



JOHN STORER CHARNWOOD AND JOHN STORER HOUSE FOUNDATION

Minutes of the Joint Annual General Meeting 2021

Tuesday 11 January 2022 at 2pm

Via Zoom and telephone only

1. Welcome by Chair Sandy Leong in the absence of the Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr Paul Baines. The Mayor sent the following statement:

Happy New Year to everyone. I'd like to thank all the staff and volunteers at John Storer Charnwood and John Storer House Foundation for the sterling work they have put in this year, supporting the people of Charnwood during the ongoing pandemic.

Who would have thought that we would still be worrying about Covid nearly two years after it reared its ugly head!

No-one in Charnwood hasn't been affected by Covid but a big part of the resilience that we have shown in Charnwood as a community is down to your activities in distributing food parcels and the good work you have done more generally for the community.

I was delighted to see the Café reopen in July and I've been able to have a cuppa and something sweet with the Mayoress on a few occasions!

I am sorry I could not join you on this occasion but I am delighted to open up the AGM from afar nonetheless.

Regards Paul

Cllr Paul Baines
Mayor of Charnwood

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Tillotson, was present and added her New Year wishes, with the wish that 2022 is a better year than the last.

Sandy Leong thanked the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor and declared the meeting quorate.

2. Apologies for absence

There were five apologies for absence – details available on request.
Four further apologies were received after the meeting – details available on request.

There were no notifications of AOB.

3. Minutes of the combined AGM of John Storer Charnwood and John Storer House Foundation held on 7 January 2021 (postponed from October 2020)

The minutes had been agreed by the Joint Board of Trustees on 10 March 2021 and were, therefore, recommended for approval.

Proposed by Vivienne Holmes, seconded by Madhu Khandelwal and agreed unanimously.

There were no matters arising.

4. Annual Report on Activities and Services 2020 – 2021

Received. Hard copies available at John Storer House. Also on the website www.johnstorercharnwood.org.uk.

4a John Storer Charnwood – Sandy Leong (Chair)

4b John Storer House Foundation – (Chair)

As Ian Stewart, Chair of John Storer House Foundation was not present, Sandy Leong, as Chair of John Storer Charnwood, gave the report for both.

They say when life gets tough it brings out the best and worse in people. It has certainly brought out the best in JSC and our partners. This report refers to the time when we were delivering services in a different way. JSH may have looked closed, but the work wasn't, and the staff were busy working in a new way to meet the needs of people brought on by the pandemic and lockdown. The work was different but not diminished in any way. Being ever resourceful they even managed to create a positive from the building not being as busy as it usually is, to have an upgrade of some of the facilities that was badly needed.

Both the trustees and staff embraced the new way forward, working on the principal that even in the post-pandemic world things will never be exactly as they were before and embracing the changes. Partnerships have always been key to the way JSC works but have been strengthened during the pandemic, which has been very positive for both the providers and those in receipt of services.

Everyone involved in the work of JSC and in the partner organisations have worked so hard, often in challenging circumstances, not only changing what they were doing but having to also take on all the new compliances that Covid brought, and I, on behalf of my fellow trustees, would like to thank them for the immense efforts they have all made.

I would also like to thank all our funders who have really made sure that we could continue to provide services to the people of Charnwood.

Sandy asked for a proposer to accept the report. Proposed by Andy Hull, seconded by Simon Watts.

Sandy then said a few words about the passing of Jane Hopper, who was a longstanding trustee. After a long illness she passed away on 9th December. She had a passion for community transport and did so much for the Shepshed Community Bus. She also chaired the Community Transport Federation.

5. Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

Sandy introduced the presentation by John West (Hon Treasurer JSC) of the:

- Independently Examined Accounts of John Storer Charnwood (formerly Voluntary Action Charnwood)
- Independently Examined Accounts of John Storer House Foundation
- Treasurers' Report and Consolidated Accounts combining JSC and JSHF

Report in full:

The 20/21 Treasurers' Report and Consolidated Accounts relate to the financial year ended 31st March 2021 for the charities, John Storer Charnwood and John Storer House Foundation. The balance and movement on all funds can be found in these two documents or in each charity's 20/21 Final Accounts all of which have been e-mailed to trustees and representatives and are available on the John Storer Charnwood website.

Quoting figures to the nearest £1,000:-

Restricted Funds increased by £34,000 and the details of each fund can be found in each charity's accounts. They are subject to restrictions on their expenditure required by the donors or funders.

Designated Funds decreased by £8,000 and include the depreciated original cost of Fixed Assets, Equipment and Vehicles together with funds intended for the particular requirements of Development, Buildings and Transport.

General Funds increased by £80,000 and they provide essential funds to support ongoing activities and services both at present and in normal times. They also need to provide cover for contingent legal liabilities plus pension liabilities beyond the Pension Reserve which decreased by £6,000.

The 20/21 John Storer Charnwood Final Accounts explain the effect on the accounts of the Covid-19 Pandemic lockdowns and restrictions. In particular, the very informative 'Our Covid-19 Year' paragraphs on pages 4,5 & 6 explain John Storer Charnwood's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

In conclusion, Richard and myself thank everyone involved in the production and funding of the accounts and request your acceptance today please of the 20/21 Treasurers' Report and Consolidated Accounts and the independently examined 20/21 John Storer Charnwood and John Storer House Foundation Final Accounts.

7c Co-options – for information only to AGM

There are currently two vacancies for co-opted trustees

7d Shepshed Nominees

The Shepshed Local Committee, in place since the merger of Shepshed Volunteer Centre with Voluntary Action Charnwood, nominates two individuals to the John Storer Charnwood Joint Board. Due to several resignations over the year we do not currently have any representatives. We are actively looking to strengthen the Local Committee and find representatives to the Joint Board.

7e Charnwood Borough Council Nominees

Charnwood Borough Council is invited to nominate two representatives to be trustees of the John Storer House Foundation. As such, they attend the Joint Board of Trustees, but may only vote on JSHF matters. They only have one current nominee, Cllr Jenny Bokor.

Charnwood Borough Council is also invited to nominate two representatives to be observers of John Storer Charnwood. As such, they attend the Joint Board of Trustees, but may not vote on any matters. The current nominees are Cllr Ted Parton and Cllr Paul Mercer.

8. Charity Director, Karen Frostick

Karen gave a PowerPoint presentation on the year 2020-21 and how the impact of Covid-19 has affected the charity and its future plans, including the positive power of partnerships.

A copy of this presentation is available on the website johnstorercharnwood.org.uk.

Closer collaborations are very much in our vision for the future. This maximises the benefits for those living in Charnwood. The future is a challenge, but is also bright.

Karen thanked the staff and volunteers for their continued support and contributions. She also thanked the board of Trustees without whose vision and confidence and guidance, Karen would not have been able to make the bold, difficult and innovative decisions she had to make during the past year.

Charnwood Community Heroes: John Storer Charnwood, Charnwood Community Action and the JSC Board of Trustees all won Top Team awards for their work during the pandemic.

There was a vote of thanks to Karen for her presentation by Sandy Leong

9. Any other business

None.

Sandy Leong offered a vote of thanks to Karen, staff and volunteers and to those who took the time to attend the AGM and closed the meeting.