



Leeds Society for
Deaf and Blind People

Annual General Meeting

7.00pm Wednesday 15th November 2017

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

- 1. Welcome:** The Joint President, Martin Dodgson extended a warm welcome to everyone present. He spoke briefly about his personal history with the Society and that of the Joint President Martin Smith, who between them had attended over 100 Annual General Meetings. He introduced the new Executive Officer, Jo Reveley, and on behalf of the Society, wished her every success in the years to come.
- 2. Apologies:** Received from Kerry Milwain, Roslyn Robinson, Sheila and Roy Foster and Sharon Landey.
- 3. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM (24 November 2016):** The Minutes circulated were duly proposed by Alan Oldroyd, seconded by Hilary Adolfson and unanimously accepted as a true record.
- 4. Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts:** The Report and Accounts were duly proposed, seconded and unanimously adopted.
- 5. Election of Treasurer:** – Christopher Sinclair, as the only nomination, was duly accepted and indicated he was happy to continue in the role. Thanks were expressed for his continued commitment and the great deal of time he had given to the Society with regard to the sale of Centenary House and purchase of the new building.
- 6. Election of Trustees for 2017/2018:** The following nominations had been received and duly appointed by the members present: Hilary Adolfson, Zara Emery, Jason Hixon, Craig Jones, Paul Landey, Nick McTague, Kerry Milwain, Mary Naylor, Alan Oldroyd, Christine Roche, Evin Wickremaratne and Maureen Wood.
- 7. Appointment of Independent Examiner:** Malcolm Jones & Co were duly re-elected, unopposed.
- 8. Name Competition:** Possible suggestions had been received and additional ideas were put forward. It was agreed that further consideration be given to the matter with the hope of announcing a new name at the official opening.

9. **The Future:** - Christine Roche, Chair, expressed her gratitude to everyone in attendance and conveyed her hopes for the future of the Society. She spoke of her connection with the Society going back many years, during that time she had never imagined that she would one day take on the responsibility of Chair of the organisation but was looking forward to the challenges and opportunities this would present.
10. **Any Other Business:**
- a) **Joint Presidents** – Martin Dodgson spoke with affection of the many years himself and Martin Smith had been connected to the Society and stated how proud they were to still be members.
 - b) **Executive Officer** – Jo Reveley was requested by a member to give a brief explanation of her connection to the Society. Jo spoke of her association going back 26 years as the parent of a Deaf child and also her work as a teacher of the deaf, having taught some of those presently in the audience. She stated that taking on the role was proving to be a steep learning curve, but one that she was enjoying very much. She thanked the Chair, Trustees and staff for their support and said she hoped to see everyone present coming to the new centre and making it work.
 - c) Duncan Wood expressed thanks to the staff and Trustees for everything they had done and wished the Society well for the future. Susan Gaunt conveyed her hope that the Society could regain its position as LCC contract holder.

There being no other business Martin Dodgson thanked everyone for their attendance and duly closed the Annual General Meeting at 7.50 pm.