



# The Personal Advocacy Trust Incorporated Annual General Meeting

For the year ending 31 March 2017

3.30pm Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017, GKC Boardroom, Level 3, 53 Boulcott Street, Wellington

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## 1. Present and welcome

### Wellington

**Trustees:** Barney Cooper (Chair), Annette Brown, Doug Langford, Don Bagnall, Kate Cooke

**Also in attendance:** Les Buttimore (accountant), Henry McClintock (BDO auditor), John Hanning (PAT legal counsel), Erika Butters (PAT National Director)

**Contributors:** Ernie and Norma Pailthorpe

**Members:** Matthew Graham Hall

**Advocates:** Lynne King

### Via videoconferencing around New Zealand

**Contributors:** Heather Wood, Virginia Meads and Albert Meads, Cherie Mellsop, Reg Booth, Bernard Bailey, Mr and Mrs Stairmand, Jim and Joy Bain, Jan Claxton, Gwen Sadler, Duncun Burns, Pamela and Malcolm May, Jan Dwan and Jennifer Campbell, Jessie Lewis, Mr and Mrs Jeff O'Neil, Katherine Fitzpatrick, Theresa Koster

**Members:** Charles Webster, Carolyn Thomas, Catherine Park, Robert Jones

**Advocates:** Kaeti Rigarfsford, Sally Hartley, Rachael Hindrup, Wendy Rattray, Melanie Douds, Jennifer Shaw, Patrick Doherty, Marion Bayley, Wayne Winder

### Apologies

**Trustees:** Ross Steele, Gerard Letts, Janine Stewart

**Contributors:** Phillippa Barker, Helen Patterson, Steph and Mark Williams, Robin Tait, Carole Morrison, Nola and Bernstone, Lois Gilmour, Barbara Gillies, Adele Cutlack, Robert and Robin Luff, Zena Knight, John Forman.

**Members:** Peter O'Malley, Mark Dawkins, Ian Saddler

## 2. Additional items for Agenda

No additional items tendered.

## 3. Confirmation of minutes of AGM held 29 August 2015

*That the minutes of the Annual General Meetings held 29 August 2015 and 30 June 2016 be accepted.*

*Moved: Barney Cooper. Meeting agrees.*

**4. Matters arising from minutes**

No matters arising

**5. Board Chair report**

As attached.

**6. National Director report**

As attached.

**7. Financial matters**

Brief discussion of historical accounting challenges, and the undertaking of a full audit in 2017. The financial statements show a loss for the year, and note some variances between the 2016 and 2017 financial years. Accounting systems are strong sustainable.

*That the audited financial accounts for the year ending 31 March 2017 be accepted. Moved: Les Buttimore. Seconded: Doug Langford.*

**8. Governance matters**

**8.1 Acknowledgement from the Board – John Hanning and Doug Langford**

**8.1.1** Barney Cooper honoured the 50 years of work for the Trust rendered by John Hanning. John Hanning drew up the deed for The Personal Advocacy Trust on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1967, and potentially there is no one else with as long an association or service to the Trust as John.

John Hanning shared some brief words regarding his work with the Trust, originally named the Trust for Intellectually Handicapped People. He recounted an early conversation with Ray Matthews, chartered accountant and then Chief Executive of IHC, regarding the many parents he came across who asked what was being provided for their children when they died. This conversation prompted the evolution of the scheme, and the drafting of a Trust deed that was unique and did not rely on any template in its creation, a deed that John Hanning is proud of for having stood the test of time.

John relayed that the organisation has always benefited from exceptional Trustee leadership, including several from the legal fraternity such as John Jeffries, Judge Sullivan, Jill Moss, Judge Johnson and now Gerard Letts.

As a result of his service to The Personal Advocacy Trust, John was also able to do a lot of legal work for IHC, who became his largest client and for whom he advised for 40 years. The result was that John became somewhat of an expert in the field of disability law, and also worked to frame the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act (PPPR Act) of 1988. This was a milestone piece of legislation for New Zealand, which empowered intervention in cases where people were being mistreated or residing in inappropriate homes. This led to his involvement on a panel of lawyers appointed for subject persons for PPPR cases, from which he gained valuable insights into intense family disputes and human activity. Most cases were able to enjoy a satisfactory outcome.

John stated that over time he has observed the restructuring of the Trust and the work done to modernise and fortify the organisation, which he feels has arrived at a strong position. There are some sentiments in the sector that there is no longer a need for an organisation of this nature, which John refutes, stating that there will always be a need for advocacy. There is no comparable organisation in New Zealand willing to step up

and if need be, initiate legal action for its membership. He congratulated the Trust on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and wished it well for the future.

**8.1.2** Barney Cooper also acknowledged the work done by Doug Langford, who has made an exceptional contribution over the last 14 years as a Trustee, and is now retiring from his Board service.

Doug Langford shared that when he was working in the Presbyterian church office, he was approached by Verity Doak, former Manager, to stand as a Trustee. Though concerned by the challenges that at times emerged, he has been delighted to assist in taking steps towards their resolution. He expressed his confidence in current Trust leadership, has enjoyed his years of service, and has been grateful for the opportunity.

## **8.2 Nomination and election of Catherine Cooke; Contributor Representative**

*That Catherine Cooke stand as a Contributor Representative on The Personal Advocacy Trust Board.  
Moved: Barney Cooper. Meeting agrees.*

## **9. Other business**

### **9.1 Question and answers from participants around the country**

Gwen Sadler from Nelson asked if there was any intention to broaden service provision for others around the country. She indicated this was hoping this would generate discussion rather than lead to a direct answer. Barney indicated that the Board's current emphasis was on perfecting current service delivery, but that they would continue to discuss future options for service provision.

Duncan Burns from Nelson expressed great interest in the recollection and stories of John Hanning, of the Trust over the last 50 years, and asked if there were any intentions to expand on and publicise this history further. Ernie Pailthorpe from Wellington suggested that a brief book could be published, narrative included on the website, or audio piece included on National Radio. Duncan Burns agreed that an interview on National Radio could produce good publicity. Doug Langford agreed that such a publication could be valuable, and stand as a permanent, referable record and tool for the Trust. John Hanning commented a piece could also be put in Legal Talk, and that any such work would test the archiving system of his previous law firm! Matthew Graham-Hall from Wellington suggested an article in the Newspaper.

Wayne Winder from Dunedin asked if the Trustees had a business plan and advertising strategy in place. Barney replied that currently there is no strategic or business plan, but that is on the agenda for early next year. Similarly, there is not currently an advertising plan as such, though she recognised the immense opportunities presented by the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Trust.

Barney thanked all attendees for their time.

The meeting finished at 4.18