



# Notes of Annual General Meeting of Sara Lee Trust

Held at 4.00pm on Wednesday 13 November 2019 at The Arthur Easton Centre,  
St Michael's Hospice, Upper Maze Hill

	There were 21 people in attendance
1	Trust Chair Michael Lear (ML) welcomed everyone and then formally opened the meeting
2	<b>Minutes of the last AGM</b>
	Approved and duly signed by ML
3	<b>Chair's Annual Report</b>
-	The Trust is in its 24 <sup>th</sup> year with record levels of care services being delivered by a team of highly regarded and experienced practitioners.
-	The value to the Trust of volunteers was recognised
-	The recent Jo Brand event at the White Rock was the biggest the Trust has undertaken to date. The event was well supported by our volunteers and with their help £18K was raised. The next big event will be Hastings Beatles Day which will require the assistance of approx. 60 volunteers.
-	The Trustees are all volunteers too and it was noted that the Board has the same Trustees as last year.
-	The Trustees are mindful that there are still people out there that the Trust have not yet reached and it is an uphill challenge to meet those needs
-	ML summed up by saying that SLT was still a small charity but with a sense of community and recognised locally, county-wide and now nationally as we continue to expand and improve year-on-year.
4	<b>Treasurer's Annual Report</b>
-	DR stated that the Trust's Accountant, Debbie Hargreaves, was unable to be present and that he would give a report on the accounts.
-	DR explained the four stages of the accounting procedures leading up to the publication of the accounts. The draft figures had been received today and the underlying net position showed a deficit. DR stated that there is a need to increase the Trust's fundraising efforts
-	The Accountant's report covers all activities of the Trust and will be available on the website in a couple of weeks' time.

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5	<b>Annual Review</b>
-	DR ran through the highlights of the last year and said that the Trust and volunteers were here to deliver Sara's vision.
-	There has been positive feedback from service users in three main areas:- . improved mental wellbeing . physical health . increased independence and reduced isolation There were some feedback comments on the screen, all of which were evidence of the positive impact of SLT's work.
-	A Case Study was handed out which individuals present were able to read
6	<b>Services Spotlight</b>
	Kerry Evans, the Services Manager for the Trust, talked about the services provided and the importance of couples sharing the experience of services such as massages
-	Being an independent charity, the SLT therapists are able to provide services requested or needed by individual service users
-	The level of services provided has increased by 300% over the last 5 years and there is further growth in reach, scope and capacity planned
-	DR then stated that the increased costs were now in excess of £300K/pa
-	Katie Jones (fundraising) said that she considered it a joy to raise funds when the impact it had was clearly evident. There have been several fundraising events this year, with the Christmas Fair being the next one.
-	Emma Godson (Volunteer Co-ordinator) said that there are currently 201 volunteers on the SLT database with a range of skill sets, with everyone pulling together, the common denominator being kindness. It was noted that the volunteer equivalent for employees on a minimum wage would be circa £25K/month
-	DR stated that it had been another positive year for the Trust with 1,000 local residents having been supported this year. He stated that there is a very strong core team so the Trust will continue to grow and improve more lives.
-	ML then thanked DR for all the work carried out by him as CEO.
-	A brief presentation was given by IE, (an ex-service user) on the 'Healthy & Nurturing Cooking' for patients and carers courses that she runs. These courses have proven successful and very beneficial with service users who are able to share their skills and support.
-	ML thanked everyone for attending
7	<b>Questions &amp; Answers</b>
	None
	The meeting closed at 5.40pm