HERTFORDSHIRE LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 1st April 2025

At Tewinbury Farm, Welwyn

MINUTES

Present:

Jane Bunker (Chair) (JB)
Steve Roberts (Vice Chair) (SJR)
Nisha Shah (NS)(Minutes)
Ash Patel (AP)
Kavita Kathuria (KK)
Anita Jones (AJ)
Karan Sai Malik (KSM)
Seema Raunier (SR)
Katie Patel (KP)
Fionnuala Kidd (LOCSU)

Plus other constituents attending the AGM and CPD event

1. Chair's Welcome (Meeting opened at 18.54)
   The chair's report had previously been circulated. JB welcomed everybody and introduced the evening. It was also confirmed that delegates are happy for Newmedica photographs to be used for their marketing. She reflected briefly on the year and particularly thanked those leaving the committee; Wendy, Hansil, Peter and Gavin.

2. Apologies for absence
   Wendy, Hansil, Peter, Gavin, Eileen & Deepali.

3. Introduction to committee members
   Everyone introduced themselves.

4. Changes of Declarations of Interest
   No updates were declared

5. Minutes of previous AGM
   Adopted unanimously

6. Matters Arising
   None were raised

7. LOCSU Update
   FK's introduction outlined LOCSU role in supporting LOCs in various ways and what their national contribution in 2024/25 including a cardiovascular pilot. Upcoming national

topics include disbandment of NHSE, SPoA for referrals, digital connectivity (and uniformity across borders), CVD intervention, sight testing in special schools and glaucoma care. Upcoming local topics include the drive for enhanced services in Herts including MECS and a paediatric pathway, cross-border working, out of hours care and CVD. Upcoming activity LOCSU included NOC, model constitution, new 5 year strategy and helping support enhanced services cases. Model constitution slightly delayed due to NHSE news but LOC will receive this soon.

8. Treasurer's report: draft accounts, budget, statutory levy
   Eileen's apologies. KSM spoke on her behalf. Accounts adopted unanimously with no changes to the levy

9. Accounting and audit arrangements for the coming year.
   The LOC is likely to be liable for corporation tax from next tax year. Proposal to retain existing arrangements for accounts and scrutiny were adopted unanimously.

10. Adoption of reports
    No further questions

11. Election of committee members
    All Herts practitioners present were eligible to vote, including committee members. A secret ballot was conducted, the process and count independently verified by FK. Results were to be announced later in the evening.

12. Any other business
    No other questions.

13. Next meeting date
    Normal committee meeting in 3 months for officer elections, date to be confirmed.

    Meeting closed at 19.13

Later in the evening, once voting had ceased at the agreed time and all votes verified and counted, the results of election were announced. Successful candidates were Nisha Shah, Jane Bunker, Ash Patel and Kush Mandavia. Kush was welcomed to the committee, the other three successful candidates duly returned and the other candidates thanked for their participation