

**Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the  
British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH)**

**Held at the Royal Society of Medicine, Wimpole Street, London**

**Friday 10 January 2020**

The President, Dr Olwen Williams, was in the Chair and the meeting commenced at 17.30pm.

Fifty-three members attended the meeting, which was therefore quorate. Dr Tang noted that only BASHH members are eligible to vote in the AGM.

**1. Apologies for absence were received from:**

Dr Colin Roberts

**2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 January 2019**

The minutes of the sixteenth AGM held on 11 January 2019, had been circulated to the membership and were accepted, as an accurate record. Proposed by Dr Laura Waters, seconded by Dr Hannah Church, and approved by the meeting with no abstentions or votes against. The approved minutes will be posted on the BASHH website.

**3. Statement by the General Secretary**

The General Secretary, Dr Alan Tang, gave an overview of the BASHH activities over the past year. There has been an increase in membership over the year from 1018 to 1067 at December 2019 and there has been an increase in Nurse and DIT membership during the year.

BASHH hold a quarterly performance meeting with MKSAM and the following data has been recorded:

- MINUTES: 90% of draft minutes were completed within 10 working days
- CALLS: Average time to answer telephone calls was within 5 rings
- QUERIES: 95%-100% of Membership AND Account queries were resolved within 3 working days
- EMAILS: Global emails sent within 2 working days of final approval by General Secretary – we have 13 -14 all BASHH member emails per quarter. The General Secretary approves emails to go out to members and details can also be included in the newsletter
- FAILURES – Feb 2019 Bacterial Scientific Meeting programme was late and survey was completed late (part accountability)
- WEBSITE: late postings, 4 of 55 and 2 of 50 requests were later than 2 days

Membership has grown over recent years from 917 in July 2016 to 1067 in December 2019.

The Annual Review can be found on the website <https://www.bashh.org/about-bashh/annual-review-reports/> and this includes details of group activities and committee members.

Dr Tang thanked the team at MKSAM for their work during 2019.

**4. Statement by the Treasurer**

The Honorary Treasurer, Dr Kaveh Manavi, made a statement highlighting key features in the accounts and noted that the full report was available to members on the website <https://bashh.org/about-bashh/annual-review-reports/>.

BASHH has had a challenging year, which has resulted in a net deficit of £62,622 at 31 July 2019, which was driven by conference costs and secretariat fees. Dr Manavi made the following comments:

- Secretariat services: 12% increase: **£142,461**
- Spring conference deficit: **£40,000**
- Board's approval of support of BMS to attend IUSTI: **£17,097**
- Advance payments for Spring Conferences until 2021
- BASHH withdrew **£80,000** from the saving account

- Fund balances carried forward at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019: **£1,740,634**
- Expenses have been reduced by £15,035
- Income has reduced by £90,392 due to lower sponsorship income
- Secretariat fees have reduced by £1,237
- Journal costs have reduced by £11,505
- Committee costs have reduced by £1,251
- The investments are performing reasonably well

BASHH have looked at improving the way they do business:

- BASHH have tendered the venues for meetings and made savings which will appear in the next year's accounts
- The contracts for the STI and International journals has been renegotiated and there will only be online access to the journals, which can be accessed by clicking on the logos on the BASHH website. Printed versions will be available from the publishers at an additional cost
- Membership categories have been simplified from 18 to 11 categories
- Negotiated the management fees for managing the BASHH funds with St James Place
- Groups now receive quarterly statements which has helped reduce debtors
- More promotion of events using social media
- Debtors reduced from £233k in 2018 to £127k in 2019
- Non-members will now be charged £40 to attend scientific meetings

Financial planning for 2020:

- To tender our contract for secretariat support, this will be finalised by the February Board meeting
- To reduce variation in the cost of Educational Events
- To improve information availability to the Chairs of BASHH groups
- To improve our standard operating procedures
- To utilise technology for our committee meetings, where possible.
- To tender our contract with M&F

Dr Tang thanked Dr Manavi for looking after the finances during his first term of office.

## **5. Membership Subscription for 2020/21**

Dr Manavi reported that the membership subscription has remained unchanged for 8 years and the subscription will be held for 2020/21, as set by the Board.

## **6. Resolutions**

It was noted that the Chair held no proxy votes.

### **Resolution 1**

To receive the audited accounts for the period 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019 together with the trustees' and auditors' reports. This resolution was proposed by Dr John McSorley and seconded by Dr Kate Nambiar and was therefore approved by the meeting with no abstentions or votes against.

### **Resolution 2**

That Farrington & Co Ltd of 176 Franciscan Road, London SW17 8HH be re-appointed auditors of the Company, to hold office from the conclusion of this meeting until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company at which accounts are laid before the Company. This resolution was proposed by Dr David Phillips and seconded by Dr Shalini Andrews and therefore, this resolution was approved by the meeting with no abstentions or votes against.

### **Resolution 3**

That the board of trustees of the Company be authorised to determine the remuneration of the auditors of the Company. This resolution was proposed by Dr Peter Greenhouse and

seconded by Dr Tristan Barber and therefore, this resolution was approved by the meeting with no abstentions or votes against.

