**Minutes of VODA’s Annual General Meeting and Awards 2023**

Tuesday 7th November 2023, 10:00am to 12:00 midday

The Spirit of North Tyneside Hub.

**Attendees:** A full list of attendees is available on request

**Apologies:** Peter Thomas (Trustee), Richard Harts (Trustee), Jackie Latham (Trustee), Lynne Canessa (Trustee) Julie Eastlake (Trustee)

**Welcome and introductions**

Vicky Smith VODA CEO welcomed everyone to the AGM, ran through the housekeeping and then gave an overview of the event.

Vicky then introduced Sir Paul Ennals Chair of the Northumbria NHS Trust as the keynote speaker.

**Keynote Speaker**

Speech by Sir Paul Ennals Chair of the Northumbria NHS Trust focusing on partnerships within primary care, social care, wider voluntary sector.

Questions and comments from the floor were taken.

**Minutes of last meeting**

Vicky thanked Sir Paul and then introduced Jess Evans Chair of the board of trustees.

Jess Evans asked VODA members to agree the minutes of the last AGM on 7th November 2022 as a true record. Proposed by Ray Lowery seconded by Andy Burtenshaw.

**Presentation of accounts**

Mark Thompson presented a summary of the accounts year ending 31st March 2023 on behalf of Julie Eastlake, VODA Treasurer. A summary of the accounts was in the AGM packs of information for the day and Mark made the audience aware that they will be available in full on the charity commission website. Points to note were total funds for turnover this increased from 1.2 million to 1.5 million, amount of partnership work has increased and there are more projects running than the previous year.

End of year finances are in good shape and this is predicted to carry on into the next year and beyond. Mark thanked the funders, finance team and trustees.

Mark invited questions from the floor? None were received.

**Presentation of annual report**

Jess presented the annual report for the year up to April 23. A copy was in everyone’s AGM pack. Jess described an amazing year, VODA has been growing and delivering more projects Jess encouraged audience to take the Annual Report away and read and share.

Jess then gave a Tribute to David Bavaird who had been a longstanding and very active trustee of VODA since 2012 David passed away recently. Jess described how David had had a lasting impact on the organization and many others in North Tyneside as an active trustee with many charities, a businessman and the founder of North Tyneside Business Forum. David also became High Sherif of Tyne & Wear in 2022. Jess finished the tribute with David’s wish he left at his memorial service. “Hug the people you love, think before a cross word is spoken and if you can, give some of your valuable time to your local community in any way possible to make a difference and improve the life of others”

Jess also announced that as a lasting tribute the staff of VODA have decided to name a meeting room after David. This will be the David Bavaird Suite.

**Appointment of Trustees**

Peter Thomas has stood down as a VODA trustee. Jess thanked him for his support.

Lynne Canessa, Jackie Latham and Ruth Connorton were put forward to be elected as new members of the board.

Lynne Canessa proposed by Andy Burtenshaw, approved by Ray Lowery

Jackie Latham proposed by Ray Lowery approved by Andy Burtenshaw

Ruth Connorton proposed by Andy Burtenshaw, approved by Ray Lowery

**Appointment of auditor**

Jess explained that the trustees were keen to reappoint Reed Milburn & Co to carry out the annual examination of VODA’s accounts considering cost and quality of service. Jess asked members to approve the motion this was proposed by Ray Lowery and approved by Paul Jones.

**Close**

The business for the AGM was closed at 11am Jess thanked everyone for their attendance and invited them to stay for networking and VODA’s 30th Birthday celebration after the awards.

**VCSE VODA Awards**

The AGM was followed by the 2023 VODA Awards