

# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association of Paediatric Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland

12:30 - 13:30 Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Colston Hall, Bristol



**Chair** Professor Andrew Wolf  
**Honorary Secretary** Dr. Chris Gildersleve  
**Honorary Treasurer** Dr. Alistair Cranston

**Minutes** Dr. Simon Courtman, APA Council member

**A head count at the beginning of the meeting confirmed that 82 members were present. The President, Professor Andrew Wolf, confirmed that the meeting was quorate.**

## **1. Apologies – Dr. C Gildersleve**

Apologies were received from: Dr. Chris Vallis, Dr. Declan Warde, Dr. Keith Bailie and Dr. Neil Bennett

Dr. Gildersleve informed the meeting that Dr. Vallis had been unwell recently and had written to him to wish him well.

## **2. Minutes of the 2016 AGM in Belfast - Professor Andrew Wolf**

The minutes of the previous AGM held on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2016 in Belfast had been placed on the APA website in advance, together with the agenda, the 2017 Annual Report and all necessary documents for this meeting.

There were no corrections or omissions from the minutes. These were later signed by Professor Wolf.

## **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

## **4. President's Report - Professor Andrew Wolf**

Professor Wolf highlighted the following items from his annual report:

### **(i) Council changes**

- Leavers from council – Dr. Bob Bingham, Dr. Jon Smith, Dr. Suellen Walker, and Dr. Carolyn Smith, all were thanked by Professor Wolf for their contributions to the work of the APA over a number of years.
- Joining council – Dr. Russell Perkins (RCoA co-opted member), Dr. Fidelma Kirby (National Advisor form Ireland). Dr. Philip Arnold (Home Member) would be joining Council after the AGM.
- President elect – Dr. C Gildersleve had been elected President Elect, Honorary Secretary elect Dr. S Courtman, Honorary Treasurer elect Dr. M Thomas, Peer Review - Dr. S Bew.

## **(ii) Deaths of APA Members**

Professor Wolf noted the deaths of Dr. Peter Morris and Dr. Roddie McNicol during the past year. Obituaries had been placed on the APA website.

## **(iii) Change of conference organisers**

Professor Wolf highlighted the change of conference organisers, following the decision to move from AAGBI to the Professional Conference Organiser, INDEX. A number of changes had taken place with respect to elements of the meeting and more would evolve over time. However this would be dependant on the feedback from delegates and further development would be based on the success or otherwise of any changes. A review of the 2017 meeting would take place in July and plans for the 2018 Liverpool would be tailored following this review.

## **(iv) Science and Research**

Professor Wolf highlighted the success and progress of research projects over the past year.

- NECTARINE. Successful NIAA grant
- Paediatric laparotomy project (PELA). An application for NIAA funding had been submitted. The adjudication was awaited.
- PATRN had submitted an application for APAGBI funding for a national project on admissions following day-case surgery.

## **(v) Website**

Council were planning a significant upgrade to the website. This will be discussed as an agenda item.

## **(vi) FDA alerts**

- Developing brain – a guidance statement on neurotoxicity form professionals had been developed by members of APA Council and had been jointly approved and badged by RCoA, AAGBI, College of Anaesthetists of Ireland and posted on website.
- Tramadol – Tramadol was now contraindicated in the US in children <12 years of age and <18 years of age following Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy. The MHRA are aware of this statement and the APA will work with the MHRA in response to this statement. In the meantime the APA is planning to do national survey to get clear picture of current practice.

## **(vii) Clinical Reference Groups**

Paediatric anaesthesia is represented on several of these groups. Progress has been slow in all of these groups thus far. In addition a number National NHS reviews of surgery and critical care in children are in progress, looking at new models of care. These are not expected to report before the autumn.

Professor Andrew Wolf expressed his thanks to all those who had contributed to the work of the APA over the past year.

No questions were asked.

## **5. Honorary Secretary's Report - Dr. Chris Gildersleve**

### **(i) APA Membership**

An accurate membership database was now in place following the "cleanse" in 2016. There are currently 940 paid-up members, the forecast would be for approximately 1000 – 1050 once remaining subscriptions had been chased and the latest tranche of Direct Debits processed. There was a short discussion on recruitment opportunities, given the fairly static membership numbers.

### **(ii) Election to Council**

An advertisement for 3 new Home members would be placed on the website and mailed to members in the autumn. This election will run using an entirely electronic voting process by the ERS. Dr Gildersleve encouraged members to apply, and to encourage colleagues to consider putting themselves forward for nomination.

Dr John Rutherford had been elected by SPAN to the position of National Advisor for Scotland, replacing Dr Carolyn Smith, who had completed her term of office.

