

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOMERSET GP EDUCATION TRUST

# HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER AT THE LMC OFFICE, CROWN MEDICAL CENTRE, TAUNTON

#### 1 Welcome

Apologies were received from Dr Tony Wright (Chairman), Jill Hellens (Treasurer) Dr Elisabeth Gillies (GP Educator) and Dr Marcus Fellows.

#### 2 **Executive Committee Membership**

There being no other candidates, the existing officers and executive committee were re-elected *en bloc*.

#### 3 Continuing relationship with Somerset LMC

MH expressed the Trust's appreciation for the support it had received from the LMC since its inception and for the continuing close working relationship between the two bodies. The Trust believed that this was one of its great strengths.

MH asked that the appreciation of the Trust be passed on to the LMC at the Committee's next meeting.

Action: HY

#### 4 **GPs – membership**

Membership of the Trust has continued to rise and currently stands at 450, including 90 GP Specialist Trainees.

#### 5 Honorary membership

It was resolved that Honorary Membership without charge should be offered to ex-members who are currently working exclusively or mainly for medical charities in the UK or abroad for as long as they continued in this role.

#### 6 Scope of work – GPs, Practice Nurses, Practice Managers

The Trust will continue to provide a wide range of dedicated educational events for GPs and specialist trainees and practice nurse teams, including HCAs. Some specific training for practice managers is also offered. The Trust was pleased to have attracted two new GP Educators to the team, Dr Andy Eaton and Dr Ulrike Naumann.

#### 7 Relationship with Severn Deanery - Quality Assurance Annual visit

SGPET is one of a number of similar trusts in the region supported and promoted by the Deanery. Dr Tony Wright sits on the Trust Chairs Group at the Deanery and SGPET participates in the Deanery Educational Quality Assurance Scheme as a provider of both specific and locally determined educational events for specialist trainees in the county. The Deanery has also in the past had some responsibility for GP postgraduate training.



#### 8 Relationship with other GP Education Trusts in Severn

SGPET plans to continue with the reciprocal arrangements currently enjoyed with the other trusts in the region. There may be an opportunity for some shared work on training and education relating to out of hours work, allowing SGPET to draw on the experience of more urban GP populations.

#### 9 Relationship with wider professional issues - revalidation

Somerset GPs appear to have taken a pragmatic view and accepted revalidation as a potentially positive experience. Although the matter has been covered indirectly in a number of sessions, two meetings specifically to work through the requirements were cancelled due to lack of interest. The Wessex LMCs guidance on Revalidation for Sessional GPs was commended.

To date it has been difficult to make the content of the SGPET programme informed by the educational needs identified during GP appraisals, but it was resolved that the Trust should write again to the Area Team Appraisal and Revalidation leads for Somerset GPs to remind them of the Trust and ask for feedback, and also to Somerset appraisers to publicise the programme of the Trust, especially the First Five groups. This letter could also remind them of the Somerset Clinician Support Service (SCSS).

Action: Chairman

Recruitment and retention of GPs in Somerset is a continuing concern and the Trust will continue to work to make a career in the county attractive.

The Trust will also seek to strengthen educational links with out of hours provider and to develop with SWAST and the CCG a more specific programme for 2014.

#### Year end 2012/13 accounts and draft budget for 2014/2015

The Accounts for 2012-13 were approved. The operating surplus of £4,519 and the balance of £38,598 were noted. A vote of thanks was made to the treasurer for all her hard work.

## Business Model - financial management, business plan, relationship with Pharmaceutical Companies

A decision on the subscription for 2014-15 a draft budget was deferred as the meeting felt that it would be helpful to have more information in the form of a table of actual income and expenditure for 2012-13, anticipated for 2013-14, and best and worst case projections for 2014-15.

The meeting resolved to continue to accept commercial sponsorship of meetings and to carry on seeking a wider range of sponsors outside the pharmaceutical industry.

The executive committee does not believe that commercial interests affect the choice of subjects for meetings, and whilst the Trust does accredit commercially organised meetings it will not do so for those that are primarily promotional.

#### 12 IT information, website

It was noted that the website has been updated in the course of 2013. An increasing number of members are booking sessions on-line. Website resources



are now arranged to match the areas of the GP curriculum. Meeting information is now circulated fortnightly rather than weekly which has been well accepted.

The Trust will continue to explore possible IT applications, including podcasts, perhaps of "questions and answers" derived from learning points at meetings and discussed with key speakers.

### Date of the next AGM

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014.

#### 14 Date of next SGPET Meeting 12 February 2014.

#### 15 **A.O.B**

The meeting made a vote of thanks to Erica, Claire and the LMC staff for their help during the year. Having an identifiable friendly and helpful voice at the end of the phone adds greatly to the standing of the Trust with members and sponsors and this was greatly appreciated by the Executive committee and members.

#### Attended:

Martyn Hughes Andy Eaton Harry Yoxall Erica Baily