

website: www.londonsamaj.com Address all correspondence to: 349 King Street, Hammersmith, London, W6 9NH email:secretary@londonsamaj.com

LPSoL AGM Minutes 26th September 2021

Minutes for AGM Year ended 31 December 2020

Date: 26th September 2021

Venue: Harrow Rugby FC, Grove Field, Wood Lane, Stanmore, HA7 4LF

Time: 15.30 - 16.30

Attendance: 150+ members in total attended the meeting

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome to All / Prayers
- 2. Minutes for AGM Year ended 31st December 2019
 - a. Previous AGM was held on zoom and the accounts were approved at the time, and there were no other minuted voting items, therefore there are no detailed minutes to review or approve.
- 3. Overview of year 2020 & Presentation of Accounts for 2020
 - a. Approval of the accounts for the year ended 31st Dec 2020, which are summarised in this newsletter. The full version can be found at www.londonsamaj.com/downloads
 - b. Vote "Yes" or "No" (and share any comments or questions too) by email to samaj@londonsamaj.com
- 4. UK Directory / Diary Issue and rules for utilisation
- 5. Vote "Yes" or "No" to ring-fence £30,000 of LPSoL Assets for the benefit of those in need in our Origins area of Surat, Navsari and Valsad
- 6. AOB

1. WELCOME - by Shayleshbhai (Sevni)

The Meeting was opened where attendees were informed previous AGM Minutes (October 2020) as well as 31st December 2020 accounts were available to download from the samaj website.

2. Review of previous years AGM minutes (October 2020)

There were no other minuted voting items, therefore there are no detailed minutes to review or approve.



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3. Overview of accounts 2020

Question: A member asked, why the income was quite high and how we spent so much and on what.

Shaylesh (President) answered: The vast of majority of the income was the ticket sales for the event (March 2020 – Dinner & Dance) and the event costs linked to the sales, was the spending, which led to the net surplus for the year.

No other questions were asked relating to 2020 Accounts, which were approved by attendees.

4. UK Directory / Diary 2021 – Issue and rules for utilisation

All members attended where given a free copy of a directory and advised to read the leaflet that was issued as part of the diary.

5. Vote "Yes" or "No" to ring-fence £30,000 of LPSoL Assets for the benefit of those in need in our Origins area of Surat, Navsari and Valsad

Overview of the proposal presented by Shaylesh:

LPSoL pledged £5,001 in May 2021 and encouraged members to make a donation too. The trustees felt committing more should involve the members themselves, hence this proposal at a General Meeting. with the option to share views via online voting. Although LPSoL's net assets are much larger than LPSUK and 10% translates into a large number (c£35k), I am sure you will be aware of the need to help the SNV community. With more waves and variants expected, combined with poverty there, it is time to support our origins again. Fortunately, as well as the unquestionable need, there is an unwavering desire from our London membership to support the homeland. Many of our membership's family members make regular trips to India. Also, many of our elders (alive or deceased), over the last 70 years started to build most of their UK assets here in London and can see this is a once in 3-lifetimes opportunity and appeal to support the place where our LPS/UK journey began.

It is therefore proposed that London sets aside a further £30,000 (so the total support reaches £35k, which is just under 10% of London's assets) for this appeal. Tithing of 10%, still leaves our debt-free, cash rich charity with £325k in assets. £35,000 is less than the annual surpluses made since many of the current team joined the London Samaj management around 2005, so we will not have eroded what the founding and older members built-up.

Open to the members for questions:

Numerous questions and statements were made by various members and below is a synopsis of this.

• Why are we not spending the money in the UK? We should be using money for the benefit of LPSOL members and not externally.

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- Cultural education for members and children should be the priority; focus on London members.
- Need to engage with youth and retain money for this cause.
- Not clear how the existing money that LPSUK raised has been spent, appears to be spent on one hospital.
- Prosperity in India exists, and we seem to be supporting an element which should be funded by those who have the funds in communities back in Gujarat.
- Shaylesh requested members to put suggestions forward on where the proposed £30K be spent
 in India, as nothing has been set covering the purpose of where the funds will go. This can be put
 forward to a committee member or emailed to samaj@londonsamaj.com
- Bhumikaben made a statement on how funds were moved to India and how they were spent.
 Plus a request that additional funds are put forward for the continued support of our community back in Gujarat. She also mentioned that travellers from the UK visiting have also benefited from the equipment that has been funded/donated.
- Should not any money ear marked for this cause be spent more on Education and health and wellbeing of the people in Gujarat?
- Bhavikbhai Head of Trustees also made a statement. Lot of opinions shared and not everyone
 will agree on the monetary allocation or where the funding is allocated. He recognises that the
 utilisation of the funds being set aside is of concern to members and encourage members to
 participate with suggestions on where the donations will be used. Need to publicise this to all
 members on the proposals before committing to release the funds.

A vote was then taken on the original point of should we set aside £30K for utilisation of projects back in Gujarat:

Yes votes: 56 (we also had four email votes come in from members who did not attend AGM in person)

No Votes: 12

Numerous members attending decided to abstain from voting.

6. AOB

Shaylesh thanked everyone for attending the event/AGM and advised Pizza & Ice Cream was available for all!



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Approval of Minutes (by two Samaj members present at this meeting)

Print Name: Rajeshbhai Thakorbhai Print Name: Rohitchandra Maganbhai

Gaam: Toli Gaam: Moti Chovisi

Date: 24th July 2022 Date: 24th July 2022