

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008/09

PAPER
MC 18/2010

**Notes of the Annual General Meeting for the
Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
3.00 p.m. on 22 July 2009
John Hampden Grammar School, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire**

In addition to the Chair, Janet Godden, the following Governors were present:

Mike Alexander
Pam Bacon
Meg Barbour
Jacqueline Bourton
Chris Brearley
Jim Couchman
Maureen Cundell
Pauline Fair

Mark Hancock
Fiona Lomas
David Mushrow
Lucy Toynbee
Lavinia Walker
Alan Webb
Linette Whitehead

In attendance:

Graeme Armitage
Mike Bellamy
Caroline Birch
David Bradley
Tom Burns
Anne Grocock
Justinian Habner
Mike Hobbs
Helen Millar
Roger Reed
Cedric Scroggs
Duncan Smith
Julie Waldron
Lyn Williams
Elaine Whittaker

Director of Human Resources
Non-Executive Director
A/Director of Nursing and Clinical Governance
Chief Operating Officer
Non-Executive Director
Non-Executive Director
Trust Secretary (*Minutes*)
Medical Director
Director of Corporate Management
Non-Executive Director
Non-Executive Director
Director of Finance
Chief Executive
Non-Executive Director
Non-Executive Director



1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chair of the Trust, Janet Godden, welcomed everyone present to the Annual General Meeting (AGM). She explained that this was the AGM for the first year of OBMH operating as an NHS foundation trust. Therefore, the AGM was a formal meeting of the Members' Council.

The Chair said that it was fitting that the AGM was being held in a local school because, over the past year, much work had gone into tackling stigma around mental illness with young people. Importantly, OBMH had been developing links into schools which were yielding positive results. On behalf of the Trust, the chair thanked the Head Teach, staff and students of John Hampden Grammar School for allowing OBMH to use their facilities.

Minutes

The minutes of the 2007/08 Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust Annual General Meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

There were no matters arising.

2. Summary of the Year

The Chief Executive, Julie Waldron, presented her summary of the year 2008/09 and formally presented the Trust's Annual Report to the Members' Council. Noting it was the first year as an NHS foundation trust, she explained that the Annual Report showed that the Trust had complied with the requirements of a foundation trust as set down by Monitor, the independent regulator. All Monitor targets and national core standards had been met. During the first three quarters, the Trust was struggling to meet Monitor's 'delayed transfer of care' target but concerted effort during the year meant that it was achieved by the final quarter and year-end.

The Chief Executive confirmed that the Trust had not breach its Terms of Authorisation 2008/09.

Work had also occurred during the year to increase FT Membership. The overall number had grown and the Chief Executive said it was pleasing to see so many Members at the AGM.

All contractual obligations with PCTs had been met.

Finally, the Chief Executive presented the 'Annual Review' document. She said that this had been designed to provide a snapshot of some of the Trust's key achievements over the past year. It was designed to complement the Trust's formal Annual Plan.

2009/10 Outlook

The Chief Executive provided an overview of some of the key issues she thought that the Trust would need to tackle during 2009/10. She pointed to the following:-

- Robust plans would be required to deal with the impacts of the economic recession. Whilst it was not yet clear how it would impact upon the NHS, the Trust needed to plan for all possible scenarios.
- A General Election would be held sometime during the year. This could mean a policy changes for health and the NHS.
- The Trust continued to work on its plans to re-develop Manor House to provide a new inpatient service in Buckinghamshire.
- The Trust needed to focus on quality improvement, innovation and productivity. This was all about providing better services.

The Chief Executive concluded her remarks by thanking Trust staff for their dedication and hard work during the past year. She noted that the Trust had achieved much but there was more to do during the coming year, against the backdrop of some challenging circumstances.

3. Presentation of the Annual Accounts

The Director of Finance formally presented to the Members' Council the Annual Accounts for the year 2008/09. On the Trust's Accounts, he said that the independent auditor had issued an unqualified opinion and he thanked Phil Sharman and his team for their work during the year-end process.

The Director of Finance explained that the Accounts, along with the Annual Report, had been laid before Parliament in line with directions given by Monitor.

The Trust had achieved its financial plan and retained a healthy financial risk rating (as issued by Monitor). Nevertheless, the year did have its challenges including issues with the Women's Forensic unit which required financial support and the non-delivery of land sales in Oxford.

The Director of Finance provided an overview of the outlook ahead which may have an impact on the Trust's financial position. He noted:-

- The impact of the economic recession was likely to be felt from 2010/11 onwards.
- The land sales in Oxford needed to occur in order to assist in the Trust's plans to redevelop buildings and services. It was hoped that these would be concluded in 2009/10.

