

The Kidderminster & Worcestershire Prostate Cancer Support Group

Reg. Charity No. 1100718

President: Mr Adel Makar
Consultant Urologist,
Worcester NHS Trust

Patron: Dr Lisa Capaldi
Consultant Oncologist
Worcester NHS Trust

Annual General Meeting

held Online via Zoom

on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

The following committee members were present:

Mary Symons (Interim Chairman & Secretary)	Dick Herbert (Deputy Chairman)
Gordon Kingston (Chairman of SW Group)	Paul Markall (Treasurer/Shed organiser)
Dick Langley (website co-ordinator)	Val Markall (Trustee)
Peter Corbishley (Supporter Editor)	Mark Hall (Minutes secretary)

Also present: Daniel Cook (technical support), Brian Taylor, Eric Scrannage, Michael Amies, Tim Richards, Mark Howard, Paul Bagnall, Martin Harrington, Harry Edwards, Adrian Hodges, Richard Frazier, Hilary Brothwell, Gerard Kenny, Dave Galley, Harvey Vivian, Ian Haywood, Peter Caine.

Apologies were received from: Peter Spencer (Co-opted member), Nicky Langford (Co-opted member), Derek Scully (Membership secretary), David Underhill (Trustee).

Opening & Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. All documents mentioned in this report can be found on the group's website at <https://kwpcsg.co.uk>.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The Minutes of the last AGM, held on 18th January 2022 were circulated to members before the meeting. There were no further comments and the minutes were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Chairman / Secretary's Report: MS reported a very busy and successful year of meetings after the restrictions of Covid in 2020 and 2021. The return of face-to face General Meetings in the Town Hall was most welcome. The return of face to face meetings started at Wychavon Civic Centre, Pershore with Simon Adams (Health watch) and finished the year with Nick Owen and Peter Tomlinson at Kidderminster; it was like watching two old friends chatting in a pub. A highlight for the year, after many years of fundraising, was the long-awaited installation of robotic equipment and surgical team at Worcester Acute Hospitals NHS Trust at Redditch, potentially leading to superior outcomes for prostate cancer sufferers. A full copy of the report is held on file.

Treasurer's Report: PM explained the finances by reading from the Income and Expenditure account. After last year's deficit it was good to report an increase in funds thanks to several donations from benevolent groups and successful fundraising.

Current account £27,164 Deposit account £10,759 Cash £11 Total £37,934

The balance sheet is available on the group's website, or on request.

A full copy of the report and of the signed, audited accounts are held on file.

South Worcestershire Report: A lot of effort has gone into the Coffee & Chat initiative. GK's report included various highlights from these meetings. They take a presence out into new areas of the county and have proved to be good for generating new members. The group's promotional Flyer, which can be given out on such occasions and is distributed to surgeries, hospitals and other locations, is due to be updated. GK took the opportunity to pay tribute to his friend, known to the group simply as Faust, who helped design and produce the Flyer, but who sadly died last year. He also thanked his colleague, Peter Corbishley, for all his work and help over the last year. A copy of GK's full report is held on file.

Membership Report: In DS's absence GK offered to read from the distributed report. We currently have 443 members, up from 407 last year. These are supported by 21 support contacts,

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down from 24 last year. Each member is allocated a support contact whose job is to contact them at least twice a year to check how they are. We have had 36 new members this year, our largest for the last five years, which is really encouraging but we desperately need additional support contacts to assign them too. There will be a meeting of support contacts in early April. If anyone feels they can help out by volunteering to become a support contact please get in touch with a committee member. All contact details are in the Supporter magazine. A full copy of DS's report is held on file.

Supporter Magazine: Under the editorship of PC the quarterly magazine has expanded from 16 to 24 pages of quality content and is printed professionally. The run for each issue has increased to 700, 470 of which go directly to members and the rest to medical centres, community centres and key people in the county. PC noted that we are one of the few – and possibly the only – prostate cancer support groups which publishes and circulates a printed magazine. As total expenditure on the magazine now comes to about £ 5,500 per annum, this is something that must be kept under review. Member Michael Amies commented that the magazine was excellent and he appreciated a hardcopy and felt that this suited the group's demographic. The treasurer (PM) added that he felt it was good value and was currently affordable given the group's healthy finances. GK and MS also added supporting comments. PC's full report is held on file.

Shed Report: The Group meets every Monday at Leapgate Activity Centre. The main activity is the allotment, but other members just come for a coffee and a chat. Earlier in the year a small patio area was constructed adjacent to the existing polytunnel where tea and coffee plus cakes from the Leapgate café can be consumed. It's a great way to sit and enjoy the fresh air and the views over the countryside and put the world to right! Another event was a canal barge trip from Alvechurch to Hopwood where we moored up to enjoy a meal at a local pub. Members also brought their partners. The Shed is free to all members and their partners. Offers of help to organize Shed activities and trips out would be greatly appreciated. A full copy of PM's report is held on file.

Election of Officers:

Mary Symons was pleased to stand as acting Chairman of the Group.

Proposer: Gordon Kingston, **Secunder:** Tim Richards. Appointed unanimously.

Dick Herbert was pleased to continue as the Deputy Chair.

Proposer: Gordon Kingston, **Secunder:** Eric Scrannage. Appointed unanimously.

Paul Markall was pleased to continue as group Treasurer.

Proposer: Gordon Kingston, **Secunder:** Martin Harrington. Appointed unanimously.

Trustees Richard Langley, Peter Corbishley, David Underhill, Gordon Kingston, Derek Scully and Valerie Markall all agreed to stand again and were duly re-elected *en-bloc*.

Nicky Langford agreed to continue as a co-opted member.

Mark Hall will continue as minutes secretary.

GK explained that the committee were looking to co-opt up to a further two people to help. The meeting was asked for approval to go ahead with this plan. There was no dissent.

Any Other Business: PM praised the success of the Boxing Day Tractor Run fundraising event, which, in 2022, attracted 120 tractors and other vehicles and raised about £3,000. He appealed for help this year between 11:00am and 1:00pm, to shake collecting tins. The route now includes Stourport so some help would be appreciated there. PM and NL will meet the local Mayor to seek additional support from local businesses. Tim Richards volunteered.

Closing Remarks: MS said that after the difficult Covid years, 2022 had seen much improvement for the group. However, the challenge now was to find the "lost men" who failed to come forward during these years. PC mentioned that the group has bid to be Worcestershire County Cricket Club's charity of the year. If successful we could ramp up our efforts to find the "lost men" in support of the Tackle/NHS national campaign. Our mission remains, as always, to support newly diagnosed men with prostate cancer. MS was thanked for all that she does for the group.

Signed:

Date: