

OBAN HOSPICE LTD

DIRECTORS' REPORT 2021

A. INTRODUCTION

2021 has been a steady year for Oban Hospice, alongside the various restrictions and changes to organisations associated with the Covid virus. Most of the workload of the organisation has been maintained, with consistent efforts made by our staff, Peter and Lucy, together with Lindsay, part-time from the NHS. A number of therapists and volunteers have also played their part in maintaining a level of service delivery, risk assessments having been completed.

B. LORN AND ISLANDS HOSPITAL/HEALTH CENTRES

The local hospital has had a number of restrictions in place, however staff from the Hospice have maintained good contact with the hospital and community health centres in seeking to maintain their support of people in the community and hospital.

C. THE DOVE CENTRE

We have celebrated the 4th anniversary of the Dove Centre being established in Oban. Some therapies have been offered to people and additional funding of £10,000 has been secured to provide specific forms of treatment such as lymphoedema.

Staff at the Dove Centre have developed skills in making use of new and changing technologies such as Zoom meetings and software for producing information leaflets and newsletters.

A lot of preparatory work has been carried out by one of our staff members, Lucy, in developing our Befriending Service, Cairdeas. This is an exciting development aimed directly at supporting and maintaining people in the community, with practical, non-medical support and developing informal friendships.

Other agencies have been very supportive – for example a local public house has provided a base for the Men's Group and some church facilities were considered for other groups. Appropriate risk assessments were carried out alongside national directives.

Over 200 people and families have received levels of support over the past 3 years, with a growing referral rate.

D. FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING

Oban Hospice Limited remains in a good position financially with a range of continuing donations and other forms of giving being provided. The generosity of the local people should not be underestimated as we continue to seek alternative forms of funding and make the best use of publicity.

The Friends of Oban Hospice have decided that their organisation will fold in the coming months. It has been agreed that in future, Hospice Board members will fundraise alongside a group of former "Friends" which will become a sub-group within the current formal framework of the Hospice. This will prove to be a challenging and exciting opportunity locally.

E. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Board members have taken the opportunity to review some policies and procedures, including a piece of work, led by two board members, Kath and Elsa, in reviewing our Articles of Association. OSCR has formally approved all the changes we have made to this framework, as we seek to adapt and maintain the most appropriate methods of working.

F. HOSPICE BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The changes to the membership of the Hospice Board include Aelstje Oosterhof, a former Macmillan Nurse, together with Adrian Tully, a former medical consultant. A review of functions and roles held by Board members is ongoing with one or two additional roles being considered. A big “thank you” to all Board members, staff, volunteers, therapists and The Friends of Oban Hospice for their support over the past 12 months.

G. CONCLUSION

2021 has been an interesting and challenging year for Oban Hospice. We continue to develop and support people alongside the other agencies and communities within Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

The current healthy position of our finances will support new developments in the next 5 years. This will continue to be supported by active fundraising where possible together with appropriate applications for other forms of funding.

David Entwistle

Chairperson
Oban Hospice Ltd

12 May 2022