



Freedom and Choice

AGM CLARIFICATION

We have received a number of queries regarding the AGM.

Please see points below for Clarification;

- The Remit was not sponsored by the Board. It was sponsored by Anthony Towler, a member with CP. This remit is a special resolution as it seeks to change the Constitution. In order to pass it will require a 75% majority of the votes.
- The following people who have been nominated for the Board have requested that their status change from that shown in the mailed out package to that of being an independent:
Daniel Clay *Edward Collet* *Emma Lovett* *Trish McQueen* *Meg Smith* *Merryn Straker* *Reuben Woods*
- People have complained that the financials for the Cerebral Palsy Society cannot be deduced from the Cerebral Palsy Society's Consolidated Accounts. In order to be transparent the accounts for the Cerebral Palsy Society itself have been published on the website under the list of documents available for download for the AGM. The financials are for the years 2017-2018 & 2019-2020. This enables a look back over the last 4 years.
- Please keep checking the Cerebral Palsy Society Website (under Governance) to see the latest regarding preparations and information for the coming AGM. We have just put up the President's report which we include below.

We encourage members to vote as early as possible. If you have not received an AGM Pack in the mail, all information and voting forms are available on the Cerebral Palsy Society website.

Regards

The Board



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President's Report 2020

I would like to acknowledge the past year has been difficult for the staff of the Society. Whilst dealing with the effects of Covid-19 they have managed to support our members throughout this time. The team has also had to deal with change within the Society itself and I would like to thank the current team for their ongoing and focused support of the Society's members.

I would also like to welcome Clare Williams into her new role as General Manager.

During the past year the Board had to consider a number of issues. These included the projected operational income and spend and the benefits to our members. With all these facts at hand, the Board made the difficult decision to restructure which resulted in a number of positions changing or being disestablished.

The Society is now well positioned to move forward in these current uncertain times. The overall asset position has been resilient over the past year, however cashflow/income is expected to be significantly impacted over the coming months. The Board has needed to make some very hard decisions in light of these external factors.

We are still reviewing the current level of member voucher/benefits to ensure they are in line with income and growth expectations. The Board make these decisions with the wellbeing of the members and the Society at the center of our thinking and knowing that the members want their Society to be delivering benefits to current members and those who will be born in the future.

Over these past months the Board has been exposed to ongoing criticism and an inaccurate social media commentary. A group called 'Concerned Parents Group' have shared information out of context and in a manner that is misleading and untruthful. This has proven to make what has been a challenging time more difficult for the Board and staff alike.

The Board has on many occasions attempted to engage with this group with limited success. They as a group have shared openly within their own community their dissatisfaction. After agreeing with the current Board on a pathway to share their vision with the whole membership so all members have transparency heading into the AGM, we have now been requested to identify them as individuals rather than a group. This request has now been accommodated.



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The current Board have maintained and supported the direction set by past Boards which sees a responsible and considered pathway forward. This, in light of the campaign instigated by the 'Concerned Parents Group' has taken its toll on the current Board with two of our members standing down amidst this turmoil. I would like to thank the whole Board at this time for carrying the burden of the past months and for their strength and resolve over this time. As a group they have shown respect and dignity in all that they have done.

As we move forward into 2021 with a newly elected Board, I trust that that the Board gains a clear direction from the membership.

Anthony Smith

President

Cerebral Palsy Society