

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the  
Somerset Prostate Support Association  
Wellsprings Centre, Taunton,  
November 30, 2019, 10am-12 noon**

1. **Chair**: Peter Hopwood: welcomed some 20 people to the Meeting.  
**Secretary**: Vacant  
**Treasurer**: Tim Lewis  
**Minutes**: Peter Gooch

2. **Apologies**, none

3. **Minutes of 2018 AGM**: agreed and signed off

4. **Matters arising from the Minutes**:

5. **Chairman's report**:

Peter Hopwood reviewed the years activities which included:

Questionnaires were sent out to all members and those on email list and postal list. Main questions were - carry on with open meetings, help at events and to join committee.

Full response from postal list (15 ) but very few from others.

50 / 50 for open meetings to continue.

Good response for help at events.

No offers to join committee.

Awareness event at Hinkley Point C on 14th March with Joss Knowles, Occupational & Well-being Physiologist with Duradiamond Healthcare.

PSA test event with Wells Lions on 6th April at St Thomas Church with 134 men tested. Overall cost £2658 with £1750 donated from Wells Lions.

Somerset Masonic Friendship Association - In early discussions with them regarding possible PSA testing in 2020

Yeo Valley Lions - Attended a Club presentation and was given a cheque for £500 from the profits of their July Beer festival.

Portishead Lions - Planned 'Health Event' on Sat. 4th of June 2020 followed by a PSA test event on Sat 20th June 2020.

Radstock & Midsomer Norton Lions - They are investigating possible venue for PSA test event in 2020.

Hinkley Point C - EDF have prostate cancer as their 2020 charity of the year so more awareness events next year with possible on site PSA testing.

A very recent development was the rolling out of a new computerised logging in system for attendees at PSA events. This should make things much easier for reception and recording. This initiative by the Graeham Fulford Trust had been discussed at the recent GFT meeting in Birmingham attended by PH and MS. Some problems associated with 'walk-ins' would be resolved.

The future of SPSA lay very much in PSA Events, Awareness Events and probable collaboration with Wellness Events linked to Yeovil and Musgrove Hospitals. Renewed links with Hinkley Power station suggested potential for both Awareness and PSA events on a large scale.

#### 6. Accounts: TL presented the Annual Treasurers Report.....

The SPSA accounts for 2018/19 showed a deficit in the year of £194.46 but overall this was a reasonably satisfactory result in view of the 2 Testing sessions that we partly funded.

Total receipts were £7,127.42 including £,1602.37 in external donations & £699.35 in members donations (both gift aided & otherwise). We also received 2 substantial sums towards our testing costs, being £1,750 from City of Wells Lions for the event held at Wells & £3,000 from Summerfield Developments for the Taunton testing event. Interest from our Virgin deposit account was £95.82.

Total expenditure was £7,417.70 with £902.43 spent on newsletters for members, £344.00 in advertising costs & our costs associated with both the Wells & Taunton testing events costing £2,458.37 & £3,360.10 respectively. Our current assets total £15,736.98, being £15,921.44 brought forward from 2017/18 accounts less our 18/19 deficit of £194.46. This is confirmed by our cash situation of £13,129.97 held on deposit at Virgin Money & £2,607.01 held in our current HSBC account totalling £15,736.98.

The accounts were audited independently by Robert Hector, retired accountant, although in view of the relatively minor turnover of our charity, there is no need for a formal inspection.'

Donations continued but were sporadic reflecting the dramatic decrease in number of 'Members'. The problem of Gift Aid in relation to Members or Donors was discussed.

7. Election of Officers: Peter Hopwood was willing to continue as Chairman, and Tim Lewis as Treasurer. David Evans and Michael Sharpe agreed to serve as Cte members. There being no other nominations all were

elected nem com. David Evans agreed to stand as Secretary. Peter Gooch and Rob Price Bates stood down from the Cte.

It was noted that the Constitution stated that the Cte should be comprised of not less than 6 members. It was proposed that the new Cte should seek to reduce this to 4 as soon as possible . This would require an Extraordinary General Meeting.

8. General Business: Michael Sharpe, South West Ambassador, Prostate Cancer Research Centre, gave a presentation setting out what the PCa research centre does and how it does it. It is working on 11 different projects with 87% of its income going direct to the work place. PCRC needs more sponsors!

An appreciative audience raised some points for discussion;  
The differences between PCa and Breast Cancer screening, funding and support.

The access to and validity of PSA testing : to screen or not to screen?

Should we target the over fifties?

Which statins interfere with PSA/readings?

9. AOB: None

10.Close: Chairman thanked all those attending and the meeting closed at 1210 with coffee and biscuits.