

**Sickle Cell Society**

**39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday 21 July 2018**

**Grand Connaught Rooms, 61-65 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DA**

**Present**

Kye Gbangbola- Chair  
Michele Salter- Vice Chair/ Treasurer  
Carol Burt- Trustee  
Sheree Hall- Trustee  
Philip Udeh- Trustee  
Ganesh Sathyamoorthy –Trustee  
Joy Adeyemo-Trustee

**Apologies for absence**

Florence Anichebe – Trustee  
Josephine Ruwende – Trustee

**In attendance**

John James OBE – Chief Executive

**Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed guests of the Society, members of the Society, stakeholders, Support Group representatives, family members, donors and Society staff/volunteers to the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Sickle Cell Society.

The Chair asked the audience to join him in congratulating John James on the award of his OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 2018.

The Chair drew attention to the sad loss of the Society's young supporter Emmanuel Amuta. He reminded the audience that Emmanuel and his family were not only regular attendees of the AGM but Emmanuel had recited two beautiful poems about SCD at previous AGMs, which Emmanuel had composed himself. He said that he was a truly exceptional young man who would be sorely missed by family and friends alike. A minute's silence was observed in his memory.

The Chair thanked Terumo BCT for supporting the Annual General Meeting and the Patient/Carer Education event (East London Mentoring Programme, NHS England Haemoglobinopathies Service Review) that would follow the Annual General Meeting.

**Appointment of new Trustees**

The Chair reported that two new trustees had been appointed since the last AGM following an open process of recruitment; Joy Ademeyo and Josephine Ruwende. He asked Joy to introduce herself and

said that Josephine had sent her apologies for the meeting. The appointment of the new trustees was unanimously endorsed by the meeting.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Florence Anichebe for her commitment and contribution to the work of the Society over the past 3 years. He said that Florence was standing down as a trustee because she was a new mother and also had other work and life commitments.

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 July 2017**

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 July 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

### **Annual Report of the Board of Trustees for the financial year 01 April 2017 to 31 March 2018**

The Chair introduced a summary of the annual report. He gave a presentation providing an overview of the key areas of progress and achievements against the Society's corporate objectives for 2017/2018.

He said he was particularly pleased to report on some significant achievements during the year which included; the GSK/King's Fund Award for our work supporting the health and well-being of people living with SCD and their families; the establishment of the SCT APPG Secretariat in conjunction with UKTS and the excellent work of the Hackney Mentor scheme, which would be showcased during the Patient/Family Education day following the AGM.

He also drew attention to page 6 of the annual report referring to the joint statement from himself and the Chief Executive. The Chair said that the financial year April 2017 to March 2018 had been one of continued good performance, working collaboratively with people living with sickle cell disorder and their families, together with a range of statutory and independent stakeholders to meet the Society's objectives. He said that a surplus of £9,672 was achieved at the end of the financial year 31 of March 2019.

The Chief Executive concurred with the Chair's presentation and said that he was pleased that it was another year of all round good performance.

In conclusion, the Chair thanked the meeting, supporters, members, donors and staff/volunteers for their continued support and hard work for the Society.

### **Audited Accounts for the financial year 01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017**

The Vice Chair/Treasurer presented the independently audited accounts for the financial year 2017/2018. She endorsed the statement on page 6 of the report from the Chair and Chief Executive in confirming that it had been a good year of performance and achievement.

Referring to the financial statements and numbers in the report, the Vice Chair/Treasurer said that the Society had made good financial progress during the year, having regard to the tough financial climate in which the Society operates. Despite the tough financial climate, the Society had built on the improved financial management of the organisation resulting in achieving a surplus for the

fourth consecutive year. She said that overall this was excellent performance, particularly whilst also expanding the range of services provided for patients and families.

Referring to her Treasurer's report on page 15, the Vice Chair/Treasurer added that the tough financial climate would continue on in to the new financial year 2018/2019 and that this would be significantly more challenging for the organisation to navigate.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer also drew attention to pages 22 and 23 of the annual report, which showed a clean bill of health for the financial year. She also highlighted the specific areas of the financial accounts, which substantiated that opinion from the independent Auditors BDO LLP.

The Vice Chair/Treasurer endorsed the annual accounts to the meeting.

### **Appointment of Auditors**

The Vice Chair/Treasurer reported that the independent Auditors BDO LLP had done a thorough and timely piece of work in finalising the annual report and 2017/2018 accounts, working with her, the Society's finance lead Miriam Williams and the Chief Executive. She therefore endorsed the continued appointment of BDO LLP to the meeting.

### **Conclusion**

The meeting concluded with a fully participative open session of comments, questions and feedback.

The Annual General Meeting concluded at 12.15pm.