

Hampshire Parent Carer Network Annual General Meeting

Friday 22nd November 2019, 10am

Places for Leisure, Passfield Avenue, Eastleigh SO50 9NL

Present: Jo Maxwell-Heron, Mary Baldwin, Lucy Fitzgerald, Dawn Hamblett, Julie Sheild, Al Crabtree, Jane Flowerdew, Holly Davis, Paul Richardson, Rachel Foord, Christine Chapman, Jo Green, Sarah Knott, Alyson Miller, Tracey Moles, Kerry Radley-Uren, Beth Theobald, Adele Dodd, Carolyn Thomas, Margaret White

Apologies: Debbie Bourne

Quorum

At the last AGM, the constitution was amended to reduce the number needed for quorum. Quorum number met for this year

Conflicts of interest

None declared

Re-election of Trustees

All trustees re-elected and will continue. Proposed: Christine Chapman and seconded: Jo Green

Appointment of Trustees

No new trustees to appoint, but DH (chair) encouraged anyone interested to come forward for a chat at break, lunch or after the meeting

Minutes of AGM 2018

As very few people from the last AGM were present, it was agreed that they would be sent the minutes from 2018 to look at

Matters Arising

There are no outstanding matters arising, but if upon reading the minutes anyone has any comments, these can be fed back to the HPCN team

Financial report

- Accounts have been looked at by our appointed external accountant- they are happy with the report
- HPCN have made substantial savings through moving back office functions to Rose Road. Savings made on staff and also no longer having premises in Winchester
- Last year the budget significantly reduced from 92k to 76k. An application was made to our funders Contact for a discretionary grant to top this up , but this was unsuccessful
- Next year's accounts will show the savings made from no longer having the office space and related overheads
- Accounts will be signed at the end of the meeting and filed with charity commission

External auditors to be appointed

Agreed to appoint the same accountant as no issues- no objections to this

Annual report and future proposals

- Hampshire County Council have a duty to consult with parents- a lot of this is done through HPCN and our parent reps attending strategic meetings
- Anne Edwards stood down for personal reasons but did the annual report before she left
- Hampshire Parent Carer Network funding comes from HCC Children's Services, Department for Education (via Contact) and health
- There have been lots of changes in the last year, with the previous CEO resigning
- This presented the trustees with an opportunity to look at the viability of the organisation going forward
- The team looked at a number of options with the support of Contact (funders), with a focus on having more parent reps and increasing participation
- The contract for day to day support was given to Rose Road, as they are experienced at working with parent carer forums and have back office support ready. HPCN remain an independent charity
- The new structure is more resilient to cuts. New staff team in place and a new steering group set up ensuring parent views are heard and reflected

Call for new trustees and participating members

- DH called for anyone interested in becoming a trustee. It is a rewarding role within a friendly team
- Likewise, there is a need for more parent reps
- If anyone is interested in either role, please do come forward by emailing participation@hpcn.org.uk

Question:

Q: Why did salary figures rise so much? A: Because of redundancy costs

AOB

None

Current work and Future Plans

Jo Maxwell-Heron gave a presentation about Rose Road, current work and the HPCN vision for the future. A copy of this presentation will be attached with the minutes, but the key points are:

- JMH gave thanks to the trustees for all they do. She also thanked the trustees for choosing Rose Road to deliver the participation element of HPCN
- Rose Road have been around for 65 years and already support parent carer forums in 4 parent carer forums in 4 other areas
- JMH thanked the parent reps for their contribution so far- we now have 25 parents attending meetings and steering group meetings but always need to recruit more
- Currently HPCN are running 5 Future in Mind sessions each month- these sessions are funded by Health and each month a speaker from CAMHS presents on a different topic. The team would love to run more in the future, but additional funding is needed first

- Get Togethers have increased from 6 to 9- new sessions in Winchester, Fareham and Gosport and New Forest

Q: Why are there no groups in the Havant area?

A: Due to funding mostly- we are trying to find someone to run this, and a free venue- aiming to launch early 2020

Following the official business, Guest Speakers Mandy Burton (clinical lead) and Lao Cooper (Head of CAMHS)

A copy of the presentation given by CAMHS was sent to all attendees and is available on request. In addition to the presentation, several questions and points were raised, which will be summarised below

- LC highlighted the current pressures on CAMHS. There is insufficient funding, high staff turnover and an increase in cases coming through
- CAMHS has an open door policy- no need to go through GP to access
- Families need to have accessed or tried to access other services first before going into CAMHS- this includes school environment strategies
- Acknowledgement made that waiting lists are too long. At present there is no money for additional resources and a huge amount of work goes into retaining staff
- More funding is being injected into Mental Health services in the next few years
- Some parents in the room made the speakers aware of their personal struggles and issues with the CAMHS services. These were acknowledged, and the CAMHS team stayed after the meeting to speak to families

Q: If CAMHS is supposed to be a single service across Hampshire, why are there so many inconsistencies in what is done from area to area?

A: Although the aim is an integrated service, there are some things that make this difficult. Local needs vary- some areas have higher demand, more complex cases and more pressures on existing staff. Clinical leads meet fortnightly to try and ensure a uniformed approach, but acknowledgment made that there are variations

Q: What happens if a YP presents multiple comorbidities?

A: Everything will be looked at, as a whole. Practitioners are able to work with a range of issues, but sometimes there may be a need to be seen by a specialist in the field ie psych

The following points were made by parents:

- Anxiety is a grey area with Autism and parents are often passed back and forwards between services
- Autism in girls is a definite gap with many not meeting the thresholds for autism **or** CAMHS
- Little follow up after interventions- misinformation and clinical errors

Close

- No follow up after interventions- clinical errors and misinformation, not recorded on a child's file
- Especially girls as not meeting thresholds for Autism OR mental health