

## MINUTES: AGM 2017 (37<sup>TH</sup>) ARTHRITIS IRELAND

The Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience, Lloyd Building, Dublin 2

Saturday 14th October 2017 at 11.00 am

### Board Attendees:

First Name	Surname	Role	Present	Apologies
Gaye	Stephens			Yes
Seirse	Smith	Incoming Chair	Yes	
Conor	Kavanagh			Yes
Emma	Mac Dermott			Yes
Gerry	Wilson		Yes	
Derek	Deely		Yes	
Bryan	Whelan			Yes
David	Kane			Yes
John	O'Flynn	Outgoing Chair	Yes	
Peter	Boyd			Yes
Andrew	Kinsella			Yes
Andrea	McMahon		Yes	

In Attendance: Grainne O'Leary, Acting Chief Executive Officer

### OPENING REMARKS:

John O'Flynn (Chairman of Arthritis Ireland) opened the proceedings, noting the presence of a quorum, and welcomed everyone to the 37<sup>th</sup> AGM of Arthritis Ireland, thanking all for attending. John then announced, having completed an extended term of office, his retirement as director and chairman, and handed over to the Vice –Chair / incoming Chair, Seirse Smith.

Seirse expressed his honour at being asked to become Chair, and expressed the deep gratification of the Board and members to John O'Flynn for his service to Arthritis Ireland. Seirse also indicated that John would be staying involved, as a member of the Governance Sub-Committee, and would be proposed to the vacant position of President of Arthritis Ireland. Such

involvement would help to keep John vast knowledge and valuable experience in the organisation.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. To receive the minutes of the annual general meeting held on the 13th October 2016.
  - a. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record, having been proposed by John O’Flynn, and seconded by Marie Magee, both of whom were present at the previous AGM.
  - b. Proposed by John O’Flynn**
  - c. Seconded by Marie Magee**
2. To receive the annual report and accounts of Arthritis Ireland for year ended December 31st 2016.
  - a. The Chair introduced the Annual report and Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, noting that these account were prepared by new auditors (KSI Faulkner Orr).
  - b. The Chair noted that previous audits undertaken by ex-auditors (EY) has been delivered pro bono, and that Arthritis Ireland had now engaged new Auditors as on contractual basis, thereby providing the organisation with an opportunity to consider a change in timeframe for future audits and AGM’s.
  - c. A brief discussion occurred concerning the completion and processing Branch Returns necessary to fulfil the audit. John O’Flynn explained hi intent to be available to any branch in the future, to guide the process and assist with the completion of same. This offer was welcomed by the meeting.
  - d. Proposed by Gerry Wilson**
  - e. Seconded by Derek Deely**
3. To note the retirement of directors and reappointment of others.
  - a. The Chair announced the retirement of Directors in addition to John O’Flynn (Ordinary), including Conor Kavanagh (Ordinary), David Kane (Society), both having fulfilled the maximum respective term permitted, and of Emma McDermott (Society) who has completed one term.
  - b. The Chair also indicated the willingness of Emma McDermott to be elected for a second term. He also indicated that in the interests of maintaining the institutional knowledge of the organisation, that David Kane was willing to continue as an Ordinary Director.
  - c. In addition, two recently co-opted Directors – Andrea McMahan (Ordinary) and Andrew Kinsella (Ordinary) were willing to continue as Directors. Finally, a nomination from Mary Shields had been received for the election of Tilly Hyndman as an additional Ordinary Director, which was seconded by Rosaleen Gallagher.

- d. Finally but not least, in respect of John O’Flynn, the Chair acknowledged his massive contribution to Arthritis Ireland, and stressed the importance of John’s commitment and knowledge, and the value that would accrue from his continued participation as a champion as President of Arthritis Ireland.
  - e. The Chair stressed the importance of having diverse views and active participation from Directors, recommending the slate to the members. The elections were proposed by Eric Boyle and seconded by Claire Kinneavy, and passed.
  - f. Proposed by Eric Boyle**
  - g. Seconded by Claire Kinneavy**
4. To re-appoint KSI Faulkner Orr as auditors for 2017
- a. The Chair noted that the new Auditors (KSI Faulkner Orr) would be working on a contract basis, and that it was the intent of the Board to periodically seek expressions of interest from existing and other potential auditors, and indeed from existing and potential providers of other professional services to the organisation.
  - b. The re-appointment of KSI Faulkner Orr was proposed by Loretta Doyle and Seconded by John O’Flynn
  - c. Proposed by Loretta Doyle**
  - d. Seconded by John O’Flynn**

## AOB

- e. The meeting concluded with useful discussions on how best to access grants locally, completion of branch returns, and how to boost inclusiveness among members and people living with arthritis. The Chair stressed the importance such inclusivity and involvement, and that this would be part of a review of vision and strategy which the organisation is undertaking. In addition, he noted that the Board will also consider the expanded use of Board Sub-Committees to broaden such inclusion opportunities.

## CLOSING REMARKS:

The Chair thanked everyone for their valuable contributions, and there being no further business closed the meeting, inviting all to participate with refreshments before the Annual Lecture.