



Minutes of Open Meeting
Wednesday 01st December 2021 - 19:00 to
Venue: Beamish Hall Hotel.

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| Present: | Mick Redpath, Mike Thompson, Barry Bullas, Jason Cooper, Harry Snee, Andrew Polkinghorn, Steven Laws, Alan Johnson, Steve Wells, Derek Farrow, Frank Spoulsby, Chris Mann, Alan Johnston, Tiger Taylor, Derek Henderson, Paul Curran, Ros Pattinson, Stephen Draper, Susan Draper, Steve Tulloch, J Reay, G Mitchell, P Browning, Carol Nelson, Clive Franklin, Andrew Dowson, Doreen Lawrence, Fain Thompson, Gary Tait, Kirsty Lawrence, Colin Mathews, Shaun Atherton, James Robson, Ann Brown, Paul Frost, David Smith, Jeff Glen, Eric Metcalfe, John Dixon – Dawson, Stephen Millen, Judith Russell, Stephen Winn, Ross Beasley, Peter Kippax, Tony Keenan, Leon Booth, Malcolm Cramman, Suzanne Hitchinson, Ronnie Paton |
| Apologies for Absence: | Andrea Witherspoon, Neil Hunter, Ruth Atkinson, Nigel Barlow, Paul Paterson, Craig Nichols, Tom Mears, Robert Donachie, Colin Law, James Ludford, Ron Absolom, Ruth Atkinson, Kirsty Downham. Sean Storey. |

| No | Item |
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| 1. | <p>Minutes of June open meeting</p> <p>Accepted as an accurate record and approved Proposed by: Clive Franklyn Seconded by: Gary Tait</p> |
| 2 | <p>Introductions.</p> <p>RP opened the meeting at 19.00 and thanked everyone for their attendance. It's also nice to welcome some new faces. RP asked for introductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Robson Rider • Derek Farrow Rider / Driver • Steve Wills Rider • Dave Smith Rider • Ann Brown Controller • Paul Browning Rider • Andy Dowson Rider • Sean Atherton Rider / Driver |
| 3 | <p>Patrons Message.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Bob Jarman addressed the meeting and gave an overview that on the last year |

there has been a 25% increase in patient use of A&E this has had an increased demand on services and the service that NBB provide to the trust. Without doubt this has saved lives. Bob thanked everyone involved with the charity from all positions and stated that he was extremely proud to be associated. He extended a big thank you from everyone at the NHS and has spoken to volunteers on shift. The offer of a cup of tea / coffee was available to all on shift at the RVI.

- RP thanked Bob for his kind words.
- Heidi Mottram sent apologies and best wishes to all involved.

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Committee Updates.

Treasurer.

- ST gave the following review.
- Current account £26,000
- Savings account £177,153
- Equals account £1,000
- Total £204,153
- Over the last 3 months £64,150 has been paid in. We have had a VAT return of £6,217. A donation of £30,500 from The League Of Friends.
- Paid out £56,387
- £5,000 lodged with NABB ref judgement, this will be returned
- Charity finances are in a healthy position. As we are banking more than expenditure. All invoices are paid as they arise and accounts are reconciled and up to date.

Vice Chair.

- MR gave the following review.
- So far we have received and issued 53 air vests and have 1 or 2 in stock. These have been well received.
- MR thanked TT for securing the grant.

Rota.

- CM gave the following review.
- Whilst there has not been a great deal to report rota wise, we have encountered a few shortages due to temperature drops and standing bikes down. This resulted in driver requests.
- Reminder to BOB drivers to ring committee on call as per procedure.
- Question from Tom Mears – in recent times we have had a Cumbria relay request twice in 3 hours from Hexham. Is there any chance of a short relay standby? CM replied to stick with what we have and if there is a problem with meet up, Cumbria will complete the job.
- Comment from Paul Curran from BOB run, EVS turned up at RVI looking for BTS. They appear to be doing their own thing. CM commented that at times, it would appear they are however our focus is NBB.
- We have now resumed issuing uniform and arranging shadow shifts since restrictions have eased slightly. Recently 4 new volunteers have required additional shadow training due to uncertainty of pick up locations and day shifts. Barry Bullas asked if this was because of confusion with the other NHS day shifts. Paul Curran and Mike Thompson both commented that there was a lot to take in on the website. JC / AJ both commented that its better to do some prior preparation prior to first shift as opposed to relying on shadow riders or drivers.

