

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

## **19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**SARUM COLLEGE, SALISBURY, FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2021 at 1810**

Present;

Professor Mike Dillon President  
Dr. Jonathan Dossetor Hon. Treasurer  
Penny Dossetor Membership Secretary  
Nick Baldwin Hon. Secretary

Dr. Doug Addy  
Dr. Martin Brueton  
Paddy Brueton  
Dr. Tim Chambers  
Dr. Tony Hulse  
Sylvia, Lady Limerick  
Dr. Mary Clare Martin  
Dr. Colin Michie  
Dr. Robert Scott-Jupp  
Dr. James Taylor  
Professor Brent Taylor  
Professor Lawrence Weaver  
Professor Andrew Williams

### 1. Welcome

Professor Dillon welcomed members to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Drs. Nick & Jo Barnes, Dr. Andy Coe, Dr. Eddie Estlin, Professor Denis Gill, Professor Euan Ross and Professor John Walker-Smith.

### 3. President's Report.

Mike Dillon reported on the difficulties faced by the Society as a result of the Covid-19 epidemic during the past 18 months, resulting in the cancellation of both the 2020 Spring Meeting at the RCPCH Liverpool conference and the planned Autumn Meeting in London. The Society had been one of the few affiliated groups excluded from the Royal College's subsequent 'virtual' meeting, ostensibly on capacity grounds, although on-line posters on historical topics had subsequently been included. Subsequent negotiations had emphasised the importance of the historical element being included, and the Society would have a session at the 2022 College conference when the event resumed regular attendance, again at Liverpool. The other Committee members were thanked for their work during the period of disruption. The deaths of the Society's former President and principal founder Professor Peter Dunn, and of founder member and former Hon. Treasurer Dr. Judith Darmady, were reported. Thanks were also given to Judy Dunn, who was attending the meeting, for funding the pre-Dinner drinks in Peter Dunn's memory, as he had requested. It was noted that Professor Al Aynsley-Green had kindly provided a number of complimentary copies of his recent book 'The British Betrayal of Childhood' to those attending the meeting.

#### 4. Hon. Treasurer's Report

Jonathan Dossetor reported that the Society's finances remained sound, although there had been a shrinkage of membership in recent years. Very limited expenditure had occurred since 2019 due to the lack of meetings. The Current Account contained £7435.04 as of 28 July although the majority of the bills for the Salisbury meeting had yet to be paid from it. The Society's Deposit Account currently contained £7006.44.

#### 5. Extension of Officer Posts;

All three posts have completed their official terms. Mike Dillon was prepared to remain President for a further year to continue organising the delayed London Autumn meeting and College events. A new President would be sought for 2022-25. The Hon. Treasurer & Hon. Secretary had also now done multiple terms; they were both happy to do another year, but longer term succession planning needed be considered. Options for adding ex-officio members to the Committee, as had occurred in the past were also considered. The term extensions were approved by the meeting.

#### 6. Future Meetings

The 2022 RCPCH Conference was to be 'live' again on 28-30 June at Liverpool ACC, with the Society's session following the College Seniors' meeting on the afternoon of the final day.

The Autumn meeting, would be in London on 16-17 September 2022, with both meeting and Dinner at the Royal College of Anaesthetists, Red Lion Square. The RCPCH had been planned to use for the 2021 meeting, but the College premises would no longer be available in 2022 due to the refurbishment programme there.

#### 7. Website Management and Contents.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that Jean Hyslop remained happy to manage the Society website from Glasgow, and that funding for further 5 years had been awarded---she would also be given a personal honorarium. Mary Clare Martin proposed a link on the site to the Children's History Society' which she manages.

#### 8. Society Links with RCPCH Seniors and 'Archives of Disease in Childhood'.

Robert Scott-Jupp encouraged the submission of historical article by members to 'Archives of Disease in Childhood' and was endeavouring to develop closer links between the Society and College Seniors group, as being of mutual benefit. Seniors President Dr. Kevin Windebank had proposed a possible event to celebrate the Centenary of the British Paediatric Association, at the Windermere hotel which had been the venue of the first BPA meeting.

#### 9. Any other business.

Mary Clare Martin noted that the history of medical services in schools had not featured prominently in the past, and that retired school doctors might be cultivated as contributors, as part of a wider drive to attract more interested parties.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1830.

Nick Baldwin

Hon. Secretary

14 September 2021