### **(iii) Articles and Standing Orders – Agenda item**

#### **(iv) GPAS 2017**

This had now been completed and was available on the RCoA website. 3 of the four-strong author-group were members of APA Council and the 4<sup>th</sup> member was Dr. Jane Lockie. All were thanked for their work in developing this new version of GPAS, using NICE methodology for the first time for this publication. GPAS now forms the basis for ACSA standards, which has relevance for APA Peer Review. (Vide infra agenda item 9).

No questions were asked.

## **6. Honorary Treasurer’s Report - Dr. Alistair Cranston**

Dr. Alistair Cranston informed the meeting that the accounts were available on the website but drew attention to the drop in subscription income during 2016. This was a direct result of the database cleaning exercise that took place during that subscription year. An explanation regarding the accounting adjustment of this income was provided by the APAGBI accountants, and Dr. Cranston summarised this for the AGM.

Dr Cranston informed the meeting of the changes that had taken place regarding the APAGBI investment portfolio, with £50K placed in a CAF Managed Portfolio via Octopus Investments. This is currently delivering a significantly improved return compared with our other invested income. APAGBI total assets exceed £500K and the APAGBI would be able to sustain the complete loss of an ASM should that occur.

Dr. Cranston noted that this was the first ASM for which the accounts had been run by our new PCO, INDEX, a small surplus was projected for the Bristol ASM, though we currently await the detailed accounting for this meeting.

Dr. Cranston highlighted the significant spending plans for 2017, namely a commitment of £40K to the NIAA and a sum of the order £16K for a significant website upgrade.

There will be no increase in subscription fees for 2017/2018.

No questions were asked.

**Dr. Cranston sought approval from the AGM for the 2016 accounts. Dr. Charles Stack proposed the motion to accept the accounts; this was seconded by Dr. Kathy Wilkinson and carried unanimously.**

## **7. Special Resolution of the members: To accept the revised Articles of Association of the APAGBI – Dr. Chris Gildersleve**

Dr Gildersleve informed the meeting that Council had undertaken the bi-annual review of the Articles and Standing Orders of the APAGBI. The revised versions of the Articles and standing Orders had been circulated to members prior to the AGM and were displayed on the website.

Dr Gildersleve provided a detailed summary of the changes to the Articles necessitated by the change to voting rights of Affiliate Members approved at the 2016 AGM. In addition he informed the meeting of the changes to the Standing Orders required to ensure consistency, together with the additional changes required to reflect the engagement of a PCO to run the Annual Scientific meeting and the election of a QI Lead, who would be co-opted to Council.

No questions were asked.

**Dr Gildersleve displayed the text of the Special Resolution to approve the revised Articles; this was proposed by Dr. Bob Bingham and seconded by Dr. Jon Smith. The motion was passed unanimously.**

## **8. Website and social media - Dr Simon Courtman**

Dr Courtman informed the meeting of the successful development of the social media platforms over the past year, noting that access to the website is now predominantly via mobile and tablet. Dr Courtman provided a short summary of the intentions with respect to the website upgrade. The operating system we currently use is no longer supported and an upgrade to the latest system will allow greater functionality and facilitate a more mobile friendly format. This would be developed over the summer, and the intention would be to re-launch the website in late 2017.

## **9. APA Committee reports**

Complete committee reports are to be found in the Annual report. Council chose to highlight the following items:

### **(i) Professional Standards: ACSA/APA Peer Review**

Dr. Courtman informed the meeting of the progress made with the RCoA with respect to the development of paediatric standards within the main ACSA domains 1-4 and agreement with the RCoA to recognise APA Peer Review as acknowledgment of the attainment of paediatric standards for ACSA. The detail of this process still required some development and would also necessitate a major update to the APA Peer Review paperwork to ensure that it reflected the standards described within GPAS 2017. Work on this would continue in the coming months.

### **(ii) Education and Training Committee: 2016/2017 Highlights**

Dr. Thomas provided a summary of the educational highlights from the past 12 months together with real time examples of website content uploaded during the last year. Examples of three areas of success were provided, notably:

- Video lecture content – two year pilot of video lectures
- Hot topics
- Podcasts

All these items would continue to be developed over the next 12 months under the new chair of the Education Committee, Dr. Mary Lane.

## **10. Written reports from individual countries**

## **11. Reports from other organisations**

Professor Wolf confirmed that reports for items 10 and 11 on the agenda were available to view in the Annual Report. There were no questions.

## **12. Correspondence - Dr. Chris Gildersleve**

No additional correspondence had been received.

## **13. Any Other Business**

None

## **14. Date of the Next Meeting**

The next Annual General Meeting will be held at St. George's Hall, Liverpool on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

Professor Andrew Wolf thanked everyone for attending and APA Council for their hard work over the past year. The meeting closed at 13:30.