Ann Brown also advised that the training videos are really useful.

- John Reay queried drop off locations at hospitals as there has been some confusion recently from NHS staff. Lab or reception. RP gave feedback as to procedure and this will be taken up with SS for clarity.
- The Christmas and New Year period will soon be upon us, there may be a possibility to split shifts. Contact rota direct.
- Floor comment from Paul Curran asking that access codes are not given over the radio.

Training.

- SW gave the following update
- Since January we have completed 114 new inductions with 40 still to go.
- If anyone is finding the process slow, please get in touch.

Fleet.

- JC gave the following review.
- 'Morpeth' new bike is now up and running and available to rota subject to familiarisation (as are all of the RTs)
- We now do not have access to a Henry Surtees sponsored vehicle for the BOB Run and are currently using the black Yeti for this.
- We have secured another car and this has been fitted with livery.
- Please when parking bikes at base locations do not use the steering lock as fire or ambulance service personnel may need to move bikes in the event of an emergency on site, likewise do not park in gear.
- Please ensure all fault reporting is reported online using the reporting tool asap.
- Floor question from John Reay relating to car and bike exemption for Tyne Tunnels. Harry Snee advised that all of our fleet is now exempt with a potential yearly saving of £400.

Secretary.

- AJ gave the following update.
- There continues to be a lot of committee discussions behind the scenes and at meetings.
- Great to be issuing uniform again with Ken Tait supporting.
- Extended thanks to all.

Fundraising.

- TT gave the following review.
- Requests for events are starting to be picked up and added to event calander.
- Anyone wishing to support with collection of donation tins please get in touch. 30 buckets still to return from Stagecoach.

Publicity.

- KL gave the following review,
- Apologies as she has been unwell recently, however now getting back in to it.
- Thanks to MR for helping out, also John Watts for the Gateshead Health Matters Video. Thanks also to Eamon Toland for attending the NHS day event at the Tyne Theatre.
- Thanks to Kim Vincent for the work she has done compiling our newsletters and a warm welcome to Stephanie Holland who has stepped up and will work with Gareth.
- Christmas cards and E cards are now available also wreaths.
- KL asked that if anyone would like to submit photographs in uniform on or off shift (note

social media policy) with a a Christmas message, please forward to her to collate a collage.

- Blood Bike Santa event is cancelled this year at Hospitals request.

Membership.

- SH gave the following review.
- Stats from the membership survey 282 members have so far completed this of which 103 Riders, 95 Drivers, 38 Controllers, 33 Fundraisers.
- Thanks to members for completing this and for new volunteers in the wings, please be patient.

Chair,

- RP gave the following review.
- At the emergency equipment review, the judge was not in favour of S19 and the use of blue lights.
- We have now secured access to a storage facility for event equipment near the Metro Centre this will centralise kit and give appropriate storage space.
- NBB ID cards have a January 22 expiry date. We are aware of this and Barry Bullas will address this.
- Newcastle Trist ID cards will be issued in January.

5 Recognition Badges.

The following volunteers were presented with their awards.

Silver

Shaun Atherton
Stuart Tate

Gold

Ian Brand
Paul Paterson
Ann Brown
Graeme Mitchell
Paul Frost

Gold /Red

Jeff Glen
Susan Draper
Steven Draper

Open Floor Questions

Question raised about not dropping samples to the RVI labs, a length discussion took place and RP is to clarify and send an email to stating the position to clear up the confusion

Chair / Vice Chair Print Name:

Date:.....