

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Civic Offices Farnborough

Wednesday 24th September 2025

Trustees Present: Andrew Lloyd (Chairman), Colin Slatter (Vice Chairman), Alan Thorpe (Treasurer), Gary Ghale and Martin Wood

Also Present: Deputy Mayor of Rushmoor, Councillor Peter Cullum

Staff Present: Donna Bone (Chief Executive Officer), Heather Chalkley (Community Development Officer), Beverley Jones (Operations Manager), Sarah McNutt, Max Bridger, Hazel Chant (Blooming Marvellous), Isobel Nicholson, Karen Gorham, Rachel Pleydell Brown

Members and Guests Present: Abby Roper, Andy Barrett (Kerith Community Church), Caroline Winchurch (Hart Voluntary Action), Gill Stoten, Emma Lamb, Kath O'Rourke (RBC officer), Jackie Carr (Parkside Aldershot and District Learning Disability), Jacqueline Hocking Graham Hocking and Pauline Gairns (Aldershot & District Tinnitus Support Group), Jan Thompson (Farnborough & District Stroke/Aphasia Group Justin Harris (Independent Examiners, Knight Goodhead Ltd), (Ken Evans (Christians Against Poverty), Gary Clark Allenn (Vivid Housing), Laura Dewsnap Mike Grange (Silent Storms) Peter McNulty, Sarah Wood, Steve Baxendale, Stan Gibson (Farnborough Welcome), Cllr Lisa Greenway, Cllr Steve Masterson, Cllr Mike Roberts,

Apologies: Diane Bedford, Dawn Keenan, Richard Hickman, John Card, Jules Crossley (RVS Trustees), Alison Cooper (RVS Trustee and Parity for Disability), (Yogi Poonai (Quakers), Gillian Tootill (RVS staff)

Chairman's Welcome: The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. The Chairman thanked the Deputy Mayor of Rushmoor, Councillor Peter Cullum and Councillor Lisa Greenway, the Council's nominated representative, for attending and outlined the order of business for the meeting.

Apologies: The apologies received are recorded in these minutes

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2024: The minutes of the AGM meeting held on Wednesday 25th September 2024, were agreed, and accepted as a true and accurate record.

2. Chairman's Update – Andrew Lloyd: The Chairman highlighted the recent turbulent times which have included change of administration, locally and nationally, the HCC consultation and proposals for devolution and local government reorganisation. He expressed his pride in what RVS had been able to achieve despite the turbulence; he

praised the positivity, innovation and commitment of all paid and voluntary staff. The environment had created challenges for the trustee board who had tried to be creative and forward thinking; taking a decision to set a deficit budget to order to maintain services while striving to reduce costs and increase funding applications.

Andrew thanked members staff and trustees for their support and committed to keeping members informed.

3. Chief Executive Officer Report - Donna Bone: Donna welcomed Hart Voluntary Action to the meeting and thanked colleagues for the successful move to joined meetings and training events.

Following the election of the new administration in Rushmoor Donna had been invited to present to its Oversight and Scrutiny Committee and was delighted to receive the unanimous support and a commendation to the full Cabinet. Highlights of the year included:

- The placement of 300 volunteers in local groups.
- Supporting members to make successful grant applications with estimated £1 million achieved.
- Welcoming seventeen new members, who are all included in the Rushmoor Link community directory.
- Successful completion of the Smile project which in engaged with over 700 children. It was a wonderful opportunity for RVS to work with young volunteers.
- The retention of community transport for residents and groups of Rushmoor and Hart, following HCC's SP25 consultation.
- The continuation of the Wellbeing Walks thanks to continued funding from HCC and RBC
- The achievement of a silver level Investors in the Environment award
- The continued success of the award winning Blooming Marvellous Team.
- The development of the Blooming Minds project, with thanks to Reg's Garden for hosting.
- The progression of Farnborough Rotary Access Garden, with thanks to key funders: Farnborough Airport, HCC and the Shanley Foundation.

While reporting on the year 24/25, Donna drew attention to the new projects which RVS had started during 2025 including:

- New Community Transport contracts which commenced 1st September 2025. Donna thanked HCC Community Transport team for their support.
- Work Well; RVS are delivering one of the national pilot projects in partnership with Frimley ICB.

- NHS Frimley's Innovation Fund; RVS will be holding funds and facilitating applications.

Donna concluded by thanking all RVS volunteers, trustees, staff and funders. The CEO's full report is available on the website.

There were no questions for the Chairman or Chief Executive.

4. Annual Report and Accounts: These were presented by the Treasurer Alan Thorpe who welcomed Justin Harris of Knight Goodhead Ltd.

Alan observed that times remained hard with money scarce but the loss for 24/25 had been less than the previous year. In summary:

- Income from Community Transport and Home Help has increased due to price increase, fortunately there is still demand for these services.
- Employment costs increased due to the rise in minimum wage and pay increases.
- RVS have moved from having a full audit to an Independent Examination. This together with bringing the accounting in-house has reduced costs.
- The Reserves position remains healthy.

There were no questions for the Treasurer and the accounts were adopted unanimously. The approved accounts will be available on the RVS website.

5. Appointment of Auditors 2025/2026: The Treasurer proposed the appointment of Knight Goodhead as Independent Examiners for the year 2025/26. Agreed unanimously. The approved Accounts will be available on the RVS website.

6. Retiring Trustees: Andrew Lloyd advised that John Card, Richard Hickman and Alison Cooper were due to step down as Trustees.

John Card will not be standing for re- election. The Chairman expressed RVS's immense thanks to John for all that he had contributed the organisation as a trustee of 14 years and also as a previous Chairman of the Board for six years.

7 Re-election of Trustees: The Chairman sought approval for the re-election of Richard Hickman and Alison Cooper onto the RVS Board of Trustee. Agreed unanimously.

8. Closing Address from the Deputy Mayor of Rushmoor: The Deputy Mayor of Rushmoor Cllr Peter Cullum was very pleased to join the AGM on behalf of the Mayor. He acknowledged the immense value of volunteering and the miraculous work of RVS supporting the borough and residents of Rushmoor.

9. AOB: There being no further formal business, the meeting was closed at 10.48am.