

ANDOVER & DISTRICT OLDER PEOPLE'S FORUM

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25TH APRIL 2024 AT 2.15PM AT THE ANDOVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Present: B Kay, W Rayner, P Rayner, F North, Wendy North W Carson, H Watkins, M Antrobus, Karen Campbell, Brenda Nash, Alison Milbourn, Ivan Perryman, April Pearce, Christine Cushnie, Jill Sacree, Brian Skinner, Rita Skinner, Richard Hallin, Margaret Elsley, Margaret Ponting, Peter Ponting, Penny Curtis, Adi Phillips, Mike Taylor, Rosemarie Major, Terri Haastrup, Marilyn May, Vi Walker, Joyce Baughen, Liz Murray, Elsa Redpath, Sheila Cowap.

In Attendance: Imogen Colley

2.15pm Welcome

The Chairman, Haydn Watkins standing in for Jenny Kay who was indisposed

Apologies received from Jenny Kay, Di Swaddling. Angela Morris, Suzy McNamara

1. Minutes of the 2023 AGM held 27th April 2023 : approved
2. Matters arising: none raised.
3. Chairperson's Report : Jenny Kay read to Members by Haydn Watkins

As I write my report I am pleased to say the sun is shining and the gardens look so colourful, I am definitely a Spring person!

We have had another very full year for the Forum and despite a lot of health problems our wonderful committee have brought together a varied and informative programme of events. Our speakers have given us so much useful information ranging from Ann Orr from the Co-Op financial services on Wills and Powers of Attorney to a light hearted talk on our railway network by one of our longest running members of the executive committee Peter Rayner, this included a few of his anecdotes on making sure the Royal Train ran on time!

Our website, as always, is full of useful information and so well managed by Wilson and Di and I cannot thank them enough for their hard work.

Mollie, our events organiser, has produced yet again a very successful **Full of Life event** Diabetes being the theme this year. She will be telling us more in her report but she is a wonder how she brings it all together, it is amazing and I cannot thank her enough.

Wendy our Secretary works her magic each month on bringing together our Newsletter that is always packed with news, information and the lighter side of life! This is also sent out to those members who either do not have a computer or would rather have a hard copy as well as trying to get a copy to our local Parish Magazines before their deadlines close! This is such a good service to keep our housebound members in the loop and let them know what is going on at the Forum.

I am sure the main plea this year is to every member to be on the lookout for new committee members, we say it every year, but this year is really getting to a critical point. I for one would hate to see the Forum close but at our age and with our increasing health issues it is a real possibility!! Is there anyone out there who is in part-time work or even out of work? It would

ANDOVER & DISTRICT OLDER PEOPLE'S FORUM

look great on your CV if you put down voluntary work; employers are always impressed by initiative! New blood and new ideas, would give us the boost we need!

Lastly, a big thank you must go to our willing members that help with catering and the raffle in the way of help and donations your efforts are so appreciated.

We wish all our members a healthy year ahead and let us hope we continue to grow.

4. Secretary's Report: Wendy Rayner

Andover & District Older People's Forum, our Forum, has had a busy year. We have been approached by various bodies, in some cases to spread the word about events that were being held that could benefit older people and in other cases asking us to participate in Consultations although you may remember on one occasion last November, the Consultation was so widely advertised nobody in the room had heard about it. That particular Consultation was on **Proposals for a new direction for County Council in-house residential and nursing care for older adults**. It had only come to AOPF's notice after a member, Alderman Marion Kerley, had a reminder and brought it to our attention with only 6 days to when it closed. In that instance Molly Antrobus endeavoured to make a response in our name.

The New Hospital Consultation was better publicised and indeed many of you took Part.

On a National Level **the Women and Equalities Select Committee Inquiry** held a workshop on the 18th March at the Lights in Andover. The Women and Equalities Select Committee is a cross-party group of MPs that feed into Government, and they are holding an inquiry on the rights of older people which covers many subjects. This workshop, which was organised by Independent Age, focussed on Digital Exclusion. The Forum was personally invited to this event which is encouraging in that it shows our Group is being taken seriously and seeking out our views. However like many of these things we could have done with more notice to get the information out, especially when individuals have to express their interest so the organisers have an idea of numbers. Fortunately our Chairman Jenny attended with Brian and made good representation

We continue to get diverse information out via the Notice Board, Website, Facebook and email from Christmas invitations from Balksbury Federation to the sessions held by Andover Primary Care Network and Unity DIGITAL SKILLS FOR HEALTH and very many others.

I will end my Report by saying my regular task, which I enjoy very much is getting The Notice Board together to try to ensure it contains a lot of general information and items that might be of interest that keep us connected so any contribution, ideas or thoughts from you, the members, are greatly appreciated.

