

HEREDITARY SPASTIC PARAPLEGIA SUPPORT GROUP  
Registered Charity No. 1181539  
Committee Meeting – [Internet Test Meeting].  
2nd April 2020, Start time 20:20

**Minutes**

- Attendees:** Adam Lawrence (AL), John Mason (JM), Dave Harris (DH), Ian Bennett (IB), Mitesh Patel (MP).  
After a successful test of the Zoom meeting method, it was agreed that we could discuss and minute a few topics.
- Minutes of Previous Meeting** – Defer to next full meeting.
- Outstanding Items from previous meeting:** Defer to next full meeting.
- “Electronic” Meetings.** After the experience of the recent test a discussion concluded that Committee meetings could certainly be conducted using Zoom. This would benefit the organisation by both reducing costs and travel time.  
It was considered that it would be possible to run something equivalent to local meetings across the Internet and we would attempt one or two such events to evaluate their effectiveness.  
It was felt less likely that larger meetings such as the AGM could be hosted satisfactorily without professional audiovisual support – not for this year!.
- Information request from Genetic Alliance.** A request had been received via Genetic Alliance to see what proportion of membership had been contacted by Government agencies and identified as vulnerable people. We agreed not to respond to this request. It was felt that in our particular community the actual asking of the question itself was likely to create a degree of alarm and we did not want to unnecessarily cause people an extra degree of concern in these uncertain times.
- AGM 2020 - Date 4<sup>th</sup> July.**  
We had agreed in previous email discussions that we would not postpone the AGM immediately. It would probably be appropriate to take that decision within the next month. We had contacted the charity commission and asked them if a delay to our AGM beyond the 15 months limit established in our Constitution would cause any difficulties from their point of view. Their answer was that they would not see any problem in our doing this as long as we made a formal record of our decision to do so as the present government guidance supported such action. **AL to decide action by end of April**
- Newslink.** IB intends to produce the next issue of news link in May. As yet he had very limited material to include in the issue. Adam was hoping to produce some material in time for that issue. It was agreed that it is appropriate for Ian to put out a message to members asking for contributions via email. **John/Ian to action asap.**  
Ian suggested that we could reserve the Front Page of this issue to publish details of the David Pearce bequest to the group and to lay out the initial things we have agreed to do with the money (previous minutes refer).

Next Meeting proposed for late May, early June, **AL would circulate suggested dates**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 20.50.