The Director of Finance added that finance had been secured for the new inpatient unit in Aylesbury (to replace Manor House), and work should start on site in 2010.

Questions were invited from the meeting on the Annual Accounts:-

- *What was the fall back position should the land sales not go through?*
The Director of Finance said that there was some capacity to borrow money to support redevelopments; however without the land sales there would be delays in redevelopment the Warneford site in Oxford.
- *Does the Trust know what level of financial cuts the NHS is likely to ensure over the coming year?*
The Director of Finance explained that the government had postponed its three-year review of budgets so there was no guidance on this point at present. Nevertheless, the Trust was considering all possible scenarios and was working on the assumption that the Trust would start to feel financial pressures in 2010/11. The Chief Executive added that Monitor had reviewed the Trust's plans and forecasts and said that it showed that the Trust was preparing for the worst-case scenario. Other foundation trust had, so far, been very optimistic in their plans.

4. Presentations

Two presentations were given at the AGM:-

- The future of Older People's Services – Dr. Carol Bannister, Clinical Director, Older Adult Oxfordshire; and
- Our future plans for Services in Buckinghamshire – David Bradley, Chief Operating Officer.

5. Questions invited from the meeting

Governors and other attendees were invited to put questions to the Board of Directors.

- *With the closure of Manor House, until the re-development is complete, where will services be provided in Aylesbury?*
The Chief Operating Office said that inpatient services would transfer to the Tindal Centre and some community services to Cambridge House. Both sites were in Aylesbury.
- *How was the £1million (achieved through earlier ward closures) dedicated for re-investment into Older Adults used?*
Dr. Carole Bannister explained that some of it went into recruitment within CMHTs. The remainder would be used to assist working with the voluntary sector.
- *Would the Manor House development be funded through PFI?*
The Director of Finance confirmed that this re-development was not a PFI. Rather money would be borrowed from the Department of Health.

- Had the number of qualified community nurses been decreased in Buckinghamshire?*

Alison Bussey, Director of Operations – Buckinghamshire, said that there had not been any reductions to the number of CPNs in the county.
- Recognising that much treatment now occurs within the community and at home, what was occurring to support carers?*

The Chief Operating Officer said that the Trust worked with Local Authority colleagues and the voluntary sector to see how it could best support carers. Recognising that the Trust was mostly commissioned to provide services to patients, there were areas where it could provide greater support for carers (such as dementia services). The Board acknowledged that, across both counties, more needed to be done to support carers.
- The Annual Report mentions the training on 100 therapists in CBT, when will this be completed?*

The Medical Director explained that this training was part of the national IAPT initiative and it would occur over the next 12-18 month.
- Is the Trust making arrangements for the provision of care for war veterans?*

The Medical Director said that there was a national initiative to provide veterans with priority access. At present, the Trust was not treating many people with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as a result of combat but this issue was being monitored.
- Was the Trust funded to provide respite services for carers?*

The Chief Operating Officer said that the Trust received no funding for this. Respite was the responsibility of Local Authorities.
- Wards had been closed in Amersham and, it was suggested, that this meant that there was an unmet need. Was this being addressed?*

The Chief Operating Officer said that all inpatient services in Buckinghamshire would be provided in Aylesbury and that the new Manor House unit would provide this. He explained that the average length of stay was three weeks and that the focus was on providing community care across the entire county. He acknowledged that it was difficult for many friends, relatives and carers in other parts of the county to visit inpatients in Aylesbury but the Trust was working with partner agencies to provide transport assistance.
- The plans for Manor House looked excellent but a support service for carers should be developed and located within the new hospital.*

The Chief Operating Officer said that the suggestion was an interesting one and he agreed to consider it as part of the development.

- *Why were patients locked in wards even when they were voluntary?*
The Chief Operating Officer said that the wards were locked to assist in preventing drugs and inappropriate people entering the therapeutic environment. Voluntary patients should be able to leave the hospital if they wished and staff would let them out and back in when needed. He acknowledged the follow-up point that more needed to be done to ensure that, in such circumstances, wards were unlocked in a timely manner to allow voluntary patients out.

A number of questions were asked about individual cases and particular circumstances. The Chief Operating Officer said he would ask the relevant service directors to consider and respond on each case.

6. Close

The Chair thanked everyone present for attending and, in particular, for the questions asked. She said that she particularly thanked the Governors for their support during the first year as an NHS Foundation Trust and that she looked forward to working with them during 2009/10.

The Chair reminded attendees that a regular Members' Council meeting would be held immediately after the AGM and all present were invited to attend this public meeting of the Governors.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 5.05 pm.

Notes taken by Justinian Habner, Trust Secretary.