

**STAMMIA**

**FEST**

**NOTTINGHAM 15-18 AUGUST 2024**



# AGM

2024

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# **AGM AGENDA**

- 12:15 Welcome & apologies**
- 12:20 Minutes of the Last Meeting**
- 12:25 Accounts & Appointment of Auditors**
- 12:30 Election Results & 5 Year Plan**
- 12:35 AOB**
- 12:40 Interactive discussion**

# **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

# **STAMMA, the British Stammering Association**

**Saturday 25 November 2023, 2.00 pm 3.15 pm**

**The Priory Rooms, Quaker Meeting House, Bull St, Birmingham.**

## **Attending in person:**

Trustees: Paul Fix (Interim Chair), Pete Bryan (Treasurer), Deborah Johnston. (Interim Vice Chair), Alex Harrison, Ahmad Bismallah, Gill Rudd

New Elected Trustees: Allison Burrow, Dean Ridge

Staff: Jane Powell, Kirsten Howells

Members: James Dixon, Nic Maddy, John Russell, Christine Simpson, Allan Tyrer, Oliver Coyle, Jack Nicholas, Beth Nicholas, Sourish Kumar Mahapatra, Adam Wright, Tim Gibbons, Derek Maynard, Sumbul Rashid, Brian Norman, Jane Williams, Bhupinder Purewal, Sharon Purchase, Paul Pearsall, Serhii Titomyz, David Collier. Supporters: Steve Turner

## **Attending by Zoom:**

Members: Kate Angel, Clara Burn, Patrick Campbell, Joanna Gaukroger, Pedro Pereira, Tim Shanks, Mandy Taylor, Rory Sheridan.

Also joining us, Arthur Baker.

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## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Paul Fix welcomed members to the meeting and advised that he had received apologies from Colin Marsh, Michael Brassington and Helen Smith.

## 1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**Motion:** That the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record (Proposed by Alex Harrison, Seconded by Christine Simpson). There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

## 1. Finance Report and Accounts

Pete Bryan, STAMMA Treasurer introduced the Statutory Accounts 2022. Income for the year was £713K, with £367K of this sum resulting from legacies (and in particular one large legacy from Roy Trankle, a long-standing member). Total expenditure for 2022 was £554K.

Pete drew attention in particular to the income lines, stressing the value of Member legacies 2018-2023 and the positive impact they had had on the capacity of STAMMA to raise profile and provide services for those who stammer. However, Pete advised that for 2023, expenditure would significantly exceed income. The Board had now appointed a full-time Fundraising Manager, and the Board has placed income generation as major focus for 2024. All Trustees are keen to close the deficit. Currently there are substantial bank deposits, which are invested cautiously and responsibly, and there are 'designated funds' for capacity building and conferences.

**Motion:** That the AGM receive and consider the annual report of the Board of Trustees, including the annual statement of accounts.' [Proposed by Derek Maynard, seconded by John Russell]

## **Appointment of Independent Auditors**

Pete stated that, regardless of whether or not STAMMA income exceeded the necessary thresholds each year, the Board were keen to continue with an external professional audit to give Trustees and Members firm assurance about the integrity and accuracy of the Charity's financial reporting.

**Motion:** That the AGM agrees to the appointment of Royce Peeling Green Ltd as the Charity's auditors for 2023/2024.

[Proposed by Paul Fix, seconded by Derek Maynard]

## **Appointment of new trustees following the 2023 Election**

**The Chair introduced Allison Burrow and Dean Ridge** (who had come first and second in the 2023 Trustee Elections and who were now joining the Board of Trustees). In addition, the Board had decided to appoint Ahmad Bismallah, who came third in the 2023 Election. The elected trustees will serve a first term of three years. Ahmad Bismillah will serve a term of one year.

The successful candidates were welcomed to the meeting. Paul thanked the Trustees who were leaving the Board.

## **The next three years**

**Jane Powell (CEO)** presented slides which outlined what had been achieved at the end of current strategic planning period – which started in 2018 and finished in 2023. She drew attention to the new STAMMA Employment and Advocacy Services, the steady growth in supporter and membership numbers, the visibility achieved through a series of national campaigns, and how investment in operations had enabled STAMMA to build strong, robust systems, track data, and provide a pleasant work environment for staff.

