

**Minute of the Annual General Meeting of Lanarkshire
Local Dental Committee held virtually by Zoom on
Monday 15th March 2021.**

SEDERUNT: Drs. Arthur, Byrne, Clark, Core, Ferry, Hannigan, Hyland, Levie MacPherson, McDonald, McIntyre, Pryce, Robertson, G Stewart, M Stewart and Vohra.

APOLOGIES: There were none.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the AGM of Lanarkshire Local Dental Committee and especially Andrew Miller who takes up the position as Clerk on First April. This will give him an opportunity to put names to some of the faces, she added.

MINUTES: These were approved, having been proposed by Dr Ferry and seconded by Dr Hannigan.

MATTERS

ARISING:

1. Fundraising. The Chair said that ideas around funding had seen a huge shift from opt-out to opt-in. This was initially discussed a few years ago. Opting out was the position in Scotland before the 1974 Health Board legislation changed that. A motion was prepared and submitted by this Committee for this year's Conference. However, a number of other LDCs submitted similar motions and it has been agreed that Greater Glasgow and Clyde LDC will take this forward at conference. Legislation to this effect has recently been passed in Northern Ireland. Accordingly, both they and England now have a compulsory mandate system. The position in Wales is unknown.

2. Communication with colleagues. The Chair said that the Committee's website and Facebook page had been used extensively over the past year to update colleagues on the everchanging regulations and to advertise our webinar events. We now have 127 Facebook members and 163 dentists registered on the website and these figures are increasing gradually. Dr Ferry has been highly instrumental in getting the web site off the ground. She has been very ably assisted by Dr Hyland and it is hoped that Mr Miller's input will extend its potential further.

A letter to all practices asking them to provide us with contact e-mail addresses was posted out on Saturday and already we have had 5 responses.

3. Remuneration of Chair/Vice Chair. Dr Clark said that with the

eventual introduction of the opt out mandate scheme it is likely that the workload of the Committee will increase as more contributing practitioners seek to scrutinise the work of the Committee. He said that progress cannot continue at the current pace without the Committee looking at a better level of remuneration for both the Chair and Vice Chair. The Committee need to monitor the situation and determine what additional time they are spending on Committee matters.

The Chair said that recently there had been a tremendous amount of work involved. She and Dr Ferry speak on the phone at least once every day and the pressures have been constant. She said that they are not seeking additional remuneration but to get the Committee to where it is now has taken an enormous amount of work and effort Getting the website established was a huge challenge but hopefully, with time, they will have a better idea of how it is working and it will become less time consuming. It has been a steep learning curve involving understanding a whole new technical language. She suggested that going forward someone on the Committee could assume a role to develop this.

Dr Ferry said that problems arose because we didn't know exactly what we needed until we actually needed it and so action was retroactive rather than proactive. They have a much better handle on things now. The Webinars threw up an issue with regard to people stating that they were mandate holders but were not. They therefor did not pay for the event and when asked for the fee later declined to pay. We have therefore learned the hard way with that issue and there is a mountain to climb to fix it. Dr Ferry added that there will always be problems and we just have to chip away to find solutions.

4. CPD Events. The Chair said that the amount of work involved in organising CPD events is also considerable It was a full-on job deciding on and contacting speakers, agreeing on the wording of fliers, learning outcomes and aims and objectives and obtaining CPDA. Having everything distributed and advertised is also very time consuming.

The next Webinar will be on 'Managing Paediatric Anxious Patients' and 20th May has been pencilled in. Currently there are 500 children waiting for GA's in Lanarkshire. Mr Miller asked about how speaker's fees are determined for such events. Dr Ferry said that in the past the Clerk had simply asked them to confirm their usual fee. The Committee currently share a Webinar Jam licence so we always have to ensure the platform is free.

5. Annual calendar Dr Ferry reported that it had not been possible to proceed with a calendar this year due to the printer being

closed during Lockdown. She said it would also have not have been possible to have all the necessary helpers in one place to disseminate it. It had been updated and was ready to go, Chase de Vere's sponsorship will be rolled over to next year's calendar. Dr Ferry said that one may be brought out in June or July. Dr MacPherson will contact his printing connection to get a quote. Dr Ferry said that the last time we had 400 printed but it may be that this time around it is restricted to mandate payers, around 150.

CHAIR'S

REPORTS: The Chair's report had been preciously circulated. This contained a long list of all of the topics discussed in a manic year. The Chair invited any comments or questions arising from the report but there were none.

ADOPTION

OF ACCS: The Accounts had been previously circulated with the AGM papers. The Chair reported that we are in a much better financial position that we were in at this time last year. The mandate levy contribution is now just under £2,000 per month which is excellent. We are looking to renewing the Zoom subscription which is £100 per annum. We may also wish to purchase our own Webinar Jam licence which costs £500 per annum. There is a possibility that this could be shared with the QI Committee to spread the cost.

The Mail Chimp costs also require to be considered as well as other costs. The Chair will detail all of them in a separate e mail and circulate it to the Committee for discussion at the next meeting on 19th April.

Dr Ferry said that the Committee wants to be able to give mandate payers as many benefits as possible. The chance to book Webinar events before others cannot currently be done on the current Mail Chimp contract. Dr Ferry would like to be able to have three separate strands; the Committee, mandate contributors and non- mandate contributors. We have outgrown the free option and we do need to look at other possibilities.

The Accounts were formally adopted with Dr Ferry proposing and Dr Levie seconding the motion.

AUDITORS: The Clerk has written to the Auditors, Drs Law and Sweeney to extend the Committee's thanks for their services. The Committee learned that both Dr Law and Dr Sweeney have intimated their willingness to continue in office.

**ELECTION
OF CTTEE**

MEMBERS: The Chair advised that Drs Ferry, Levie, MacPherson and Robertson fell to demit office. The Chair indicated that they had all confirmed their willingness to continue to serve. She added that there was currently an urgent need to ensure continuity of personnel on the Committee so that it remains able to address the many issues we are faced with and which change on a regular basis. The members agreed that this was a prudent way to proceed. Accordingly, Dr Ferry, having been nominated by Dr McIntyre and seconded by Dr M Stewart, Dr Levie, having been nominated by Dr McDonald and seconded by Dr Byrne, Dr MacPherson, having been nominated by Dr Core and seconded by Dr G Stewart and Dr Robertson, having been nominated by Dr McDonald and seconded by Dr Hannigan were all duly re-elected to serve on the Committee. All were welcomed back to the Committee by the Chair.

A.O.C.B. 1. **New Constitution.** The new constitution was unanimously agreed and formally adopted at the EGM held earlier this evening to consider the same.

2. **On-line Banking.** The Chair said that the Committee require to modernise the way the finances are dealt with. In order to phase out the use of cheques and to reduce costs it was proposed that the Committee move to on line banking as has been provided for in the Constitution. This was unanimously agreed to by those present. The Chair will make the necessary arrangements in the next few weeks.

3. **Dr Mike Arthur** expressed his thanks to the Committee for the lovely retirement gift he received and for the special mention in the recent minutes. He said that the thought the Committee had appointed an excellent successor to the Clerk in Mr Miller and wished him well in times to come.

4. **Retiral of the Clerk.** Five former Chairs of the Committee joined the Zoom call to express their appreciation of and thanks for the contribution to Committee's life over the last 27 years of the Clerk who is retiring with effect from 31st March.

There being no other competent business the meeting was brought to a close with thanks to the Chair and to everybody for attending.