

MINUTES FOR VTT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 9th May 2009

Location

Toynbee Studios, 26 Commercial Street, London E1 6AB

Chairman's welcome

The chairman, Bertie Woolnough welcomed all present to VTTs second AGM, following the first, inaugural AGM last year. The chairman sent apologies from Colin and Shirly Imray who were unable to attend.

Chairman's update

- In the last year VTT has exceeded its target of £4,500 per month, and managed to raise almost £100,000.
- Valerie's tour in September/ October was a great success and heartfelt appreciation was extended to Ben Clackson for co-ordinating the tour.
- VTT now has over 100 members, with additional one off donations.
- A new fundraising target has now been set for £6000 per month.
- Members were encouraged to work towards this target by recruiting other members/donors/supporters. The annual report and both newsletters both have useful information that can be useful when explaining the work of VTT.
- Special thanks were made to Daphne Woolnough for editing the newsletters.
- VTT trustees have decided to produce an annual glossy newsletter with an additional black and white supplement so that members receive a newsletter every six months.
- Sincere thanks were made to Chris Hall for his hard work both setting up administrative systems and carrying out administrative tasks. Chris has now stood down as administrator but plans to carry out administrative support and assist with marketing.
- Brain Woodgate has taken over as administrator; he introduced himself to members and informed members of his previous relevant roles both in employment and in the church.
- Christine Coyne has recently joined the administration team, and plans to assist with marketing, fundraising and awareness raising. She introduced

herself and explained how she planned to gain membership/donations from university students and in academic environments.

- Thanks were made to the trustees and to the previous chairman, Ben Clackson for all their hard work in getting VTT registered with the charity commission.

Update on CRP from Valerie Taylor

The chairman read an update from Valerie Taylor which included the following points:

- The recently appointed CEO, Md. Emdad Moslem has received positive reports from CRP staff and from visitors to CRP. He is currently carrying out his probationary period.
- General Haq has stood down as chairman for TRP and Saidur Rahman has taken over the role. TRP are becoming increasingly involved in the running of CRP.
- The global recession has had an impact on CRP due to reduced donations, funds remain critical and Valerie never stops appreciating the efforts of her supporters.

Accounts

- The treasurer, Michael Woodley, gave a financial summary, see attached appendix.
- The chairman thanked the treasurer for his hard work, particularly his close working with the accountants.

Election of trustees

- Two trustees, Philomena Commons and Ben Clackson stood down and have been re-elected.
- Two members, Brian Whitty and Wendy Best were co-opted to the management committee.
- Brian Whitty introduced himself to members; he explained his connection with CRP and his recent involvements in fundraising.

Update on CRP from Mokhtar Hussain and Philomena Commons

Two VTT trustees have recently visited CRP and gave their reports /

comments to members.

Philomena's comments include:

- CRP sites at Savar and Mirpur are both very busy.
- CRP are now providing therapy staff to work in other areas of Bangladesh.
- There is currently research being carried out on ways to prevent building labourers from carrying heavy loads on their heads, which is a common cause of spinal cord injury.
- Valerie's adopted daughter, Poppy, is now training to be a patient counselor.
- The recently appointed CEO, Md. Emdad Moslem, is happy with his role and is likely to be willing to remain in post following his probationary period.

Mokhtar explained that his mother-in-law had recently had a stroke and was being treated in Mirpur. He reported that she had excellent care and that the other patients on the ward were also happy with the care they were receiving. He also met with the CEO and had a positive opinion of him.

Update on fundraising from Catherine Hall

Catherine thanked members for all of their fundraising efforts so far. She informed members of the fundraising resources available and about events that have taken place and used for fundraising previously.

Close

Hot drinks and a '30th Anniversary for CRP' cake were served.