## 7. Retirements

Members are invited to note the retirement of the following, with effect from the close of business of the meeting: Dr Elizabeth Carlin, Past President to the Board; Prof Jonathan Ross, Vice President to the Board; Dr Ashini Fox, Education Chair to the Board; Neil Jenkinson, Lay person to the Board; and Merle Symonds, Health Adviser representative to the Board, as trustees of the Company, which does not require the concurrence of the members at the annual general meeting.

## 8. Appointment of elected trustees and Clinical Governance Group representatives

The results of the 2020 elections were presented by the General Secretary. Dr Tang reported that these had been conducted by the Electoral Reform Services (ERS) using a secure online voting website.

There were no contested posts.

The results of the ballot are listed below:

<b>Board posts</b>	<b>Elected Candidate</b>
<b>President</b>	Dr John McSorley
<b>Vice President</b>	Dr Alan Tang
<b>General Secretary</b>	Dr David Phillips
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dr Kaveh Manavi
<b>CGC Chair</b>	Dr Shalini Andrews
<b>EC Chair</b>	Dr Sophie Forsyth
<b>Fellow to the Board</b>	Dr Laura Waters
<b>Health Adviser representative to the Board</b>	Ceri Evans
<b>SAS representative to the Board</b>	Mr Parameswaran Sashidharan
<b>Lay Trustee</b>	Dr Ruth Lowbury
<b>Clinical Governance Committee (CGC)</b>	
<b>East Anglia</b>	vacant
<b>Oxford</b>	vacant
<b>Scotland</b>	Dr Rona MacDonald
<b>South West</b>	vacant
<b>Thames South East</b>	vacant
<b>Trent</b>	Dr Manjula Pammi
<b>Wessex</b>	vacant
<b>West Midlands</b>	Dr Claire Robertson
<b>Yorkshire</b>	vacant
<b>Health Adviser representative</b>	vacant
<b>DIT representative</b>	vacant

<b>Nurse representative</b>	vacant
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These appointments will take effect from the end of the AGM, to hold office until the second succeeding AGM following this meeting. There are eight vacant posts on the CGC and efforts will be made to co-opt members to these roles.

**Post Meeting Note:**

The following members were co-opted to vacant posts following the AGM:

<b>East Anglia</b>	Dr Serish Basavaraj
<b>South West</b>	Dr Peter Greenhouse (co-opted)
<b>Thames South East</b>	Dr Rajesh Hembrom (co-opted)
<b>Wessex</b>	Dr Sangeetha Sundaram (co-opted)
<b>Health Adviser representative</b>	Mr Joe Deering (co-opted)
<b>Nurse representatives</b>	Kimberley Dzvova/Rosemary Gordon (co-opted)

It was agreed that the Charity Commission and Companies House will be updated to reflect the changes in Board posts.

**9. Award of BASHH Honorary Life Fellowship**

The General Secretary announced that the Board had awarded Honorary Life Fellowship to Dr Elizabeth M Carlin, who will be presented with her medal later in the year at a scientific meeting. Dr Carlin was congratulated and this award is made for exceptional service to BASHH and the speciality over seventeen years.

**10. Award of BASHH Outstanding Contribution award**

The General Secretary noted that this award is made every two years and is awarded to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the work of BASHH, or an outstanding contribution to the field of sexual health. Dr Lowbury has been a leading light around policies and standards and was Chief Executive of Medfash for 16 years. Dr Ruth Lowbury, will be presented with the award during the Gala Dinner at the Annual Conference 2020. Ruth has also been appointed as a lay trustee to BASHH.

**11. Sexual Health Heroes**

BASHH invited individuals to nominate people who have gone the extra mile for the speciality and it is hoped to run the competition next year. The winner was Mr David Bestwick of Leicester and the Rotherham Mesmac team and Leicester Sexual Health team were commended. Dr Williams agreed to contact David and advise him that he is a BASHH Sexual Health Hero.

**12. Any Other Business**

There was no Any Other Business.

**13. Closing Statement by the President**

Dr Williams thanked members for their commitment to BASHH, which helps to strengthen the organisation. She also thanked the Board, Trustees and Officers for all their support during her term of office.

Dr Williams highlighted the following achievements:

- Two major standards have been published during the year, which are major achievements for BASHH
- The International Foundation for Sexual Health Education was led by Luciana Berger and this initiative is to be commended
- The “We need to get better at sex” campaign

- The response to the Health and Social Care Committee report on Sexual Health
- There will be a Sexual Health Strategy but nothing on commissioning at this time

BASHH have a strategy for 2020 and onwards:

- Develop Vision for the Association
- Ensure a fit for purpose Sexual Health Strategy for England
- Enhance recruitment into our specialty
- Continue our partnership working
- Ensure PrEP commissioned across England
- Continue to deliver our charitable objectives

Dr Williams finished by thanking everyone for making BASHH a successful organisation, she has had an amazing time during her term of office and she was handing over to a capable individual, in Dr John McSorley, who will be supported by a wonderful team of Officers.

Dr McSorley acknowledged all the work that Dr Williams has done during her term of office and noted that she is an impressive woman who has been effective in moving BASHH forward. This is the beginning of a new decade, which will be challenging but it is useful to look back and see how far BASHH have come in the last decade.

The meeting closed at 18.10pm.