

MINUTES OF SCARF AGM

Monday 24 March 2025 6pm

Ashley Junior School

Present: Gary Morgan (GM), Geoff Walker (GW), Lucinda Dowson (LD), Nicola Rusbridge (NR), Debbie Morgan (DM), Kate Reeve (KR), Cathy Smith (CS), Elaine Williams (EW), Lisa Harrison (LH), Katy Bailey (KB), Lorraine Pragnell, Rebecca Thelwell, Matt Thelwell, Carol Smith, Dale Forbes, Emma Walker.

AGM opened at 6pm by GM.

1. **Apologies:** Paula Williams (PW), Cerys Williams (CW), Linda Cohu (LC), Ellie Dibdin, Charlotte Glen.
2. **Approval of Last AGM Minutes 18/3/24:** LD had sent the 2024 AGM Minutes to all members and the Committee prior to this AGM. All those present had seen and read them. GM asked if there were any questions regarding the Minutes. There were no questions. GM asked for the Minutes to be approved. Minutes of the 2024 AGM were approved.
3. **Annual Report:** LD had sent the Annual Report to all members and the Committee prior to the AGM. Everyone present had read the report. GM said that the Annual Report once again highlighted how much we do with the funds we have. GM had recently given a talk at Priestlands School in which he included all the activities information from the Annual Report because it's a good reflection of what Scarf does. The staff and pupils were surprised at how much we offer. GM said it was a little disappointing to have to dip into our reserve funds because we were not getting so many big grants this year as last year and costs had gone up, but with all that said we still did a huge amount of activities. GM said that it now costs £50,000 per year to run Scarf. GM said that the Committee do everything including fundraising and are always looking for fundraising ideas and opportunities. GM thanked LD for creating another great report. Everyone present agreed and showed their appreciation.
4. **Questions for the Committee:** GM asked if anyone had any questions. There were no questions.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** GW gave all those present his Financial Summary as at 31/12/24 which was also circulated to all members and the Committee prior to the AGM. GW reported that we had a shortfall of £6,853 which culminated in a reduction of our reserves. GW said that we had higher cash reserves at the end of the year, £74,669, this was up on the last year which was £68,433. GW said that this was due to grant cash received being carried forward into next year. GW said that overall, income at £41,921 is just £1,072 less than last year.

GW said that some donations were listed on his report and that we are truly grateful for those and many others received. GW and the Committee thanked KB for doing her abseil down the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth and raising over £600 for Scarf.

GW said that the grants received were listed in his report and that the grant of £11,500 per year from Hampshire County Council was under review and that we should hear from them soon.

GW said that regarding expenditure everything had gone up, even down to school hall hire. GW added that we are spending everyone's money wisely, but all costs have risen.

GW said that the financial situation of the Charity is satisfactory.

6. **Fundraising:** GW introduced his Daughter, Emma, to everyone. Emma is kindly running the London Marathon for Scarf on Sunday 27 April 2025. Emma told everyone she had done 3 marathons before and had been training hard having done a 19 mile run the previous weekend and would be doing a 21 mile run the following weekend. GW said Emma had exceeded her target today. CS asked if there was a link on Scarf's Facebook page to support Emma. LD said there was and would send out an email to members to remind them to use the link to donate. GM thanked Emma and said whatever amount she raises will definitely help and make a difference. The Committee also thanked Emma.

LD spoke about fundraising and said that fundraising events were always a team effort and referenced the very successful hamper tombola at Woodside Park last Summer. LD said that there is a timeline for applying for grants so this is always a constant process. LD said that Short Breaks Funding for Multi-Sports and Youth Club will end in either May or September, but there is hope that it may continue and we should hear soon. LD reported that Scarf are Otters Nurseries Charity of the Year. This was due to a letter sent to Otters from Joanne, a member's grandmother who is helping with fundraising and PW visiting them to talk about Scarf. LD added that GM, PW and GW often do talks at various venues to raise awareness and hopefully in turn this will raise funds for Scarf.

GM said that on Saturday 5 April Scarf are collecting in the foyer at Tesco New Milton and on Monday 5 May we have a stall at Bransgore Fun Day which is a 4 hour event. LH was a bit worried we wouldn't have many prizes for the raffle and suggested that if every member contributed 1 item we'd then have plenty. LH said all items would need to be with her by the weekend before the Fun Day. LD/NR will send an email out to members asking for donations. LH said there would be the raffle with 1 Golden Ticket for a hamper, plant sale with plants donated by Double HH (despite calling and emailing them LH hadn't had a response from Pinetops Nurseries regarding donating plants) and Guess the Sweets in the Jar.

GW reported that the new collection tins were here, plus the QR code and Sum Up machine. GW said that the QR code and Sum Up machine can be used by CS at the strawberry farm over the Summer. Carol said that she would be happy to take a collection box and QR code to all the dog shows she attends with her business over the Spring and Summer.

NR asked if any members/parents know about Match Funding as an employee benefit. NR said that it can be up to £3,000 and any amount raised up to this figure the employer will match it. NR said that banks do it. LH said that when her husband worked for JP Morgan they matched the amount he had raised.

Action: LD to send out an email to members as a reminder to donate to Emma via the link.

LD/NR to send out an email to members asking for donations for raffle prizes regarding Bransgore Fun Day.

7. **Thank You's:** GM thanked LD for all her hard work for so many years as she steps down from her Activities Coordinator role and welcomed NR as Scarf's new Activities Coordinator. GM thanked KB for all her hard work contributing to and leading Scarf 2. GM also thanked Scarf's amazing Staff, Support Workers and Volunteers. GM also wanted to mention Thomas Hind having recently helped at a Taekwondo session and seen how amazing Thomas was interacting and engaging with members of all ages. GM said Thomas was a real success story having been a Scarf member for many years and now works for Scarf.

8. **Election of Committee Members:**

Chair: Gary Morgan - Proposed Elaine Williams, Seconded Kate Reeve

Vice Chair: Paula Williams – Proposed Lisa Harrison, Seconded Cathy Smith

Treasurer: Geoff Walker – Proposed Gary Morgan, Seconded Katy Bailey

Secretary: Debbie Morgan – Proposed Geoff Walker, Seconded Kate Reeve

General Member/

Health & Safety Officer: Elaine Williams – Proposed Lisa Harrison, Seconded Geoff Walker

General Member: Kate Reeve – Proposed Debbie Morgan, Seconded Cathy Smith

General Member: Cathy Smith – Proposed Lorraine Pragnell, Seconded Carol Smith

General Member: Linda CoHu – Proposed Lucinda Dowson, Seconded Elaine Williams

General Member: Lisa Harrison – Proposed Katy Bailey, Seconded Geoff Walker

General Member: Cerys Williams – Proposed Lisa Harrison, Seconded Kate Reeve

General Member: Carol Smith – Proposed Cathy Smith, Seconded Kate Reeve

General Member: Ellie Dibdin – Proposed Katy Bailey, Seconded Gary Morgan (Ellie was voted in in her absence as she had shown interest in joining the Committee to KB)

9. **AOB:** GM asked if anyone had any other business to discuss. There was no other business.

AGM closed at 7pm by GM.

**Our next Committee Meeting is on Wednesday 23 April 6.15pm
at The Rising Sun Pub**