BRITISH AND IRISH ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2023 AT EUROPA HOTEL, GREAT VICTORIA STREET, BELFAST, COMMENCING AT 14:04

117 members attended

Panel:
Veronica Greenwood, Chair BIOS
Julie Dowdney, Vice Chair of BIOS
Sam Aitkenhead, General Secretary of BOSTU
Rich Huzzey, BIOS Policy Officer, representing BDA Business management team
Craig Murray, Chair Designate

Steve Doughty, Crossley Accountants [Via video call]

- **Welcome and Apologies for absence**

Veronica Greenwood welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced the panel. She noted that the AGM concerned the calendar year 2022.

There were no apologies for absence received.

- **Minutes of the 2022 AGM**

Anna Horwood proposed that the Minutes be accepted as a correct record, and Claudine Wallace seconded. The Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising.

- **Chair's Report**

Veronica Greenwood presented the Chair's report, highlighting in particular the Society's continued healthy financial position, the HEE-funded workforce reform projects, and the completion of a full workforce survey. She concluded with some personal reflections on her time as Chair, thanking in particular Julie Dowdney for her support as Vice-Chair throughout this period.

There were no questions on the Chair's Report.

- **Financial Statements**

Steve Doughty presented the Accounts, representing Crossley's. BIOS reported a small deficit of £62,914 in 2022.

There were no questions on the financial report.

Deborah Podmore proposed and Angela Carlin seconded acceptance of the Accounts, and these were unanimously accepted.

- **Trustees**

Julie Dowdney presented the list of Trustees and welcomed those new to role.

- Chair: Craig Murray – new to role
- Vice-Chair: Julie Dowdney
- Midlands and East Region: Rebecca Pinches
- Northern Region: Deborah Podmore
- Southern Region: Kelly MacKenzie
- Northern Ireland: Declan McClements
- Republic of Ireland: Claire McEntee – new to role
- Scotland: Angela Carlin
- Wales: Patrick Reedy
- Chair of LOOP: Krishan Parmar

Julie Dowdney presented the list of Council members.

- Chair of EPDC – Helen Davis
- IOA Representative – Jignasa Mehta
- OCE Representative – Nadia Northway
- Research Director – Kerry Hanna
- Public Health Lead – Fiona Bush
- BIOJ Editor – Gemma Arblaster
- EDI Lead - Marian Owoniyi
- New Graduate Representative – Holly Kniazewycz

- **Confirmation of New Chair**

The AGM officially confirmed Craig Murray as the new Chair of the British and Irish Orthoptic Society.

Craig Murray thanked the outgoing Chair, Veronica Greenwood, for her hard work and leadership.

There was no other business, and the meeting ended at 14.29.