

Annual General Meeting of Fellows & Members  
13.00, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018  
The Law Society, Chancery Lane, London

## MINUTES

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Attendees:</b>        |                   |
| Professor Derek Alderson | President         |
| Miss Susan Hill          | Vice-President    |
| Professor Neil Mortensen | Vice-President    |
| Professor Cliff Shearman | Vice-President    |
| Michael Escudier         | Ananda Nanu       |
| Ian Eardley              | Nigel Standfield  |
| Martin Bircher           | Helen Fernandes   |
| Peter Lamont             | Stella Vig        |
| Scarlett McNally         | Bill Allum        |
| Paul O'Flynn             | Tim Mitchell      |
| Peter Kay                | Stephen Chadwick  |
| Richard Kerr             | Peter Friend      |
| Tim Briggs               | Richard Page      |
| John Abercrombie         | Farah Bhatti      |
| Tim Terry                | Eric Nicholls     |
| Vivien Lees              | Tim Lane          |
| Fiona Myint              | Alan Horgan       |
| Shafi Ahmed              | Vinita Shekar     |
| Tim Rockall              | Gemma Humm        |
| David Jones              | Ros Levenson      |
| Andrew Swift             | Andrew Miles      |
| Timothy Goodacre         | John Brecknell    |
| Nicholas Markham         | Vittoria Bucknall |
| Ian Martin               | Nigel Mercer      |
| Nick Phillips            |                   |
| <b>In attendance:</b>    |                   |
| Andrew Reed              | Chief Executive   |
|                          |                   |

The President welcomed all attendees to the meeting, including the Regional Representatives who were able to join.

## **1. MINUTES**

*To approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held at the College on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016.*

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record, and there were no actions arising.

## **2. ADDRESSES**

*To hear an address from the President of The Royal College of Surgeons of England*

The President highlighted that membership of the College had continued to rise, reaching over 27,000 in total, including Surgical Care Practitioners as Associate Members. The College was delighted to be welcoming the wider surgical team.

The College had seen a £0.6m surplus, which would support the redevelopment of the College's buildings. The rebuilding programme was on schedule, with foundations being laid. Additionally, an office had opened in Manchester, as part of the College's strategy of growing a regional presence across the UK, with more services delivered locally. The College was also focusing on its international offer, including 105 countries involved in the Global Surgical Research Initiative, supported by the College.

The College's Quality Improvement collaborative on cholecystectomy – CholeQuIC – was demonstrating substantial improvements, and was creating a model for future QI work. There had also been success in the Improving Surgical Training pilots; a strong educational offer from the College; and further awards of Research Fellowships with funding. There were now seven Surgical Trials Initiatives across the UK, with professorial chairs funded by donors. There had also been major focus on the College's Commission on the Future of Surgery.

The College had been frequently quoted in the media, including on elective surgery, NHS pressures and the independent sector.

He noted that those present would have the Faculty Deans' reports in their packs. The FGDP was still intending to separate from the College, with the RCS team working with them to facilitate their independence.

## **3. ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS**

*To present for inspection the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2018.*

Miss Hill gave an update.

The audited accounts had been approved by the Board of Trustees, and the accounts had once more given an unqualified audit report by the auditors, Crowe LLP. There had been a surplus generated of £0.6m. This reflected spending related to the capital redevelopment, including lost trading income for the College as an events venue.

## **4. UPDATE ON THE COLLEGE'S CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION**

*To receive an update on the College's current financial position.*

Miss Hill gave an update. Fundraising was currently underway to support the redevelopment of the College, with an appeal to members and fellows to particularly consider donating. The funding gap would also be addressed by the ongoing efficiency programme, Doing Things Differently. The College had a strong investment portfolio, although there were further challenges on staff pensions to be addressed.

#### **5. PROPOSALS TO AMEND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

*To present the proposal for annual subscriptions, with effect from October 2016.*

Miss Hill informed the meeting that Trustees had proposed once again freezing MRCS membership fees, with a rise of 2.5% or CPI inflation as at February 2018, whichever was lower.

Members were asked to vote on this, with 26 voting for the proposal, and none against. The proposal was therefore carried.

#### **6. TO APPROVE THE WRITTEN ORDINARY RESOLUTION OF HUNTER TRADING LTD**

*To approve the signing of the Resolution*

The President explained that the RCS accounts were always prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102. This standard had been recently amended to require that RCS, as parent charity of its subsidiary company, Hunter Trading Ltd, passed a Members' Resolution of Hunter Trading in order to create a legal obligation for the accrual of the gift aid payment of its annual profits to RCS. The President therefore sought approval from members present to pass this ordinary resolution.

Members were asked to vote on this, with 26 voting for the proposal, and none against. The proposal was therefore carried.

#### **7. MOTIONS FROM FELLOWS & MEMBERS**

*There were no motions for discussion.*

Professor Alderson thanked all those who had attended, and concluded the meeting.

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Elizabeth Anderson, Chief Executive's Office  
30<sup>th</sup> November 2018