



FRIENDS OF
ST MONICA'S
HOSPITAL

Registered Charity no. 1197052 <http://www.fosmh.org.uk>

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Thursday 12th June 2025, in the Galtres Centre, Easingwold

1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Trustees: Barry Wilkinson (Treasurer) Members: David Fordham, Derek and Jan McLuckie, Chris Peel, Susan and Walter Rinaldi-Butcher, Pat Southgate.</p>	
	<p>Present</p> <p>Trustees: David Kenworthy (Chair) (DK), Jane Wintermeyer (Vice Chair) (JW), Graham Pratt (GP), Peter Berry (PB), Jenny Rhodes (JR), Lorraine Boyd (LB), Michael Clarke and Angela Bussey (Secretary) (AB).</p> <p>Members: Clive Barnes, Kate Barugh, Sara Beaumont, Brenda Clarke, Christine Cookman, Jenny Gibbs, Judith Gordon, Alan Hake, Christine Jackson, Claire Kenworthy, Anna Mannion, Julie Midsummer, Martin Ramsay, Joan Ramsay, Helen Sykes, Martin Whillock, Jane Wilson, Lawrence Wilson, Samantha Wilson.</p> <p>Non-members: Dr Will Robertson, Rosie o'Connell, Nina Wilkie, Jade Barnes, Carl Bilson, Lyn Ridley, Andrew Cook, Kandewun Matawet Ramsay.</p>	
2	<p>Chair's Welcome and Introductory Remarks.</p> <p>David Kenworthy (Chair) began his address with a tribute to our Vice-President, John Barr, who had sadly died recently. John was a long-standing Trustee of Friend's of St Monica's Hospital (FOSMH). As a retired civil engineer, John had advised and guided Trustees over building works at St Monica's and the York Road proposals. Even after he had a serious accident in 2019 and had to resign as a Trustee, John had remained a strong advocate for our charity.</p> <p>David thanked Jade Barnes, Nurse in Charge at St Monica's Hospital who was in the audience. He thanked Jade for her continued support for the Friends, coming in her own time to the meeting and for her dedication to the patients and staff at St Monica's Hospital.</p> <p>David also took the opportunity to thank Julie Midsummer who was present. Julie had kindly donated her time and expertise to paint a wonderful mural of the White Horse at Kilburn for one of the palliative care rooms at the hospital as part of the Autumn Project last year.</p>	

<p>3</p>	<p>Presentation by Dr Will Robertson and Rosie O’Connell from South Hambleton and Ryedale Primary Care Network (SHaR PCN)</p> <p>David Kenworthy introduced Dr Will Robertson, Clinical Director and Rosie O’Connell, Digital and Transformation Manager from SHaR PCN. FOSMH Trustees had met with them last year and discussed their work and plans, so we thought this was an opportunity for FOSMH members and the wider public to learn about them too.</p> <p>Dr Robertson gave a presentation which explained what a PCN is and current local initiatives.</p> <p>To conclude, the PCN took and answered questions from the audience</p> <p>David thanked both speakers for their excellent presentation and for answering the audience questions and invited them to stay for the rest of the meeting if they wished. Dr Robertson and Rosie O’Connell left the meeting at this point.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Chair’s Report</p> <p>David Kenworthy gave his report as follows:</p> <p>In 1963 Stanley Kramer produced the film called It’s a Mad Mad Mad Mad World. Whenever I open the newspaper, I keep thinking of the title of that film which aptly describes the world today. I wouldn’t want to be a comedian these days because it would be difficult to make it funnier or worse than it is in real life. In addition to all the mad cap things that go on around the world, at home there are constant stories one of which is the NHS, and another is the contradictions of healthy living. The healthy living school I find sometimes extraordinary. One day we are advised that some alcohol is good for the heart and then only last week Professor Nutt was telling us, once again, that in his view if alcohol was brought out now it would be banned. It’s difficult to know exactly where one stands.</p> <p>The NHS gets pulled from pillar to post. Everybody has a view; everybody has a solution about coping with unlimited demand with limited funds.</p> <p>One thing that is clear. Money is not the only answer. The NHS is to get another £29 billion but what will it achieve? We are all living longer and need to do all we can to make our lives healthier. Prevention is better than cure and helping people stay healthy is something that health professionals increasingly focus on. A second strand of thought that has become clear from recent reports is that healthy living and the provision of community health services are complementary. In Easingwold and surrounding villages, we are fortunate to have the community health services and wider community services in place. The trustees of Friends of St Monica’s Hospital are determined to play a part in encouraging and supporting these various services.</p> <p>For us, the promotion of community health starts at St Monica’s Hospital. The hospital has been a central part of local health provision since 1893. Community hospitals fell out of favour in recent years, but I believe they now have a significant role to play in local healthcare provision. St Monica’s is small but perfectly formed!</p>	

