

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the British Chiropractic Association
held on Wednesday 2 October 2024**

By Zoom

Present:

Timothy Button (TB)	President
John Williamson (JW)	Treasurer
Ulrik Sandstrom (US)	Vice President
Juliet Lock (JL)	Board Member
Philippa Oakley (PO)	Board Member
Faye Deane (FD)	Board Member
Owain Evans (OE)	Board Member
Catherine Quinn (CQ)	Immediate Past President

Apologies:

Mark Christensen	Board Member
Pamella Chu	Member
John Adam	Member
Annabel Kier	Member

In attendance:

Cait Allen (CA)	Chief Executive Officer
Lisa King (LK)	Director of Communications & Marketing

Introduction

TB welcomed the Board and members to the AGM and thanked them for taking the time to attend. He reported that it had been an excellent year for the BCA.

Item 1 – Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mark Christensen, Pamela Chu, John Adam and Annabel Kier.

Item 2 – To adopt the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25 October 2023 were adopted.

Proposed: Tim Button

Seconded: Ulrik Sandstrom

Voting: 195 For: 194 Against: 1

Resolution carried

Item 3 – To receive the report and accounts for 2023

JW was invited to present the report and accounts for 2023.

JW reported that after working hard last year to reduce costs and generate new income, he was pleased to share that the company have turned around the previous year's deficit and achieved a small profit of £30,778.

Last year the Board committed to stabilise finances and this has been achieved despite an increase in supplier costs which outweighs the small increase to members subscription. A reserve of £1,028,190 has been retained, which represents one year's running costs.

This year, the budget is on target to break even although this isn't without risk. The conference continues to be subsidised, and investments have taken a hit due to the current economic climate.

It is important that stability is maintained and that costs are kept low so that the necessary funds are available to celebrate 100th birthday in 2025.

Thanks were given to Keith Thomas, BCA accountant for all the work he has done ahead of his retirement after working with the company for two decades.

Proposed: John Williamson
Seconded: Tim Button

Voting: 195 For: 193 Against: 2
Resolution carried

Item 4 – Appointment of auditor

TAG accounts group have been appointed as the new auditor.

Proposed: John Williamson
Seconded: Ulrik Sandstrom
Resolution carried

Voting: 195
Resolution carried unanimously

Item 5 – To approve membership subscription rates

New subscription rates were shared with members in advance of the meeting and will also be made available to view on the website. A small increase has been proposed for 2025 (below inflation) to keep up with costs.

Proposed: Owain Evans
Seconded: Mark Christensen

Voting: 196 For: 194 Against: 2
Resolution carried

Item 6 – To approve election of new full members

A list of proposed members was shared as part of the presentation. TB offered his congratulations and a warm welcome on behalf of the BCA.

Proposed: Mark Christensen
Seconded: Philippa Oakley

Voting: 195 For: 193 Against: 2
Resolution carried

Item 7 – Special resolution on AGM deadlines

This proposal was developed with the aim of bringing board elections and AGM processes in line to simplify the process for members in the new digital era.

Proposed: Faye Deane
Seconded: Owain Evans

Voting: 195 For: 189 Against: 5
Resolution carried

Item 8 – Resolution on Honorary Membership

This proposal was to allow the Board to agree honorary membership. TB noted that these are very special awards, so the Board like to keep the process confidential. He assured members that the process is rigorous.

Proposed: Philippa Oakley
Seconded: Juliet Lock

Voting: 195 For: 178 Against: 17
Resolution carried

Item 9 – Chief Executive Officers Address

CA thanked members for a great response to the members survey. One thing that came out of the survey was that members wanted the BCA to act as a voice for them. To help drive this forward, the media spokesperson pool has been expanded and the team have also started work in the political space, drilling down to understand where and how we can make an impact including researching chiropracting in parliament, identifying government views and how they think they should be dealing with the MSK crisis. The team has also been mapping political allies, meeting with MPs with an interest in this area and looked at international practices, talking to European colleagues on how they have integrated into health services.

Next year the BCA will be commissioning further research into health economics to understand how chiropractors can help increase the productivity of the nation in line with the government plan to get people back to work.

Thanks were given to members who fed back on the GCC Code. TB/CA have met with GCC, and a formal response has been submitted to their recent consultation. The code is expected to be published in November/December and will be shared once available. Work will continue with the GMC and RCC to keep standards high but achievable for members.

The past year has seen more new registrants join the BCA than any other organisation, making it the first choice for Chiropractors in the UK. The insurance package is market leading and the additional services that the BCA supply are also important. This includes media and political influencing, advising employees/employers on how to succeed, and CPD. Members felt strongly that they wanted to feel part of community so alongside online sessions and the annual conference, the team have trialed a regional CPD in-person event in partnership with the Royal College and have also started planning for the 100th birthday celebrations next year.

CA gave thanks given to the staff team for all their hard work supporting and championing members and arranging the upcoming conference. Thanks were also extended to TB and the Board for giving their time to the BCA over the past 12 months.

Item 10 - Presidents Address

TB commented that his first year as President has been amazing and he has particularly enjoyed meeting members and getting their feedback. He is pleased that engagement with the GCC has been a positive experience to date.

He thanked the Immediate Past President (CQ) for her friendship and guidance in his first year in role.

It has been a busy year with a focus on growing relationships with stakeholders and partners as well as attending various events on behalf of the BCA. Amongst other things, TB has sat alongside the GCC & RCC at a roundtable event to discuss the MSK crisis and also attended the Labour Party Conference to talk to policy decision makers.

The growth of the profession relies on young people choosing to become chiropractors and the BCA are working closely with universities to encourage new people into the profession.

Thanks were given to the staff team for their hard work and dedication plus the whole board for their leadership, and finally members for everything they do to make the profession and association so proud.

Item 11

Meeting closed.