

DERBYSHIRE CARERS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Held at County Hall, Matlock on Thursday 24th September 2009

1) Welcome and Introductions

The 2009 Annual General Meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Christine Bell. Christine welcomed all members, board and staff in attendance, she then introduced Helen Robinson the new Chief Executive and encouraged anyone who had not already met her to come and introduce themselves to her.

2) Apologies

Christine gave apologies for Vicky Davison and Bridget Leech. Other apologies were received from;

Janice Rhodes	Derby County PCT
Linda Porter	DCA Staff
Silvia Carrillo	DCA Staff
Stuart Calder	DCA Staff
Lynne O`Brien	DCA Staff
Katherine Ramage	DCA Staff
Janis Handley	DCA Staff
Deborah Race	NDVA

Christine Bell also invited any further apologies to be passed to the Minute Secretary.

3) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2008

- (i) Acceptance: The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25th September 2008 were accepted as a true record – proposed by Don Cliffe and seconded by Melvyn Rowthorne.
- (ii) Matters Arising: There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4) Annual Report & Financial Report – April 2008 - March 2009

Helen Robinson presented highlights from the annual report. She said she would do her best to feedback on this financial year despite not actually working at DCA during this time. Helen reported that it was DCA`s 20th anniversary and this was

celebrated during carers day where Gerry Fryer and some of the other original volunteers attended.

Helen introduced new staff who had started during this financial year, these being Joanne Goodison - Head Office Manager, Silvia Carrillo – Emergency Planning Officer, Stuart Calder – Business Development Manager and Jacqui Boyd – High Peak and Dales Area Co-ordinator and welcomed them all to DCA. Helen also pointed out how DCA were still making a real difference to many carers lives.

Helen spoke about DCA winning the Caring with Confidence bid and how much this meant to the organisation.

Christine Bell then took over and said that many changes had taken place during 2008-2009. DCA said goodbye to Roland Brown and welcomed Helen Robinson as Chief Executive. Christine spoke about the volunteers at DCA that help with the Newsletter, the Website and assist ACO`s and encouraged everyone to get involved with the organisation as this is what Gerry Fryer wanted when he started DCA for Carers to help other Carers. Christine then made reference to June Coleman who was one of the original volunteers and who still remains a volunteer to date involved in sending out Derbyshire Carers Association Newsletters from the Head Office.

5) Appointment of Auditors 2009 - 2010

That the current auditors, Beeley Hawley & Co should again be appointed for 2009 – 2010 was proposed by June Coleman and seconded by Jean Bailey.

6) Election of Management Board

Christine Bell thanked all members of the Management Committee for their commitment over the past year and went on to inform everyone that the nominations listed below had been received. Melvyn Rowthorne asked if the election could be approved en block, Christine Bell said she believed the Chair Person and Vice-Chairperson at least needed to be mentioned individually. The officers and board members then stood down and Helen Robinson conducted the election of the following on a block vote basis as no appointment was contested.

Chairperson	Christine Bell
Vice-Chairperson	Bridget Leech
Member	Ray Jones
Member	Vicky Davison
Member	Elspeth Jones
Member	Jean Bailey
Member	Hilary Spencer
Member	Sandra Pomerantz
Member	Deborah Race

The nominations for the Officers, and Members of the Board were unanimously approved by members and those listed above duly voted in.

Lisa Barker asked if all of the Board Members who were present could stand up so carers would know who they were.

7) A O B.

Melvyn Rowthorne asked if DCA had ever considered having a `signer` for the deaf at any of their meetings. Christine Bell asked if this was because Mr Rowthorne couldn't hear what was being said. Mr Rowthorne commented that a `signer` should be available whether or not anyone had hearing difficulties. Christine Bell confirmed that DCA funds would not be used for this unless it was specifically requested. Mr Rowthorne mentioned that he was a qualified signer and offered to sign for DCA if required for the next AGM.

Stan Fulwood, an Erewash Former Carer asked why the governments Carers Grant hadn't been mentioned. Christine Bell replied by stating DCA were not directly in receipt of the Carers Grant which was why it had not been covered in the Annual Report. Claire Raw stated that part of the Carers Grant was going to DCA through the PCT funding. Mr Fulwood said that there should be more information available to carers on how this money was being spent. Christine Bell agreed to find out more information on this and report back in the next Newsletter.

June Coleman asked for a round of applause and thanks from everyone to Christine Bell for all she does and Claire Raw asked for all staff and volunteers to also be thanked.

There was no other business.

8) Date of AGM 2010

September 2010 – date and venue to be confirmed.

The business meeting was then closed by the re-appointed chairperson Christine Bell.

The formal business ended at 8.00 pm.

9) Strategy Consultation/Workshop

A buffet was served whilst the Strategy Workshop took place, which was concluded by a feedback session hosted by Helen Robinson.

10) Chairpersons Closing Remarks:-

Christine thanked everyone for attending and for all their efforts and ideas in the strategy workshop.