The buildings have been upgraded over the years, largely through grants made by the Friends. Until earlier this year, trustees were concerned that the hospital as we know it might disappear. I'm glad to say that at a recent meeting with Sir Alec Shelbrooke our MP and the Chief Executive of the York and Scarborough NHS Trust, we were reassured that there are no plans to close the hospital. Trustees now believe that it is time to invest in improvements in the hospital. For example, the windows are old and beyond repair. Jade has a list of alterations she would like to see made to improve the comfort of patients and to make the work of staff better.

The trustees have decided that from this financial year the focus of our work and spending should be the hospital rather than grant making. This doesn't mean that grants will stop. You will see in the financial presentation that we have made more grants this year and continue to support small and large efforts to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities. However, having now gained experience from grant making over a number of years, we have decided to be more selective in the future. Capital projects are unlikely to be supported. I'm constantly amazed at how a small sum of money can produce such large returns for fledgling projects such as the recently started Mother and Toddler Group which has received a grant for £200 and enabled the group to start. The trustees are still very keen to support projects concerned with health improvement.

You may recall that last year I talked about the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment Service (CGA Service) carried out by Dr John Morris and his team for patients who are at risk through age or infirmity. This project is now in its second year and trustees recently received a report from Dr Morris about what has been achieved so far. Some headlines – 66 patients reviewed and a reduction of 2 GP visits per patient; savings of £4378 in prescription costs for those patients. There has been a reduction over the area in hospital admissions, not just in patients within the project. A broken hip costs about £8000 and an ordinary hospital stay £2000. So considerable savings can be achieved if people are encouraged to take responsibility for their health with well thought through, agreed and supported plans for independent living.

As ever, Friends of St Monica's cannot work without a good team. I'm grateful to all our trustees for their commitment and hard work.

Sadly, we are losing two trustees. Derek McLuckie was secretary when I became chair. I found his support and advice invaluable. He kept me on the straight and narrow. After he stood down as secretary, he continued as a trustee but is now standing down completely.

David Fordham willingly took on the role of treasurer and has been instrumental in tidying up our finances, making better banking arrangements and giving reassurance to trustees in decision making. David is standing down and I would like to thank him for his support and hard work.

David Fordham is replaced by Barry Wilkinson. Many of you with links to U3A will know Barry from his time there as treasurer.

We will be advertising soon for new trustees. If you are tempted to apply, please contact Angie or speak to any of us after this meeting.

Partnership ensures greater impact and improved knowledge about where effort can most successfully be applied. FOSMH continues to work closely with