5. Treasurer's Report: Fred North

Fred North has circulated his report to the Executive Committee and it will be available to any members who wish to have a copy. The Accounts have yet to be independently audited as the AGM is too close after year end. He reported that this year we had a small operating surplus of £183.57 compared with a deficit last year of £207.57, so over the last two years we broke near enough even. Much of this was due to the success of the raffle at the Diabetes Day event. We had had grants from TVBC towards the Event for Hall Hire.

ANDOVER & DISTRICT OLDER PEOPLE'S FORUM

We received Quarterly support from TVBC towards for the distribution of the Newsletters and the cost of maintaining our informative Website. He also thanked our fundraising champion, Marion Kerley, for, on her own back, raising £188. Welcome donations were also through sale of books from Peter Rayner and £20 from Brian Skinner.

6. **Events and Publicity Report** Mollie Antrobus

This report covers the main events planned and organized by the Publicity and Events Officer on behalf of members during the year from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. It does not include the quarterly public membership meetings with speakers as these are covered in the Secretary's Report.

Input on behalf of AOPF members was also made to:

Test Valley Borough Council's Local Plan: comments were sent.

Monthly Patient and Public Advisory Group work leading to production of recent Consultation on '**A new hospital for Hampshire: proposed changes to acute hospital services in and around Basingstoke and Winchester**'. This consultation is now closed. Members were kept informed of dates of local actual meetings and of virtual ones via our meetings and Notice Board and encouraged to attend.

Full of Life Diabetes Information Day

This event was organized for 5th October to link with 'Full of Life day' (National Day for Older People). It was held at Andover Baptist Church. An application for a Councillor's Grant was successfully made to Councillor Z Brooks at Test Valley Borough Council to help towards the costs of the event and the remainder came from the AOPF raffle fundraising throughout the year. Thank you to those who gave raffle prizes and to those who bought raffle tickets as we have to cover our costs in this way.

Diabetes is such a prevalent condition in this country and 1: 4 of over 70 year olds are likely to get it. While there are different types (1 and 2) our medical experts explained the different treatments and why. We were fortunate to have Dr Hermione Price BScHons, MBChB Hons, DPhil, FRCP as a keynote speaker. She is a Consultant Diabetologist working with the award winning Team of Diabetes Nurses, Consultants and Dieticians who work alongside people diagnosed with diabetes across West and North Hampshire. She was ably supported by Dr Sarah Siens, a local GP and lead director at the Primary Care Network.

We hope attendees learnt more about risks and prevention as well as the treatment and care from our speakers, Q&A Panel and Exhibition. Photos and slides are accessible on our website.

It was good to see sixty people at the event on October 5th which was well attended plus 20 stand holders.

NHS Social Prescribing Day

Andover and District Older People's Forum was invited to have a display stand on March 14th: Social Prescribing Day, by Hayley Baven the lead Social Prescriber with the Andover PCN. This was seen as a good opportunity to encourage members of the public to learn what we are about and to encourage new membership. We also promoted our AGM,

ANDOVER & DISTRICT OLDER PEOPLE'S FORUM

displayed photographs of events we have organized and noted our affiliation to the National Pensioner's Convention. We gave out flyers about AOPF and the AGM.

We were pleased to see some familiar faces of members as well as a decent attendance of the public plus statutory and voluntary sector representatives both with displays and visiting the event. Footfall was good between 2pm and 4pm but then started to dwindle.

Many thanks go to colleagues who helped to 'man' the stand and put together the display, namely our chairman Jenny, husband Brian and member Brenda. You all worked so hard and 'THANKYOU!' for a successful event.

7. Election of Officers: Imogen Colley from Test Valley Borough Council presided and called for Nominations for the Executive Committee. The results were as follows:

	Nominator	Seconded	
Chairperson			
Jenny Kay	Fred North	Mollie Antrobus	ELECTED
Secretary			
Wendy Rayner	Jill Sacree	Haydn Watkins	ELECTED
Treasurer			
Fred North	Peter Rayner	Mollie Antrobus	ELECTED

All other suggested positions for Committee members were supported by those present. They are:

Di Swaddling, Brian Kay, Wilson Carson, Mollie Antrobus, Karen Campbell, Haydn Watkins, Brian Skinner, Violet Walker, Adi Phillips, Liz Murray.

During the selection of Committee Members' The question of eligibility for Committee membership was raised in relation to 'conflicts of interest'. The Constitution was not immediately available to check so interested attendees names and details were taken.

Date of first meeting of new Committee to be arranged.

Date of next General Meeting planned for last Thursday in April 2025 subject to venue availability.

AGM closed.

Refreshments were served followed by Guest Speaker from HILS operators of the Meals on Wheels Service for Hampshire and a short presentation on Live Better Longer Initiative.