JOHN STORER CHARNWOOD
AND
JOHN STORER HOUSE FOUNDATION

Minutes of the Joint Annual General Meeting 2023

Monday 30 October 2023 at 2.30pm

Held face to face meeting with the option to attend via Zoom.

DRAFT

1. Sandy Leong, as Chair of the joint board of trustees of John Storer opened the meeting and welcomed and introduced the Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr Margaret Smidowicz

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and said:
Good to be here for the first meeting held in person for a while.
John Storer Charnwood is so well known and so popular and extends far into Charnwood and is not just Loughborough based. My family have called on you for help at times. Would like to announce that the High Sheriff will be calling at JSH in January, as part of a tour of community groups and volunteer-involving groups. One of my charities for the year is the Cancer Self-Help Group which meets at John Storer House and is celebrating its 40th year. My other charity is Men and Women in Sheds.

Thank you for inviting me and is so nice for to meet so many of you.

Sandy Leong thanked the Mayor and declared the meeting quorate.

2. Apologies for absence

There were three apologies for absence: Bramah Kumaris, Martin Mee and Tracey Sowerby (no longer in post).

There were no notifications of AOB and no proxy votes declared.

3. Minutes of the combined AGM of John Storer Charnwood and John Storer House Foundation held on 12 October 2022

The minutes had been agreed by the Joint Board of Trustees on 7 December 2022 and were, therefore, recommended for approval.

Proposed by Wendy Smith, seconded by Sandie Forrest. Agreed.

There were no matters arising.

4. Annual Report on Activities and Services 2022 – 2023

Any comments, questions?

EH: This is my first in person AGM after becoming a trustee, and until you get involved you do not understand just how wide the experiences are that people who use John Storer can tap into and I just want to pay tribute to the staff and the volunteers who run all this seemingly seamlessly – I know it isn't seamless – for making such a success of 2023.

Proposal to accept the report: Mel Chaggar seconded Sandie Forrest.
Agreed and accepted.

4a John Storer Charnwood – Sandy Leong (Chair)

The theme of this year's AGM is volunteers and volunteering. We get so many people bringing their experience with them, their knowledge with them, that makes such a difference to the organisation.

Volunteers come from all walks of life, bringing with them a wealth of experience and skills that make a difference to the organisations in which they are involved and the people they come into contact with. At John Storer Charnwood we have over 170 involved in the daily work, offering services to 100s of people across the borough of Charnwood, from (to name only a few) driving people who are unable to use public transport to their appointments, helping to run the kitchen to serve delicious food to a wide range of customers, welcoming people in to the building at the reception desk, supporting people in our therapeutic garden to being a trustee of the organisation.

Trustees are sometimes forgotten in the long list of volunteering activities that people can get involved in. Trustees give their time, expertise, knowledge and enthusiasm to work with the staff to develop the strategic direction of the organisation and ensure it is on a sound footing. Even though they hold the responsibility for the whole organisation, they are still volunteers. The John Storer Charnwood board benefits from the diversity of the backgrounds the trustees come from, each person bringing their own knowledge and skills to enable the organisation to be creative in responding to current needs and to function well.

Volunteers are the life blood of the organisation, no matter what their role is and what they bring, they are what makes John Storer Charnwood the vibrant and dynamic place it is today and always has been. The power of volunteering has no limits both for the individual and the organisation.

DRAFT

I would like to thank all the volunteers who work at John Storer Charnwood and that includes my fellow trustees. We can usually find somebody who knows something about something that we need to know about, and if they don't know themselves, they know somebody who knows. It makes a vast network of knowledge. I would also like to thank our funders and all who support us, which enables us to thrive, and we do thrive, no matter what is thrown at us. We would not be where we are without this amazing staff, that always manage to pull it out of the bag, even if they can't find the bag!

4b John Storer House Foundation – Ian Stewart (Chair)

JSHF acts as the landlord with JSC as the tenant. The trustees of JSHF continue to support the work of JSC ensuring that the building is fit for purpose and operates a welcoming and functioning building. This is a challenge at times. Over the past couple of years, we have authorised significant spending on the building and this building development plan will continue over the next 2-3 years. Income & expenditure remain relatively small on an annual basis and our funds are constantly examined to see whether the Foundation can financially support the building and wider objectives of JSC. The trustees of the Foundation also support the ongoing work to see how administration and costs of both charities can be minimised and streamlined in the future.

