**BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PAEDIATRICS & CHILD HEALTH**

**21st Annual General Meeting, University of Central Lancashire, Preston Friday 15 September 2023 at 5.40pm**

Present Dr. Tony Hulse President Dr. Jonathan Dossetor Hon. Treasurer Mr. Nick Baldwin Hon. Secretary Mrs. Penny Dossetor Administrative Secretary Professor Mike Dillon Dr. Colin Michie Dr. Robert Scott Jupp Dr. Mary Clare Martin Committee Members

Dr. Doug Addy Dr. Anne Aukett Mrs. Betty Dillon Professor Dian Donnai Dr. Tony Edelsten Dr. Sabiha Haque-Lobbes Dr. Joan Robson Professor Euan Ross

1.Apologies for Absence;

No apologies were noted (but apology had previously been received from Professor Lawrence Weaver)

2.Minutes of previous AGM; Minutes of the meeting at the Royal College of Anaesthetists on 18 November 2022 were approved, with all matters arising covered below.

3.President’s Report

Tony Hulse reported a successful Spring Meeting at Glasgow, despite the withdrawal of two speakers, with an excellent George Armstrong Lecture by Professor Stephen Holgate and a talk on the history of toys by Dr. Fiona Finlay of Bath and colleagues. Complimentary feedback had been received from the RCPCH organisers. The Society’s Committee had been expanded in 2022. Mike Dillon offered to resign from it, but was encouraged to stay on and continue to contribute his extensive knowledge of both the Society and wider paediatric scene.

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4.Treasurer’s Report

Jonathan Dossetor reported that the 2022 London meeting had been expensive, totalling £6,500, but was subsidised by the Society with £1000. Annual Subscriptions totalled £1,100. £300 had been granted for the George Armstrong lecture, but the £300 for the Cadogan Prize had not been awarded in 2022. £70 had been spent to top up the website budget, and £50 vouchers given to Jean Hyslop with thanks for her ongoing maintenance of the site.

Society Membership was stable, with 3 members lost and 3 gained during the year.

Current balance was £5,688, with £7,004 in the Society’s deposit account, earning modest interest.

Professor Dillon noted that higher London hotel costs had been incurred following postponement of the meeting due to national rail strikes.

5.Future meetings.

i) Spring Meeting

Tony Hulse noted that the 2024 Spring Meeting as part of the RCPCH conference would be at Birmingham on March 25, for which a speaker for the George Armstrong Lecture was currently sought (Dr. Lee Hudson was subsequently proposed and has accepted to speak). A proposal for an on-line presentation by Canadian students of Professor Andrew Williams had been declined, as the Royal College’s conference arrangements could not accommodate this. Mary Clare Martin suggested an Armstrong Lecture on the paediatric impact of climate change, possibly by Professor Adam Finn. Following the meeting with the College Seniors’ lunch would be optimal for attendance, but the lunch timing was not yet confirmed.

ii) Autumn Meeting. A venue was not yet chosen, but options at Cambridge Colleges were being investigated. Jonathan Dossetor had links with St. Catherine’s College, who could offer Friday 6-Saturday 7 September 2024. Tony Hulse also had links with Trinity College Cambridge, but a meeting there would need to be sponsored by a Fellow of the College.

Dr. Dossetor also noted that accommodation at university venues was likely to be cheaper than hotel use.

6.Any Other Business

Mike Dillon noted that some of the website content should be updated to include the most recent George Armstrong lecturers, Cadogan prize winners and past officers.

Nick Baldwin noted the recent addition to the website of a substantial article by Society member Dr. Mary Lindsay on the history of family visiting of children in hospital.

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Maintaining and increasing membership was discussed. Robert Scott Jupp reported publishing an article in the RCPCH magazine ‘Milestones’ about the Society and paediatric history. It was felt that the Spring Meeting with the Royal College ought to have more potential than had hitherto been shown for attracting the interest of younger paediatricians. Dr. Dossetor reminded the meeting that as well as the paying membership, there was also a list of other ‘Interested Parties’.

Mary Clare Martin noted other history groups that might be linked with, such as the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

There being no other business, the meting closed at 1800.

Nick Baldwin

Hon. Secretary

21 September 2023

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