

**Minutes of Induction Day held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – HELD VIA VC**

**Present:** Claire Anderson (CA) – Chair from Item 04 onwards, Sibby Buckle (SB), Martin Astbury (MA), John Marriott (JM), Mike Hannay (MH), Lynne Smith (LS), Andre Yeung (AY), Thorrun Govind (TG), Tase Oputu (TO), Alisdair Jones (AJ), Andrew Carruthers (AC), Kathleen Cowle (KC), Ruth Mitchell (RM)

**Staff In attendance:** Paul Bennett (PB), Karen Baxter (KB), Jeremy Macdonald (JM), Robbie Turner (RT), Rick Russell (RR), Gail Fleming (GF), Elen Jones (EJ), Alison Douglas (AD), Corrinne Burns (CB), Clare Morrison (CM)

**Observers:** 23 Members registered to observe the meeting

**Apologies:** Cheryl Way (CW)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Notes and actions</b>	<b>Action by</b>
<b>Item 01 &amp; 02 Welcome &amp; apologies</b>		As there was no sitting President, AY, in his capacity as Treasurer, took the chair for the first two items of the meeting. He welcomed all Assembly members, members of staff and observer members. Apologies from Cheryl Way were noted for the morning section of the meeting.	
<b>Item 03 Election of President</b>		PB took the chair for this item. He outlined to members that three nominations for President had been received by the deadline:  <b>Claire Anderson</b> – nominated by Andrew Carruthers, seconded by Cheryl Way & Martin Astbury  <b>Sibby Buckle</b> – nominated by Martin Astbury, seconded by Alisdair Jones	

		<p><b>Andre Yeung</b> – nominated by Tase Oputu, seconded by Mike Hannay</p> <p>Statements from all three candidates had been circulated to Assembly on 5<sup>th</sup> July along with full details of the election process which had been adapted for remote working conditions. PB informed members that the name of the candidates and the address submitted by the successful candidate would be published once the election process had been completed.</p> <p>All three candidates were then invited to confirm their declarations of interest as per the paper included in the Assembly meeting papers for 14<sup>th</sup> July – all confirmed these were still correct.</p> <p>As CW was unable to be present at the meeting for the vote, PB confirmed that he had received details from her allowing him to cast a proxy vote on her behalf, as set out in Appendix B of the Society’s Regulations, in all rounds of voting that may be necessary.</p> <p>The vote for the President was then held, with the results as follows:</p> <p>Round 1 – as none of the three candidates received a majority of the votes cast, Sibby Buckle, as the candidate with the fewest votes was eliminated from the ballot.</p> <p>Round 2 – Claire Anderson, having received a majority of the votes cast, was elected President.</p> <p>CA was then invited to give a brief speech - she thanked Assembly members for their support and was looking forward to working with all members over the coming two years. Full Presidential address attached at Appendix A.</p> <p>PB then invited Assembly to confirm AY’s second year in post as Treasurer – unanimously approved.</p> <p>The open business session of the meeting was then closed.</p>	
--	--	---	--

## Claire Anderson

### Address for Election as President of Royal Pharmaceutical Society

This is an exciting and a challenging time to stand for presidency, with the new board members and chairs bringing fresh perspectives and ideas, the new RPS strategy, the changes brought about by the pandemic, and the proposed transformation of pharmacy education.

#### My promise to you

If elected, I will work with the Assembly, the three National Boards, and RPS staff and members, to lead the profession proactively, not just reacting to a changing policy landscape. We will be adaptive and agile, never afraid to innovate. We will expand our scope of influence while capitalising on our strong brand values, to ensure that the RPS is seen as essential – not only to pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical science, but also to everyone who uses medicines, and wherever pharmaceuticals are researched, developed, prescribed, administered and taken. With a thriving, engaged membership we will work with all involved in these processes, to influence change.

#### As president, I will:

- play a strategic role in deepening existing and developing new relationships so that we are invited to the table whenever medicines are being discussed
- expand our membership to all health professionals who are involved in the medicine use continuum
- build and strengthen relationships with other pharmacy organisations nationally and internationally
- forge strong relationships with medical and nursing Royal Colleges and organisations
- ensure resources are used effectively and efficiently to deliver value for members
- work passionately to bring the Pharmaceutical Press and the Pharmaceutical Journal closer to the rest of the RPS
- encourage board members to develop and staff to deliver new ways to do this.

#### Strong yet agile

The Assembly will have hard decisions to make about many issues including financial stability, ethical investments, income streams, new membership categories, and building occupancy as for many hybrid working is likely to become the norm. I am confident that I can lead us through these important decisions, always innovating and adapting, showcasing and strengthening our position by evidencing the value of delivery through data.

### **Vision, mission and accountability**

Our success will be judged by two key factors: delivery of our vision to become the world leader in the safe and effective use of medicines, and our mission to put pharmacy at the forefront of health care. The Assembly must monitor its strategy and progress, ensuring key performance indicators are met. I will make sure that we keep the executive to account while working with them to ensure the best systems for delivery are in place, and the right resources to deliver value, are provided for every team.

### **Equality, diversity and inclusion**

The RPS culture and brand values 'be inspiring, be empathic, be relevant' are vitally important; we have come a long way but need to continue to foster this culture within the profession. Although our work on equality, diversity and inclusion is progressing well, there is still much to be achieved. I will continue to challenge everyone to keep moving forward on this journey, providing inclusive and authentic leadership that is not afraid to challenge barriers. I will work with the Assembly and the directors to ensure that we continue to enhance organisational effectiveness and the vision that we are one RPS. This is not only about more effective working: it's about ensuring everyone knows the part they are playing, and that they are empowered to contribute to the best of their ability and to excel, be they staff or a board member.

### **Authentic leadership**

I bring gravitas, credibility, and authenticity to the position. As professor in a leading school of pharmacy with strong national international connections across and beyond the profession, I am a global leader in pharmacy practice research. I have made a significant national and international contribution to the development of evidence, including developing and evaluating new professional roles for pharmacists. I also have an international reputation in research on pharmacy education and workforce development. I am a systems leader, and a strategic critical thinker. While collegiate in my approach, I am not afraid to stand up for what I believe in. I am a confident speaker and media presenter.

I have broad networks and experience of service for the RPS and on major university and International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) committees. I am an Associate Director of the FIP Workforce Development Hub. I am also a trustee of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association. I have had management experience as head of department and director of a cross disciplinary university research centre for social research in health and healthcare.

I have served for two years as Chair of the English Pharmacy Board over this difficult period and therefore understand the challenges ahead. I will continue to work with all National Board and Assembly members and particularly the three new chairs to ensure that we are fulfilling our vision and mission across GB. I will utilise the expertise of the advisory groups as an opportunity to increase the portfolio and reach of the RPS. While I have developed good working relationships with the staff who deliver for us across RPS at every level, I am not afraid to challenge performance and behaviour where necessary.

### **The next two years**

Thank you to Sandra Gidley for her leadership and passion for our profession, particularly for leading our response to the pandemic. I too am passionate about our profession and committed to making the RPS even more successful. I will also continue to be a dedicated ambassador for the profession nationally and internationally.

If you elect me, I promise to always be equitable in my decision making, to stand alongside all our members and be an ally, to amplify the voice of pharmacy, to advocate for change and to support future generations of pharmacists.

***Together, we can be part of the change towards a more inclusive, equitable and exciting future for all.***