

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Assembly held on 22 July 2015**

**Present:** Ash Soni - President, Sid Dajani – Treasurer, Martin Astbury, Sandra Gidley, Linda Hakes, David Thomson, Mair Davies, Paul Harris, Mahendra Patel, Claire Anderson, Anthony Cox, and John McAnaw, Duncan Craig and Hamish Wilson.

**In attendance:** Catherine Duggan, Helen Gordon, Alex Mackinnon, Howard Duff, Simon Redman, Jo Mills, Alina Lourie, Patrick Stubbs and Vanessa dos Santos- minute taking

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15/07/1	<b>Welcome</b>	-	Helen Gordon welcomed new members and guests to the meeting.	
15/07/2	<b>Apologies</b>	-	There were no apologies for absence.	
15/07/11	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	15/07/ASB/11	Noted the Declarations of Interest.	
15/07/12	<b>Minutes of the open business</b>	15/07/ASB/12	Minutes approved for the last meeting.	
15/07/13	<b>Matters arising</b>	15/07/ASB/13	There were no matters arising.	
15/07/14	<b>National Boards and Assembly</b>	15/07/ASB/14	Noted the updates from the Boards.	
15/07/15	<b>National Boards Election Scheme 2016</b>	15/07/ASB/15	Howard Duff expressed satisfaction towards the efficiency and economy of the work of the current scrutineers, UK engage.	

			<p>Martin Astbury and Sandra Gidley asked questions on how we can encourage more people to vote next year.</p> <p>Mair Davies responded that sometimes people are shy, so thinking about how to encourage nominations is important.</p> <p>The President added that some people shared with him how complicated they found the paperwork and application form to complete.</p> <p>Howard Duff explained that the aim would be for a form to sit remotely on the website, which members would be able to complete as part of the nomination process, rather than a piece of paper.</p> <p>Mahendra Patel commented that pharmacists in industry are not seeing the message in terms of the election, which is of a major concern and needs to be critically addressed.</p> <p>Patrick Stubbs reassured that there was lots of activity around the elections (using the hustings, emails and various reminders sent out, etc) and noted the Society does much more than most other Colleges.</p> <p>Linda Hakes said that people knew the elections were happening they just didn't know the vacancy in the industry was available. She likes the idea of facilitating the procedure as an industrial candidate had tried to register within the last 36 hours of the deadline and filling in the forms was a major challenge although the real obstacle had been collecting signatures.</p> <p>Howard Duff added that this issue of collecting signatures will be brought to the attention of our scrutineers.</p> <p>Sid Dajani believes that emailing is good but people still read a hard copy so advertising on the</p>	
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			<p>front and back cover of the PJ will be very effective.</p> <p>The President recognised that more could have been done in terms of coverage for the elections. He informed the Assembly that there will be a change in editorship of PJ as Matthew Wright is moving on.</p> <p>Alex MacKinnon is concerned that more should be done to encourage younger representation to come forward and this can be achieved by working with BPSA.</p> <p>Martin Astbury believed some industry colleagues were afraid of losing face if they stood for the election and were not successful.</p> <p>The Assembly agreed that the programme should start earlier and suggested for this to be discussed further at November meeting.</p> <p>Adopted the Election Scheme for 2016</p>	
15/07/16	<b>Updates from Boards</b>	15/07/ASB/16	<p>Sid Dajani raised his concerns about getting in touch with the boards specifically around FMD. The President asked him to circulate the paper to the three Chairs to review and for them to decide how this will be handled by their Boards. The Board Chairs asked for absolute clarity on what has changed and suggested that Sid Dajani must articulate the difference before the Chairs can consider taking this item back to the Boards.</p> <p>Hamish Wilson commented that when reading the three reports he had noticed commonality in what the Boards are seeking to achieve and believes that what is missing is a way of capturing this commonality between the three Boards that is GB wide.</p> <p>It was agreed that this item would be discussed at the strategy meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> September.</p>	<p>SD</p> <p>HG</p>

			<p>Linda Hakes commented that the science organisations that sponsor her nomination would like an opportunity to invite Board members to the events they organise and suggested that each of the Boards could identify a contact person. This will open up a dialogue and facilitate communication between the practice side and the science side of the profession.</p> <p>Mair Davies informed the Assembly that RPS Wales in collaboration with Welsh Pharmaceutical Committee has had a meeting with Welsh Government to discuss the appointment of a pharmacist in a leadership role to each of the primary care clusters in Wales. The suggestion is to appoint a consultant pharmacist on primary community care. Discussions are also in the final stages to authorise access to individual health record (IHR) for community pharmacists for the emergency supply service.</p> <p>Catherine Duggan clarified that the Society already has a statement of how the Faculty can support appointment to consultant roles via Faculty programmes, the advance stage two, fellowship at stage three with progression over five years. She added that it would be good to have consistency across Great Britain for that to be reflected in any guidance and asked that the language used across the three countries be as common as possible whilst ensuring it is as local as it needs to be.</p> <p>RCGP is already discussing all this with RPS for people to be able to demonstrate their skills rather than having to do more and more practice.</p> <p>Hamish Wilson is pleased to see the RPS responses from Sandra which are quite robust in describing the benefits to patients in having pharmacists in certain locations and working that way. The RPS is doing a good job of putting</p>	SG, JM, SCT
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			<p>across the message on the unique role of pharmacists.</p> <p>Howard Duff agrees that our campaign is very effective although at the moment it is attached to the crisis of the primary care.</p>	
15/07/17	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	15/07/ASB/17	<p>Helen Gordon gave a verbal report on the AGM mentioning that the contributions from the Boards were very helpful and good feedback received from present members as well as those watching online. Feedback from Assembly members.</p> <p>Sid Dajani believes that there is not enough time for the Chairs to outline the work they have done on behalf of their Boards and proposed that the financial side of the AGM be moved to the conference to enable more time to be spent on promoting what Chairs would like to accomplish in the coming year.</p> <p>Anthony Cox suggested that perhaps in the future the RPS could build some capacity to start having influence on the profession, he added that there are some mechanisms that are not just about the Boards but about membership.</p> <p>Ash Soni suggested that the Conference Committee could consider this and start the planning process</p> <p>Helen Gordon believes that “planting some ideas” with the audience and actively seeking feedback from members and stakeholders could be really helpful. She added that the Autumn is a great opportunity to talk about the RPS view of the future for the membership as well as answer queries that were raised from the AGM.</p> <p>Mahendra Patel felt that the Society should not lose showing that the 3 countries are working together and that is a powerful message to relay.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>PS</p>

