

## Notes of Annual General Meeting 2022

Thursday 24th November 2022, 4pm to 5.30pm, via Zoom

(Rescheduled from Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 due to Covid)

1. Andrew Carmichael (AC), Chair of Trustees opened the meeting by introducing himself and welcoming attendees.
2. Sharron Spindler, Chief Executive (SS) also welcomed everyone and gave apologies from Nickie Hallam, Liz MacKenzie, Grant Chambers, Shiellah Mushunje, Luke Spindler, Hannah Schober and Ness Cooper.
3. SS asked the floor if anyone had any questions or comments about the notes of the 2021 AGM. No one had any questions or comments, and the notes were agreed as being true and accurate.
4. SS invited Matthew Pettifer from Staffords (Diverse's accountants) to talk about the End of Year Accounts for 2021-22. In summary, Matthew said that the Diverse accounts were the healthiest they had been for several years, with unrestricted income doubling from previous years. He said that financially things were positive although we must remain mindful of the fact that some grants are ending in 2023 and we need to secure continuation/alternative funding to maintain our position.  
**Please note** that the accounts and Trustees' Report are available to view on the Diverse website.
5. AC thanked Matthew and proposed that the 2021-22 accounts were adopted, there were no objections and Susan Walker (SW) seconded the motion.
6. AC proposed that Staffords were re-appointed for the financial year 2022-2023, there were no objections and Susan Walker seconded the motion.
7. AC informed the meeting that:
  - Izzy Rose who had joined the Board in May 2021, stepped down in September 2021 for personal reasons.
  - Wilhelmena Allin (WA) joined the Board in September 2022
  - Ness Cooper (NC) joined the Board in November 2022
8. AC proposed that WA and NC were both formally elected to the Board at this meeting and that all other trustees were re-appointed for a further year. There were no objections and Jeffrey Grierson seconded the motion.
9. AC gave an overview of the Trustees Report and Accounts for 2021-22.
10. SS gave an update on Diverse's work during the last year. She explained that Diverse's focus had been to ensure that we were able to meet the demand for all key services so that service users were supported in a timely manner, and to deliver objectives from Diverse's strategic plan. She explained the aims of each key project/service and said how in demand they all were. All projects/services had met or exceeded their contractual targets and outcomes. She went on to explain that three quarters of the objectives in the 2-year strategic plan had been delivered in the last year and that they would be focusing on the remaining objectives in the coming year.

SS went on to talk about what Dhiverse's key aims are for the coming year. These are:

- To deliver the remaining objectives in the strategic plan
- Review our charitable objectives in line with our current and future provision
- Secure funding to continue our SLIP Programme and ABC Project beyond 2023
- Promote our trainings nationally and deliver through Zoom
- Secure funding to recruit admin support
- Increase our unrestricted income
- Get more young people involved in the development of our work

New projects that we will be considering:

- Menopause support
- Support for people with physical disabilities
- Parent's project
- Project for young people specifically looking at relationships, consent, and body image
- Expanding our online safety work

**Please note** that the PowerPoint and the notes of the meeting are available to view on the Dhiverse website.

11. SS introduced Detective Sergeant Rob Samson from Cambridgeshire Police. Rob talked about the importance of Dhiverse's SLIP Programme, ABC Programme and Counselling to both the young people they refer into the services and to the police. He said that these services are invaluable.
12. SS introduced AC in his role as Consultant for Infectious Diseases and General Medicine at Addenbrookes Hospital. Andrew talked about the importance of, and the need for, psychological support for people living with HIV and how Dhiverse's counselling and emotional support service met this need.
13. SS introduced Gaby Clement in her role as a secondary school teacher in Cambridgeshire. Gaby talked about the importance of RSE and why it needs to be relevant to what young people are facing in 2022 to help them make informed decisions and navigate relationships and sex.
14. SS said that none of what Dhiverse achieves would be possible without the staff, volunteers, the Dhiverse Board, funders, services users, professionals, and other supporters. She thanked everyone for their continued support. SS put up a slide with a list of Dhiverse contacts.
15. AC said that he would also like to thank everyone with special thanks to the great staff team and SS. He also expressed the Board's thanks to Staffords, CambIT, and Cambridge City Council who have supported Dhiverse in getting through the last couple of years following the loss of 40% of their funding in 2020. AC thanked everyone for coming and said he hoped to see everyone at the 2023 meeting.
16. AC closed the meeting at 5.30pm.

Notes taken by Sharron Spindler, Chief Executive.

28 November 2022