

## **The Nutrition Society**

### **MINUTES OF THE 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY MEETING OF THE NUTRITION SOCIETY, A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

**Assembly Buildings Conference Centre, Belfast,  
Thursday 4th July 2024 at 16:30 hrs**

Professor Mary Ward, President of the Society, was in the Chair  
and 40 members were in attendance

**1(i) Welcome and apologies for absence**

The President welcomed members to the 13th Annual Charity Meeting. Professor Anastasia Kalea sent apologies.

**1(ii) Minutes of 12th Annual Charity Meeting**

The minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity meeting were approved by the meeting.

*The proposer was Professor Alison Gallagher, and the seconder was Dr Carrie Ruxton.*

**2. The President's report**

The President (Professor Mary Ward) provided the meeting with an overview of the key achievements and events for the Society in 2023 using a PowerPoint presentation. She mentioned in particular the following: the high conference attendance of 1269 delegates at Society conferences; an update on textbook sales and translations; and the success of the Training Academy activities, with 5 live and 23 on-demand webinars reaching 350 people in 14 countries – a total of 572 people watched on-demand content. In terms of international work, the Society now hosts secretariats for both IUNS and FENS, and supports international members from 78 countries and supports international conferences. Professor Ward outlined the Society staff changes in 2023 and concluded her summary by thanking the members of the Trustee Board, Council, volunteers and staff for their work and support.

**3. The approved annual accounts of the Society**

The Treasurer, Professor Tom Hill, delivered the annual accounts for 2023. The Society recorded income of £1,260,046. Expenses for the year across all activities totalled £1,740,971. Professor Hill said that the Society's net worth totalled £1,353,421 – reduced from £1,828,656 in 2022. He reported that 2023 was a stable year in the Stock Market with a portfolio valued at £654,433 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2023, a subsequent withdrawal to cover the costs of the various priorities being funded, leaving a balance of £435,638 at the end of the year. In conclusion, Professor Hill stated that the Society is in a strong position to meet all its immediate financial commitments and objectives.

Professor Hill opened the floor for questions and Professor Alison Gallagher raised a question about the proposal regarding the Society endorsing CPD for external partners – she was concerned about the Society’s plans to offer CPD might have implications for the AfNs activities. Professor Hill clarified the thinking at this stage was not to directly compete with the AfN.

Professor Chris Seal pointed out that in the distribution of financial resources, the fluidity of reserves would be affected. He felt that the Society could not sustain the current level of expenditure as illustrated and wanted to express his caution over the balance of this expenditure and not to rely on the ‘book value’ of the fixed assets (Boyd Orr House). Professor Hill acknowledged, and agreed with, his observation.

Dr Aileen McGloin suggested it might be wise to add in the top ten risks to the budget presentation and include the mitigation in dealing with these. Professor Hill thanked the members for these questions and provided extra information in response.

The accounts were received in full.

*The proposer was Professor Andrew Salter, and the seconder was Professor Chris Seal.*

#### **4. To elect Trustees**

Professor Ward thanked outgoing trustees Dr Carrie Ruxton and Professor Anastasis Kalea for their excellent work in their roles.

Professor Ward affirmed the election unopposed of Professor John Brameld as Honorary Science Officer and asked for a vote of approval for the re-elected trustee.

*The proposer was Professor Julie Lovegrove and the seconder was Ms Barbara Bray.*

Professor Ward stated that the election for the new Honorary Officer Without Portfolio has seen Dr Maria O’Sullivan receive the highest number of votes. Professor Ward asked for a vote of approval for Dr Maria O’Sullivan as the new Honorary Officer Without Portfolio.

*The proposer was Professor Chris Seal and the seconder was Professor Jayne Woodside.*

#### **5. To elect Council Members**

Professor Ward announced the outcome of the Council elections. Dr Hilda Mulrooney received the highest number of votes in the election and is elected as Advisory Council Member for Public Health.

*The proposer was Professor Julie Lovegrove and the seconder was Professor Andrew Salter.*

**6. To transact any other business of the Society**

No other business was submitted prior to the meeting; Professor Mary Ward drew the meeting to a close.

**7. Meeting concludes**

There being no further business, this concluded the meeting at 1715 hrs.

Professor M Ward  
President