

Autism Bucks – AGM 20234 Minutes

Date:	28 Jun 2023
Time:	18:30 – 19:30
Venue:	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2463140710 and Quaker Hall, Aylesbury
Attendees (Trustees)	
Neil Cary Paulette Hunn Denise Leonard	
Attendees (Members)	
Simon Stiel Kendra Mendez Elaine Kaye Adele Brigden Laura Hobbs Sam Hinson	Charles Pain Sara Madden-Connor Conrad Jarrett Caroline Bauers Oliver Gilbert Lucy Gilbert Stuart Hinson

ID	Agenda Item	Notes
1	Welcome and apologies	Neil welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM. Apologies received from Anup Jadhav, Paula Strawbridge, Martin Hollett & David Waddleton
2	Chair's Report	Since the last AGM: New member growth (180+) Healthy financials: £1,800 from the Rothschild Fund £1,000 from The Dyers' Company £1,000 in Donations £550 from our stand at Aylesbury Xmas Market £220 from Amazon Smile & Bucks Lottery Regular Meeting sequence: 2 nd Wed: Zoom meeting 4 th Wed: Face-to-face meeting Fun programme of activities: Walking with Alpacas Go-karting Little Boat Trip Christmas Party Advising Schools, Care Homes and other organisations Looking Forward:

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keeping our Members as our highest priority 2. Encouraging new Members to join our meetings and activities 3. Growing our Board of Trustees and Volunteers 4. Increasing awareness through our website and social media 5. Maintaining a healthy financial state.
3	Social & Support Groups	<p>Paulette gave a summary of the groups and activities over the last year. She also thanked Neil for all the work he has done for the charity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome return to our face-to-face Group Meetings • Attendance slightly down post-Covid • Hybrid face-to-face and Zoom meetings not a success • Omicron stopped our Xmas Party • Encourage new members to attend our meetings and activities • Get member feedback on best locations for meetings • Approached by NHS, Care Home, and school for training • Supporting North Yorkshire to set up groups like ours
4	Awareness Programme	<p>New series of Awareness Videos recorded especially for Autism Bucks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pete Wharmby • Garry Freeman • Paul Isaacs <p>Pens marketing our website.</p>
5	Planned Activities 2023	The Chair listed all the planned activities for 2023
	Website and Social Media	<p>Website now well-established with Google Search Growing Presence on social media Focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing information with members Raising awareness Attracting new members, trustees and volunteers <p>Open to new ideas and new material</p>
6	Treasurer's Report	See Presentation
7	Appointment of Trustees and Key Offices	<p>The AGM approved the following to continue as Trustees</p> <p>Neil Cary Paulette Hunn Anup Jadhav Paula Strawbridge Martin Hollett Denise Leonard</p> <p>The AGM approved the following key offices:</p> <p>Chair: Neil Cary Secretary: Paula Strawbridge Interim Treasurer: Neil Cary</p>

		<p style="text-align: center;">Accounts Examiner: Jonathan Bullock</p> <p>Neil mentioned that we required more trustee's and volunteers. It is hoped to invite groups members to our trustee meeting, so they can see the work that is carried out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon asked the date of the next meeting- 1st August 2023. • Caroline asked if we had vacancies for Trustee's -yes • Conrad asked how often we meet – monthly
8	Members Proposed Resolutions	<p>The following questions were raised by Simon Stiel and discussed during the meeting (response in blue):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have we established contact with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Autism Berkshire b. autism representative charities in Hertfordshire c. OASIS, Oxfordshire Autistic Society d. Bedfordshire autism representative societies e. Northamptonshire autism societies? [All neighbouring autism organisations are a lot bigger than us and have paid staff. They also have funding from their local council. We would prefer to remain small and focus on our members.] 2. Trips to theatres locally/regionally. [We can't arrange this as we do not have the budget. But group members are welcome to arrange themselves.] 3. Are there proposals to enter Autism Bucks runners for local runs etc so that we can raise money ourselves for the charity 4. Are there proposals to have an Autism Bucks stand at the Kop Hill Climb which takes place at Princes Risborough on 16-17 September this year? [If Neil is given the date he will explore who is available.] 5. Are we in touch with Buckinghamshire Council customer service to get a discount gym membership card for autistic people that covers all of Buckinghamshire and/or get a discount card that covers all gym chains and gym/sports facilities in Buckinghamshire. 6. Could we use Instagram to promote ourselves? Charities, local councils, Civil Service and Government departments are using it as an alternative to Twitter in increasing numbers. [One of our trustee's has advised that the charity would not benefit the charity] 7. Schools in Buckinghamshire will have open days/activity camps in the first week of July and throughout the summer. Are we planning to talk to them to do presentations and/or have stands about us and lived experience? [This could benefit parents who may be autistic, however we don't have the volunteers to do this.] <p>Other points raised by the floor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conrad Jarrett gave details on different funding options- these he will email to Neil. • Caroline Bauers- is there a backup plan if something happened to Neil with regards to the website? [Yes there is and hopefully we have members with the skills that could support.]

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles Pain – said that the current structure of the charity had given him the confidence to be a part of it, and that he felt too much expansion would change the nature.
9	Closing Remarks	The Chair thanked all Trustees and members for attending and for their participation in the discussions