I would like to pass on the thanks of the Foundation trustees to the management, staff and volunteers for making it another successful year in making this building and all the services it provides so wonderful.

5. Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

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

Conclusion – John West on behalf of both JSC and JSHF

Richard and myself thank everyone involved in the production and funding of the independently examined 22/23 Final Accounts which were explained to, and then approved by, the Joint Board of Trustees on Thursday 26th October. The 2022/23 Treasurers Report & Consolidated Summary of Accounts shows the 22/23 combined financial results of both charities with £139,533 being the net increase in Unrestricted Funds and all our staff are to be congratulated. The overall surplus has increased significantly this financial year (22/23) partly because some income was received but the expenditure relating to it will not be incurred until the next financial year. The total unrestricted funds of £914,123, less £117,799 unrestricted tangible fixed assets which are not easily realised, are adequate to provide a suitable level of cover for our

DRAFT

contingent liabilities. We thank Leicestershire County Council, Charnwood Borough Council, Shepshed Town Council and the NHS for their funding in 2022/23.

The efforts of our staff and volunteers together with the support of our sponsors, funders and users means that the charities are in a good financial position to meet the challenges ahead.

We request your acceptance today please of the JSC & JSHF 22/23 Final Accounts, the Treasurers Report and Consolidated Summary of Accounts all of which have been previously circulated. Thank you.

All four documents: proposed to accept by Elliot Harris, seconded by Andy Hull. Agreed.

The full accounts are available to view on the JSC AGM website at https://johnstorercharnwood.org.uk/agm/ or from John Storer House administration.

There were no questions.

Sandy thanked the two treasurers for their work in putting together the accounts.

6. Appointment of Auditor or Independent Examiner

The members are requested to approve the appointment of The Rowleys Partnership as Independent Examiner of the accounts of both charities and to authorise the Board of Trustees of John Storer Charnwood to determine their remuneration.

Proposed by John West, seconded by Madhu Khandelwal. Agreed.

John West pointed out that he had over many years worked well with Evolve and, in particular, James Nixon, but that we are now building a new relationship with Rowleys.

7. Elections to John Storer Charnwood

7a President and Vice-Presidents

It is proposed to elect the Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr Margaret Smidowicz, to the office of President of John Storer Charnwood.

Proposed by Sandie Forrest, seconded by Madhu Khandelwal and agreed

It is proposed to elect the Deputy Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr Dr Julie Bradshaw, to the office of Vice-President.

DRAFT

Proposed by Richard Hassall, seconded by Wendy Smith and agreed

7b Board of Trustees (membership list enclosed)

This year three trustees, Melanie Chaggar, Keith Pyne and Andrew Hull stand down and may seek re-election. All three decided to stand again.

As this was uncontested, there was no need for a vote and Sandy welcomed them back on to the board.

7c Co-options – for information only to AGM

There is currently one vacancy for a co-opted trustee

7d 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 Colin Hamilton.

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 Cllr Jenny Bokor and Cllr Sarah Goode.

Noted.

8. A short report on the year 2022-23

Including a presentation on the impact of the John Storer Charnwood volunteering programme.

Karen Frostick, Charity Director.

We've been looking at how quickly the volunteer workforce returned to us after the pandemic and how quickly things got back to normal. Lot of change and different ways of working.

Without the volunteers we wouldn't be able to offer services here, at the allotment and at Shepshed.

Also it allowed us to look at why we are so keen to be a volunteer-involving organisation.

- It enables us to offer more support and reach more people

DRAFT

- Volunteers add credibility to our organisation and act as informed advocates promoting our services and our organisation.
- Volunteers can act as a critical friend when reviewing our impacts and services with their experiences helping to shape future provision.
- Widens our diversity and allows us to have more of an understanding of the people and communities we serve.

Harry Ludlam, Volunteer Coordinator

Film explores the objectives we have when working with volunteers and the benefits gained by volunteers through their work with us. Interviewed seven volunteers and explored various themes. And it illustrates the diversity of the volunteers we have. All bring with them their own unique experiences, skills and reasons for volunteering.

The video will be uploaded to the Volunteering page of the website after the meeting.

Vote of Thanks by Sandy Leong

9. Any other business

None.

Close of meeting

DRAFT