



A9J0S948
A06 02/12/2020 #78
COMPANIES HOUSE
A9EB2YZN
A35 25/09/2020 #29
COMPANIES HOUSE



Minutes of the Board of Trustees

held on Saturday 12 September 2020 via Zoom

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 02613993

Present

Robin Paxton (RP) (Chair)
Ian Ayres (IA)
Anna Bhandari (AB)
Suzanne Dobson (SD) (CEO)
Georgina Jackson (GJ)
Eileen Joyce (EJ)
David Masters (DM)
Robert Ovens (RO) (Treasurer)
Edward Palmer
Mingyan Shao

Apologies:

Genna Barnett (GB)
Amanda Pape (AP)

In attendance

Jeremy Stern (JS)
Caroline Davies (CD) (Minute taker)

1. Minutes and matters arising

1.1 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th July were approved as a correct record subject to two changes, that Jeremy Stern was in attendance as medical adviser to the Board rather than present and under item 4 on Research the University of Nottingham was seeking funding for the randomised control study.

1.2 Matters Arising

Item 2.2 the change of name of the charity was in hand (see minute 4 below).

Item 3 the risk register had been updated.

Item 4 Research Update – SD and Prof Steve Jackson had been in communication following a meeting with potential business partners.

2. Report from the Treasurer

2.1 Management Accounts

The treasurer summarised the current financial position based on management accounts for June, July and (recently received) August. For June income was slightly below what had been projected in the budget but in July three grants totalling 29k had been received. These had to be regarded as one-off payments but together with savings on staff costs these had altered the

projections for the year. The August Management accounts showed a surplus of £200 instead of a £300 deficit.

2.2 Budget for 2020-2021 and projections

The projections were based on an estimated reduced level of donations of 11k per month. So far fund raising had been going well. The costs of fund raising had been reduced through not recruiting an additional person.

The projected deficit of £9,433 for the year included 6k for contingency so if the contingency funds were not required the deficit would be in the order of 3.5k.

2.3 Finances for 2021-2022

During the closed session held before the meeting trustees had discussed the situation looking forward to the next financial year and the need to make savings of 57k to avoid a deficit.

In response to a query the CEO said that consideration was being given to moving offices. The charity had an offer of rent-free premises which would provide an entire floor of a building in Camberley. There would be costs associated with moving and maintaining a physical office. The CEO continued to look for a smaller office.

Looking ahead the Chair said input from trustees would be needed on the re-configuration of the future budget as big steps would need to be taken to produce a balanced budget.

3. Reports from Staff

The reports from staff including the CEO were taken as read and trustees noted the following;

3.1 Ros Taylor (Trust and Grants Fund raiser)

Ros had been doing lots of work as evidenced by the number of funding applications which had been submitted. The CEO was asked to find out more information (if available) about the Henry Smith charity's decision not to fund Tourettes Action as it had been generous in the past.

3.2 Lucy Toghill (Education Manager)

Lucy had returned from furlough in June and had been setting up teacher webinars.

Board members noted the report mentioned enquiries from CAMHS services. The medical adviser to the Board commented that it was not the role of Tourettes Action to provide training for CAMHS staff.

Trustees went on to discuss the difficulties and distress caused by CAMHS turning away children with Tourettes Syndrome which then resulted in calls to the

TA helpline. They were aware that children with other neurological conditions were also refused assistance from CAMHS and noted it was not uncommon for people to end up stranded. It would be useful to have data from CCGs on the numbers of referrals for children with TA but this would be a substantial amount of work to obtain and would require funds.

After some discussion it was agreed that a small working group be formed of SD, EJ and JS to consider this issue and bring a proposal to the Board.

Action – SD, EJ and JS to meet to discuss CAMHS

4 Charity Name

It was proposed that the name of the charity be changed to

Tourette Syndrome (UK) Association trading as Tourettes Action

This was proposed by Rob Ovens and seconded by Edward Palmer and agreed unanimously.

5 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Saturday 28th November and would include the AGM.

Caroline M Davies
20th Sept 2020