	<p>Easingwold District Community Care Association (EDCCA), not only supporting some of EDCCA's projects financially, but in sharing intelligence about where we can have most impact. To that end, a trustee attends the FOSMH trustee meetings and vice versa.</p> <p>Finally, a thank you to our members. In discussions with the NHS Trust and other organisations, having a membership behind us gives us much more clout. Thank you for your support.</p>	
5	<p>Previous AGM Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the 2024 AGM held on May 2024 were proposed as a true record by Christine Cookman and seconded by Michael Clarke, Trustee FOSMH and approved.</p>	
6	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Item 3 Paragraph 5 New overseas nurses</p> <p>Martin Whillock asked if the two overseas nurses had remained in post. Jade Barnes, SMH Nurse Manager, confirmed that both nurses were still in post and were excellent workers.</p>	
7	<p>7.1 Financial Reports and Accounts</p> <p>David Kenworthy presented the financial report.</p> <p>Please note that the audited accounts will shortly be available on the Friends website.</p> <p>Donations from funeral memorials and private sources were slightly up in 2024 by about £3000. Interest earned in the year on the various deposit accounts amounted to £22671 which around 60% more than the amount received the previous year. As a result, overall income for the year was up on the previous year by around £12000. Administration expenses in the year remain very similar to last year.</p> <p>Grants on Community Projects actually paid in the year amounted to almost £63000, an increase of 100% on the previous year. In total there were eleven grants paid in the year. A significant amount of the expenditure here was to the CGA Service which was awarded for a maximum of two years. The service is now in its second year.</p> <p>Expenditure on the hospitals needs for the year was in excess of £16000, a slight drop from the previous year but we will be focussing more on expenditure in the hospital in the next year. It should be noted that some expenditure on the hospital such as the hairdresser service has proven very popular and improves the feeling of wellbeing of the patients.</p> <p>At the year end the charity had £559,265 of realisable funds available, a small reduction from the previous year. Lloyds online banking facilities are working well.</p> <p>We continued to use the Insignis investment platform through Mowatt Financial Planning and as previously mentioned we now have access to some of the best interest rates available. This is reflected in the increased interest received during</p>	

	<p>the year. With the exception of financial markets investment, we are careful to ensure that all other accounts remain FSCS protected.</p> <p>The following grant recipients expressed thanks to FSMOH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends at Springhill Court – yoga, continuation of classes • EDCCA Baby and Toddler Group – a new service particularly beneficial for new mums • EDCCA – for various projects such as Men in Sheds and Meals on Wheels • Breadlands Allotment – new security lights and gates. Helen Sykes invited FOSMH Trustees to the open day and BBQ on July 5th. <p>7.2 Approval of Investment Advisors</p> <p>The Treasurer has recommended that Mowatts Financial Planning continued as the professional advisors for investment of funds. This was proposed by Martin Whillock, seconded by Martin Ramsay and approved. There were no questions about the accounts.</p>	
8	<p>Appointment of an Independent Examiner</p> <p>David Kenworthy asked that Hunter Gee Holroyd should continue to be appointed as independent auditors having continued to give excellent service. This was proposed by Christine Cookman, seconded by Peter Berry and approved.</p>	
9	<p>Election of the Executive Committee</p> <p>Angie Bussey, Honorary Secretary, explained that at each AGM one third of trustees (4), including those longest serving, must retire but are eligible for re-election. Two Trustees have recently resigned and not standing for re-election. The remaining three longest serving members, Graham Pratt, Terry Saeedi and Jane Wintermeyer, were retired. All wished to be re-elected.</p> <p>The re-appointments were proposed by Lorraine Boyd and seconded by Helen Sykes and approved so these members of the Executive Committee were duly re-elected.</p> <p>Two Trustee vacancies remain, and these will be advertised in due course.</p>	
10	<p>Any other business</p> <p>FOSMH and EDCCA have jointly published a newsletter, and copies were available to take away hot off the press. Copies would be circulated with the Easingwold Advertiser next week.</p> <p>A copy will be available via the FOSMH website and members would receive a copy by their preferred method of communication in the next week or so.</p> <p>Martin Whillock asked if we would consider planning a member recruitment campaign because there are several new housing estates where residents may</p>	

	<p>not be aware of what we do. David Kenworthy said that we would consider this but needed to define our membership offer. It was clear to FOSMH Trustees that it is due to our large membership of over 200 members that local health organisations recognise the work of our organisation and are very positive about what we do.</p> <p>Pat Southgate, Chair North Yorkshire Healthwatch was sadly unable to attend the meeting but had left some leaflets about her organisation with us.</p> <p>Leaflets were also available with information about membership of York and Scarborough NHS Trust</p>	
11	Date of next meeting.	
	TBC	

 21.5.26