

Please join us for the Annual General Meeting of

Asperger's Children and Carers Together (ACCT)

Tuesday 31st January 7 – 8pm

Held online via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83411558708?pwd=bEx5VThSVzVYMFp3Y0Jua1VhVFI1UT09>

Meeting ID: 834 1155 8708

Passcode: 919838

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Apologies
- Minutes from the last AGM (10 February 2022)
- Presentation of the 2021-22 Annual Report
- Presentation of the 2021-22 Annual Accounts
- Appointment of Independent Examiner
- Election of Trustees – standing for election: Sara Bartlett Brown.
Standing for re-election: Margaret Kilner
- Special resolution – ACCT name change and constitution. Members to discuss and vote on the below resolution to change the charity name and adopt an amended constitution with updated language with reference to Autism and nonbinary or gender neutral pronouns, and a change to clarify the process for removing charity trustees.
- Any Other Business
- Close Meeting

All ACCT members are welcome. We need at least 8 ACCT members to attend to pass the important business in this meeting, so please come along if you can.

Asperger's Children and Carers Together (ACCT) Annual General Meeting 31 January 2023, 7-8pm

Special resolution:

- (1) It is resolved that the charity name be changed to Autistic Children and Carers Together.**
- (2) It is further resolved that, subject to Charity Commission agreement, the charity's object be updated to,** "The object of the CIO is to support the needs of autistic children and young people living in the Sheffield area, in particular by provision of services and assistance to them and their family and carers, irrespective of political or religious affiliation, race, gender or sexual orientation."
- (3) It is further resolved that the charity adopt the new constitution document dated 31 January 2023.**

Appendix: Detail of the changes to the ACCT constitution.

Changes to update the language used with reference to Autism and to include nonbinary or gender neutral pronouns:

Clause 1: "The name of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("the CIO") is **Autistic** Children and Carers Together (ACCT)."

Clause 3: "The object of the CIO is to support the needs of autistic children and young people living in the Sheffield area, in particular by provision of services and assistance to them and their family and carers."

Clause 5 (a) A charity trustee is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the CIO or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by **the trustee** when acting on behalf of the CIO.

Clause 7 (1) declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which **the trustee** has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the CIO or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the CIO which has not previously been declared;

Clause 7 (2) absent himself or herself **or themselves** from any discussions of the charity trustees in which it is possible that a conflict of interest will arise between his or her **or their** duty to act solely in the interests of the CIO and any personal interest (including but not limited to any financial interest).

Any charity trustee absenting himself or herself **or themselves** from any discussions in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any decision of the charity trustees on the matter.

Clause 9 (1) (a) Membership of the CIO is open to anyone who is interested in furthering its purposes, and who, by applying for membership, has indicated his, her or **their** agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members set out in sub-clause (3) of this clause.

A member may be a parent or carer of an **autistic** child or young person ~~up to the age of 19 affected by Asperger's Syndrome or high functioning Autism~~ or be an individual willing to give a personal

commitment to applying their professional experience or skills, in a voluntary capacity, to further the aims of the organisation.

Clause 9 (1) (b) (iv) (3) It is the duty of each member of the CIO to exercise his or her **or their** powers as a member of the CIO in the way he or she **or they** decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO.

Section 9 (4) (b) (i) inform the member of the reasons why it is proposed to remove **the member** from membership;

Clause 9 (4) (b) (ii) give the member at least 21 clear days notice in which to make representations to the charity trustees as to why **the member** should not be removed from membership;

Clause 12 (a) (a) to exercise his or her **or their** powers and to perform his or her **or their** functions as a trustee of the CIO in the way he or she **or they** decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO;

Clause 12 (1) (b) (i) any special knowledge or experience that **the trustee** has;

Clause 12 (1) (b) (ii) if he or she **or they** acts as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

Clause 12 (2) (b) No one may be appointed as a charity trustee:

- if he or she **or they** is under the age of 16 years; or
- if he or she **or they** would automatically cease to hold office under the provisions of clause 15(1)(f).

Clause 12 (2) (c) No one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she **or they** has expressly acknowledged, in whatever way the charity trustees decide, his or her **or their** acceptance of the office of charity trustee.

Clause 13 (1) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she **or they** shall retire;

Clause 13 (5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her **or their** appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Clause 14 The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her **or their** first appointment:

Clause 15 (1) A charity trustee ceases to hold office if he or she **or they**:

Clause 15 (b) is absent without the permission of the charity trustees from all their meetings held within a period of six months and the trustees resolve that his or her **or their** office be vacated;

Clause 19 (3) (a) No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. The quorum is two charity trustees, or such larger number as the charity trustees may decide from time to time. A charity trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which **the trustee** is not entitled to vote.

Clause 20 (2) Sub-clause (1) of this clause does not permit a charity trustee to keep any benefit that may be conferred upon him or her **or them** by a resolution of the charity trustees or of a committee of charity trustees if, but for clause (1), the resolution would have been void, or if the charity trustee has not complied with clause 7 (Conflicts of interest).

Clause 30 (a) (a) a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, **or sibling** of the charity trustee;

Appendix (1) (a) Any member or charity trustee of the CIO, by providing the CIO with his or her **or their** email address or similar, is taken to have agreed to receive communications from the CIO in electronic form at that address, unless the member has indicated to the CIO his or her **or their** unwillingness to receive such communications in that form.

Addition to clause 15 to clarify the process for removing a charity trustee:

Clause 15 (2) A charity trustee shall be removed from office if a resolution to remove that trustee is proposed at a general meeting of the members called for that purpose and properly convened in accordance with clause 11, and the resolution is passed by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at the meeting.

Clause 15 (3) A resolution to remove a charity trustee in accordance with this clause shall not take effect unless the individual concerned has been given at least 14 clear days' notice in writing that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify removal from office, and has been given a reasonable opportunity of making oral and/or written representations to the members of the CIO.