

Minutes of AGM

Wednesday 14 November 2019

Talbot Lane Centre

Present: David Vickers (chair); Bill Koncowoj (Treas); Val Lindsay; Shirley Dingwall; Linda Koncowoj (sect); Marilyn Wright; Pauline Greaves; Joyce Vaughan; Margaret Higginbotham; Barbara Booton; Elaine Humphries; Helen Shorto; Francis Kewley-Jones; June Woolley; Beryl Billington; Mohammed Terry Gillingham (VAR/Gizmo); Iain Cloke (Age UK Rotherham); Ray Noble

Apologies: cllr Victoria Cusworth; Mr Munir; Helen Wyatt (RCCG); Betty Graham.

1. The AGM was formally opened by The Deputy Mayor Councillor Ian Jones with Deputy Mayor's consort Mrs Jones .

The Deputy Mayor thanked ROPF for inviting him. He said that he believed ROPF is invaluable because it represents a vast amount of experience and knowledge of Rotherham and of the services that older people require. This is important information the council needs to be fed through into the design of its services and policies. ROPF is also needed to hold the council to account, to ask questions.

Councillor Jones recognised that in the coming years Rotherham will soon have more older people and so it is very important ROPF continues to thrive.

2. Welcome

Chair Bill Koncowoj, welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked the Deputy Mayor for attending and opening the event. He presented the Mrs Jones with a bouquet of flowers.

Bill explained how it had been his privilege to be the chair of ROPF this past year, following in the footsteps of Liz Booth who resigned last year. He said he had been very proud of the work ROPF has been doing to give older people in Rotherham voice on the things that matter most to them These activities are described in our annual report.

Bill finished his opening welcome by saying that Rotherham is facing difficult times ahead with challenges to community relationships; an ageing population and financial constraints so it is important to work together with our partners to work towards making Rotherham a better place to grow older in.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Members agreed the minutes of the last AGM are correct. Proposed by Bill Koncowoj and seconded by Elaine Humphreys.

4. Matters Arising

The proposal for an older People's strategic partnership – as there has still been no progress on this David proposed ROPF attend a formal letter. Zaidah announced that the role of an equalities officer is being deleted. All members expressed concern that this would result in a reduction in the council's focus on equality issues.

Transport – continues to be an important issue. Ray explained the SY PT user group meets every quarter and he offered for issues to be fed through to him and assured people they are listened to.

5. Presentation and adoption of Annual report and Financial report

Barbara Booton (development consultant) talked through the key highlights from the annual report.

The annual report and financial report was formally adopted (proposed by Elaine Humphreys and seconded by Val Lindsay)

6. Elections

David Vickers proposed that the clause in the ROPF constitution which requires nominations for the committee received 1 months prior to the AGM, be suspended the purpose of this year's AGM. This motion was agreed by all members present. He also proposed the constitution be reviewed before the next AGM with any urgent amendments to come to an EGM before this.

All the current committee members agreed to stand again for a further 12 months with the addition of Linda Koncowoj. Nominations agreed and seconded by Elaine Humphreys and Beryl Billington.

Formal officer roles for the committee were then proposed and agreed as:

David Vickers Chair

Bill Koncowoj Treas

Linda Koncowoj Sec

Val Lindsay committee member

Betty Graham committee member

David Vickers formally closed the AGM. He thanked Age UK Rotherham for the use of a room for the monthly committee meetings.