

BOARD MEETING**Saturday 07 May 2022
SUMMARY MINUTES****Declaration of any conflicts of interest**

Manoj Somasundaram has recently joined the Essex and East London Branch as a committee group member.

Minutes of the Board meeting

The minutes for the Board meeting held on 5 March 2022 were approved.

A summary version of Board minutes will in future be circulated to officers and uploaded onto the website. Members will be directed to the summary in the monthly Members' Update email and the Bulletin. Summary minutes from other 2022 Board meetings will be shared with officers.

Matters arising and action sheet

Grant forms will be reviewed. A separate meeting will be held to discuss the awards and eligibility criteria.

Strategy matters

The Strategy is a living document and should be constantly reviewed. As 2022/25 work is completed, it should roll into 2023/26 work. It will need sign-off at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to ensure members are engaged.

Available resource should be considered, because there is only a small staff team and following the elections, some of the new Trustees will need to get involved.

There remain two big strategy themes that need to be dealt with, Outreach and Health & Wellbeing. The Health & Wellbeing discussion can begin, but due to changes in the Board only the groundwork should start for Outreach.

Diversity and Health and Wellbeing matters

The Board could potentially have four new Trustees after the elections. Therefore, any training on Diversity and Inclusion should be rolled out to the new Board in September/October.

CEO Operations and Indoor Games Update

Charlotte McDonagh joined the Central Office team on 3 May

Governance matters – Trustee Elections: There has been interest from all parts of the country, different age groups and backgrounds. If a candidate decides not to take part in the elections, they could be co-opted onto the Board, should the Board feel they have a skill it is missing. A skills audit for the Board will be completed after the Trustee elections.

AGM: Any members joining the AGM by Zoom will need to vote by proxy. The Articles of Association can only be voted on by company members. Approval of the Strategy can be voted on by everyone.

Policies: All BPF policies are being reviewed but this will take time. The remuneration policy will be prioritised and Board will consider if a Safeguarding Officer is required at office and Board level.

Fundraising Update: Linda Davis (supported by Kripen) will lead the Winter Warmth Heating appeal this year.

Membership Fee Update: The Central Office team is working on a campaign to reach out to anyone who was a member previously but has not renewed membership.

Marketing, Comms and events - Patrons and ambassadors: Letters are being sent to existing ambassadors and patrons to thank them for their support and ask those who haven't engaged recently, if they wish to continue to be involved. Work will soon begin on drafting a letter to attract new ambassadors and patrons

Cost of Living in the UK: A separate meeting will be held to discuss how the Fellowship can campaign on the cost-of-living problem and call for more help for the polio community from the government.

Indoor Games: Overall, the feedback on the Indoor Games this year has been very good. The National Championships Organising Committee believe the Games should go ahead at the same hotel next year.

Healthcare Pathway Update and EPU update

Healthcare Pathway Update: Two Zoom meetings have taken place, one for the Devolved Nations and one for Patients' Experiences. Next steps will be discussed at an Expert Panel meeting on 25 May. Two workshops may be required to launch to consultants in neuro/rehab, physios, orthotists, occupational therapists, NHS structure and operation people.

EPU update: The European Polio Union (EPU) meet monthly. A medical committee has been set up and a discussion is required on whether there is a need for a Clinical Advisory Board. The next task will be to conduct a survey on what clinical advice is available across Europe. The EPU is also looking at the issue of vaccination and the risk of re-emergence

Report from the National Treasurer as at 31 March 2022

The Fellowship's financial position continues to be much better than a year ago. The Board needs to keep a close eye on income and expenditure this year, although the Fellowship currently has sufficient funds in reserve to cover its needs.