



Feb 4, 2023 10:30am Please register at least 24 hours in advance to get a meeting link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/join?pwd=ZlQd-yhpj8rHdUWhcKRC5BOBAu1yr8cs5jb>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

AGENDA

10.30 Welcome

request to record speaker and discussion.

Speaker

Ian Byrne MP Liverpool West Derby
Former organiser unionising outsourced workers, co-founder of 'Fans Supporting Foodbanks'



Questions/comments

Break 5 min

11.30 Business

Minutes / matters arising 5 min

Chair's opening remarks 5 min

Secretary's Annual Report 5 min

Treasurer's Annual Report plus auditors

Questions/comments 10 min

Annual Election Results, Returning Officer Report 10 min

Report SOS NHS Demonstration 11 March.

Financing and building support. 10min

Introducing the new Directors 12 min

12.30 Finish

Socialist Health Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

20 February 2022

Keynote speakers followed by discussion

- Ian Evans, Unite Chair of the South East Region Health Sector Committee and works in the NHS
- Libby Nolan, UNISON NHS nurse in Cymru Wales and a member of Unison's National Executive Committee

Minutes of the previous AGM

- Agreed Matters arising - none
1. Chairs opening remarks and annual report - noted
 2. Secretary's annual report - noted
 3. Treasurer's annual report - Accounts and audit report - accepted.
 4. Annual election results – report of the Returning Officer - accepted.
 5. Resolutions
 - Motion to amend constitution re eligibility – referred to governance working group.
 - Motion to amend constitution for “tidy-ups” – referred to governance working group
 - Motion re SHA funds – passed

This AGM notes that at the last meeting of Central Council (CC) it was reported that approximately £7,000 had been spent on legal costs incurred by the previous officers (elected in 2020). Enquiries suggest that the sums were paid to a firm of solicitors for legal advice sought by these officers in response to legal action taken (and paid for) by some SHA members. The members took the legal action because these officers breached the then constitution of the SHA by ignoring a call for a Special General Meeting and other related matters. The following is understood to have occurred, based on work done by the officers elected in March 2021. 1. There is no record of CC agreeing to commit sums of this amount prior to the 2020 officers incurring legal expenses. 2. Payment of costs was authorised by officers who were also signatories to the SHA bank account- two of whom (the Chair and Secretary) were the objects of said legal action taken by members. 3. It is not known what advice was given by the third officer – the then treasurer. Therefore, this AGM calls for the incoming Officers to present a full and comprehensive report to an early CC meeting about this expenditure of approximately £7,000 as described above.

- Motion re supporting CLADAGG – passed
- *Equal Access to Means of Escape*

Rationale The Home Office has issued a contract to a private company, C.S. Todd Associates Ltd, to write a national piece of guidance on the 'means of escape for disabled people' in the event of a fire. The company will be paid £210,000. That company have, for the last decade, expressly advocated against evacuation plans for disabled people living in blocks of flats because they say it is impractical and “unrealistic”. This is despite over 40% of disabled residents in Grenfell Tower dying in the fire, with no evacuation plan. To award the contract to this company, with its track record (which the Managing Director did not retract as a witness in the Grenfell inquiry) is abhorrent. You can see Claddag's short statement here, including Baroness Grey-Thompson's powerful speech in the Lords. Due to the above, Claddag issued court proceedings against the Home Secretary on the 9th February 2022. We are a tiny group and have issued the claim in a personal capacity as a matter of public interest for all disabled people. Grenfell United have submitted a letter saying “Colin Todd should not be allowed anywhere near” this guidance. Other organisations including Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People and Disability Rights UK have also submitted letters raising concerns. Considering the major importance of this issue on health, in not only impacting risk of injury and life to disabled and/or older people, as well as the inevitable stress and anxiety this is causing, and given the objectives of the Socialist Health Association (SHA) [see below] the Greater Manchester branch of SHA and SHA nationally, would be a welcome inclusion in supporting these legal proceedings. This impacts those living in all housing tenures and also is a major concern for many close to those affected. Motion, in light of the above, this branch of SHA / SHA nationally resolves to: - Share information via social media or in other ways, to raise awareness of this issue, including statements/information made by Claddag and media articles. - To support Claddag's legal proceedings by writing to the Home Secretary to express GM SHA's and SHA's concern for disabled people. - To ask the Central Council if they will also share information via social media and write a letter to the Home Secretary. - For any members who*

wish, to also share information via social media and to approach other relevant organisations/societies to do the same and/or write to the Home Secretary. Claddag will support in any way they can. - SHA to support legal action against the Home Office by making a small donation to the fighting fund (this is currently being set up and we are awaiting agreement of wording by our legal team). *The Socialist Health Association is a campaigning membership organisation. We promote health and well-being and the eradication of inequalities through the application of socialist principles to society and government. We believe that these objectives can best be achieved through collective rather than individual action. Additional Information: Disability Rights UK have agreed that their letter to the Home Office is shared for reference (attached). Last year, this blog was written and published on the SHA website, as part of the Government Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan consultation. The link is below for reference. There still has been no response to this consultation, although it was stated that there would be by October 2021: <https://www.sochealth.co.uk/2021/07/07/the-battle-for-personal-emergencyevacuation-plans-peeps-in-residential-buildings-by-georgie-hulme-co-foundercladdag-member-of-sha-manchester/> Contact Information for CLADDAG: Georgie Hulme and Sarah Rennie Co-founders of CLADDAG: Leaseholders Disability Action Group www.claddag.org Twitter: @Claddag Facebook: @LeaseholderDAG

- *Standing Orders (Deferred to CC)*
- *Standing Financial Instructions (Deferred to CC)*
Introducing the new Directors
Mark, Esther, Harry, Aghileh, Cassie, Dave, Vivien

15. Any Other Business

Apologies

David Smith
Brian Gibbons
Ron Hartley
Mike Young
Hilary Armstrong
David Toller
Catharine Grundy-Glew
Brian Fisher
Yvonne Foss
Jenny Smith
John Beal
Jack Simons
Diane Hayter
Nico Csergo