

FOREVER ACTIVE FORUM LTD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2021

Because of the continuing need observe Covid-19 precautions, this meeting was held online via Zoom.



MINUTES

Attendees:

Board Members: Elizabeth Crow; Sue Dabner; Simon Hanna; Anne Johnson; Stefania van Lieshout; Sue Morley **Board Attendees:** Carrie Holbrook; Chris Wojtecki

Operations Manager and Instructors: Hannah Black; Jenny Hays; Jane Jones; Davina Mee

Members: Steve Burgess; Patricia Chapman; Norma Garrett; Pip Smith; Julia Popp; Rosie Stebbings; Pam Vendy; Judy Wilson

Chair of the Meeting: the former Chair of Forever Active, Dr. Penny McClean, has recently resigned for personal reasons. At her request the AGM was chaired by David Watkinson.

The meeting was asked to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution made by Penny during her 10 years as Chair, her ability to keep Forever Active in financial balance and her oversight of 10 years of development.

1. Apologies for absence:

Received from: Edye Hoffman, Dr. Penny McClean and Diane Johnston

2. To receive the Accounts for 2020/21

Stefania van Lieshout presented the Annual Accounts for 2020/21. These accounts are publicly available on the Forever Active website: www.forever-active.org.uk

Key points include:

- a £30,000 loss of income related to the Covid-19 pandemic and concomitant lockdowns. Lockdowns caused classes to close and income to be lost whilst overheads continued to be paid.
- Whilst grants had been received in previous years, no grants were received in 2020/21

- Forever Active has survived financially because of reserves accrued in previous years and used in line with the Reserves Policy
- Although the financial position of Forever Active is not deteriorating as rapidly as was the case at the peak of the pandemic, the need to secure grants during 2021/22 is a very high priority

David thanked Stefania for her close monitoring of Forever Active's finances and monthly production of accounts for Board Members & the Management Group.

3. To receive the Annual Report for 2020/21

David Watkinson presented the Annual Report on behalf of Dr. Penny McClean. This Annual Report is publicly available on the Forever Active website: www.forever-active.org.uk

Key points include:

- The significant challenges which had to be faced during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic
- The impact on Forever Active's viability because of having to close classes, loss of some instructors and loss of some members
- The impact on members because of loss of social networks, independence, and mobility
- Loss of class income and external grants
- Although 2022 may see a return of members to classes, opening those classes will take time and resources
- In 2022, decisions about grants for which Forever Active has applied – and will be applying – will have been made. This may put Forever Active in a stronger position.

4. Election to the Board:

a) Re-election as Directors/Trustees: Elizabeth Crow, Simon Hanna, Anne Johnson, Sue Morley, Stefania van Lieshout and Sue Dabner. **Proposed and Agreed**

b) To elect: 1. Edye Hoffman, 2. Chris Wojtecki **3. David Watkinson** as new Directors/Trustees. **Proposed and Agreed**

5. AOB:

a) Operations Manager: the meeting was asked to acknowledge the critical role played by Jane Jones, Operations Manager, in maintaining the delivery of classes online during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, for striving to retain instructors and members and for driving the delivery of Forever Active since the easing of restrictions.

b) Member question: Norma Garrett has requested Forever Active to consider changing the fee structure for those members attending multiple classes each week. Stefania van Leishout will propose a change to the Board at its meeting in January 2022 for consideration.

c) Board Member question: Chris Wojtecki asked for an update on grant applications. On 15 November, Forever Active submitted a response to a 'Request for Quotation' advertised by Cambridgeshire County Council/Public Health for the provision of strength and balance classes in Cambridge City and East Cambs. It is hoped that a response will be received by end of December. Classes will have to be in place by April 2022.

d) Judy Wilson thanked Forever Active/Hannah Black for the provision of classes from which she considers has benefitted. Her hope is that the appointment of Ede Hoffman (who has extensive experience of providing physical activity opportunities to people with dementia) to the Board will enable Forever Active to provide additional training to instructors and classes to members with specific needs.

www.forever-active.org.uk