to help the Fund
- Expression of thanks

The Chair welcomed Jane Macnaughton to the board of Trustees.

3. Minutes:

Registered Charity Number: 1003699

The meeting received and approved the Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting, held on 28th March 2022. (Proposed by Daniel Ehrlich, seconded by Francesca Marchetti.)

4. Matters arising:

None

5. Financial Statements and Treasurer's Report:

The meeting received and approved the Financial Statements and Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30th September 2022 which had been circulated before the meeting.

6. Trustees:

The meeting noted formally that Manbir Nagra (College) has been renominated to serve for one more year and Vivian Bush & Aishah Fazlanie (AOP) have been re-nominated for further 3-year terms.

The Trustees for the coming year are: Vivian Bush (Chair) Daniel Ehrlich (Vice Chair) Keval Dattani (Treasurer), Richard Broughton, Francesca Marchetti, Alison McClune, Aishah Fazlanie, Tushar Majithia, Manbir Nagra and Jane Macnaughton.

7. Independent Examiners:

The meeting agreed that quotations will be requested from several accountancy firms - as well as from Sayer Vincent - to act as Independent Examiners to the Fund for the year ending 30 September, 2023. The quotations will be compared, the default accountant being Vivien Ma from Sayer Vincent, who will be appointed if their quotation is favourable.

8. Any Other Business:

None

9. **Date of next meeting**: To be confirmed. May be held at the College Conference if an inperson 'Optometry Tomorrow' is held in 2024.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 15.50.

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