For 2024-2027 (a three year strategic period) she explained the new ambition 'Making Space for People Who Stammer', and the strategy of challenging the barriers faced by people who stammer by making the barriers visible, and helping society to support STAMMA in taking them down. This will be achieved by campaigns, but also through three work strands to improve support and outreach (membership, communities, and young people}.

### **There were a series of questions and comments from members about:**

How STAMMA proposed to bring stammering to the attention of the media (and get a broader range of voices represented). What strategies STAMMA might use to increase membership numbers.

How achievement of the new ambition might affect the behaviour of individuals who stammered, and the visibility of stammering to the wider public.

How members might get more engaged with the work of STAMMA (for example, joining sub-committees and focus groups).

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## **Any Other Business**

**The Board has three current requests for members:**

- To support our campaign work.
- To help us improve our income for 2024, through fundraising activities.
- To get involved in STAMMAFEST 2024, which will be held at Nottingham Trent University on 15-18 August. More information to follow.

**The formal business of the meeting concluded at 3.15 pm.**

**The next AGM will be held in August 2024, during the STAMMAFEST 2024 national conference.**

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# **ACCOUNTS & AUDITORS**

# 2023 ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

	2023 £000	2022 £000	Change: £000	%
<b><u>Income &amp; expenditure</u></b>				
Income (excluding legacies)	262	346	(84)	(24)%
Legacies	25	367	(342)	(93)%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>(426)</b>	<b>(60)%</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>(554)</b>	<b>(46)</b>	<b>(8)%</b>
<b>Net surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>(313)</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>(472)</b>	<b>297 %</b>
<b><u>Statement of financial position</u></b>				
Total assets	781	1,095	(314)	(29)%
Total liabilities	(34)	(35)	1	3 %
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>(313)</b>	<b>(30)%</b>
Represented by:				
Unrestricted funds:				
Designated funds	609	770	(161)	(21)%
General unrestricted funds	105	278	(173)	(62)%
	<b>714</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>(334)</b>	<b>(32)%</b>
Restricted funds	33	12	21	175 %
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>(313)</b>	<b>(30)%</b>

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# TOUGHER WITHOUT LEGACIES & LOTTERY

- We spent more than we made in 2023 (a deficit of £313k on 2023, versus a surplus of £159k in 2022).
- The difference between the two years is legacy income. We received a legacy of £305k in 2022, whereas in 2023 we received £25k. 2023 was also the first year without the National Lottery Grant.
- We used our legacy income and the National lottery to increase services. We knew this would mean that, for several years, we would spend more than we made, and we would fund this difference from our reserves.
- Our aim is to become sustainable financially – and to reduce annual deficits over the next 2-3 years.
- We expect to reduce the deficit to £250k in 2024, and to increase income.
- Income generation, and grants in particular, continues to be a major focus area for 2025, and we're already seeing positive signs. We have employed a new fundraising manager recently, complemented by new trustees with specialised fundraising expertise.

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# **BALANCE SHEET REMAINS STRONG FOR NOW**

- Net assets are £747k at 2023 year-end (2022: £1,060k)
- Net assets are almost exclusively in the form of bank deposits, all secure and backed by UK government guarantee
- The fall in cash and net assets over the year reflects the deficit in the year.

# PROPOSAL TO REAPPOINT AUDITORS

- The audit of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 was performed by Royce Peeling Green Limited (RPG)
- As in previous recent years, it was agreed by the trustees that RPG would perform a full audit, rather than just an independent review of the nature performed up to 2019. This gives significant additional comfort over financial controls to both the trustees and members.
- It is proposed that RPG be re-appointed to perform the audit for the year ended 31 December 2024.

# **ELECTION RESULTS**

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# Trustee Elections 2024

This year there were four candidates vying for a place on the board. The results were as follows:

- **Lucy Weldon** 30.9% of the vote
- **Oliver Wills** 26.4% of the vote
- John Russell 24.8% of the vote
- Yubo Lin 10.9% of the vote

Consequently Lucy and Oliver now join the Board.



# **SPACE TO STAMMER**

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