

CINEMA FOR ALL

The trading name for The British Federation of Film Societies

Company number: 01391200

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

Sunday 6 November 2022

Held at: online via Zoom.

Attending trustees:

Andrew Ormston

Ben Johnson

Graham Hill

Elizabeth Costello

Ruin Jin

Paula Stott

Attending members:

Wimbledon Film Club

Harrogate Film Society

Brighton Film Community Cinematheque

Oxen Park Film Club

Leigh Film

Chester Film Society

Chorley Community Cinema

Films at Shadforth

Silkscreen Film Society

Swindon Film Society

Callender Cinema

Lucem House

Bracknell Film Society

Manchester and Salford Film Society

West Green Community Cinema

1. WELCOME FROM CHAIR

Jaq Chell welcomed all to the online AGM.

Andrew Ormston welcomed all to the online AGM.

Andrew thanked all those who have attended and officially opened the meeting and outlined the agenda.

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received in advance of the meeting.

3. ADOPT 2021 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

It was proposed by Brighton Film Community Cinematheque that the minutes for 2021 meeting be adopted, and seconded by Leigh Film. No matters arising.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Andrew Ormston welcomed new board members and said goodbye to board members who left, wishing them well and hoping they stay in touch, as well as acknowledging the new members of staff and board members that were recruited. Lucie Kordacova and Pat Greenhough introduced themselves as new members of staff. Paula Stott, Ben Johnson and Rui Jin introduced themselves as new board members. AO spoke about the away day and how productive this was. AO talked about the changes in relationships between board and staff members, such as moving from Saturday meetings to late afternoon meetings and setting up working groups such as an IT focused session that proved productive. There will be a group focused on membership and one for fundraising. AO acknowledged the challenges faced by independent and volunteer cinemas due to the pandemic and the cost of living crisis, then thanked staff, board members and members for working effectively through this time and staying with Cinema For All.

AO spoke about how he was grateful to staff and board members in the BFI consultation for strategy and the promising new work streams such as screen heritage and environmental partnerships. AO reiterated the strength of Cinema For All through the pandemic.

5. Annual Accounts

Andrew Ormston handed over to Graham Hill to present the financial report, based on information in the pre-circulated Annual Report. GH welcomed the new treasurer when they start. GH moved on to talk about the Income and Expenditure accounts. Income has gradually gone back to normal and remained very positive, having been added to with £20,000 grant from the postcode lottery. Income from charitable activities increased as we came out of lockdown, with a total income increase by about £10,000 for the year. Expenditure is well monitored. There were issues with work pressure getting people into the organisation, but this helped the Expenditure side. Expenditure came in just under £250,000. GH said that the organisation will carry forward £212,000 into 2023. When looking at the Value sheet, GH noted that there was £220,000 cash in hand £220,000, unrestricted reserves of £164,000 and restricted reserves of £48,000 that he hopes can be supplement with BFI support and other grant areas.

GH reassures that Cinema For All is robust and will move into 2023 in a very strong position and that for 2022 the account be adopted for that financial year.

6. ADOPTING THE 2021-22 ACCOUNTS

It was proposed the accounts be accepted by Paula Stott, seconded by Elizabeth Costello.

7. ANNUAL REPORT

AO thanked Graham Hill for his work as the treasurer and Deborah Parker for stepping up. AO acknowledged the achievement of increasing membership through this period, emphasizing that everyone is aware of the need to have geographical representation that AO hopes the membership group will address. In mentioning the Diversity, Equity and Inclusions section, AO notes the commitment to this in terms of Cinema For All's policies and strategies and how it shows a hands on commitment through recruitment. AO then handed over to Jaq Chell and Deborah Parker to talk about their highlights of the report. DP spoke about seeing the sector get back on its feet and thanked the team

for their commitment to the sector. JC highlighted the quality of proposals the members had for launchpad, sustain, and develop.

8. PROPOSING THE ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

It was proposed the report be adopted by Elizabeth Costello, seconded by Paula Stott.

9. APPROVAL OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

AO handed back to GH for the approval of the Independent Examiner. GH talked about how BHP remain as the Independent Examiner and that they have done a very good job over the last number of years. GH mentioned how the costs for these sorts of activities are going up and recommended that until the new treasurer is comfortable that BHP remain as the Independent Examiner. GH proposed BHP as the independent examiner for 2022/23.

10. PROPOSING THE INDEPEDENT EXAMINER

It was proposed the report be adopted by Rui Jin, seconded by Paula Stott.

11. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

AO ran through the prices of subscriptions, with organizations running with 3 years or more at £95, organizations in their second year at £80, organizations in their first year £65, student cinemas £80, schools £65 and non-volunteer lead organizations £110.

Elizabeth Costello inquired how many non-volunteer lead organizations there are with Cinema For All. JC answered that there are no less than 10 who are not Members and more associates. Abi Standish noted how these organizations are not big businesses but for example galleries that share charitable objectives.

12. PROPOSING THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

It was proposed the report be adopted by Paula Stott, seconded by Rui Jin

13. OTHER BUSINESS

AO mentioned the discussions surrounding the Trustees reaching out to Member organizations.

END OF FORMAL AGM BUSINESS

1. TRUSTEE AND MEMBERS' DISCUSSION

Elizabeth Costello asked the Cinema For All team if they had any knowledge on accessing licenses from Netflix and Amazon Prime. Abi Standish acknowledged that the movement on this is slow, mentioning that independent productions such as environmental documentaries have opportunities to get in touch with the makers of Netflix themselves to put on a non-profit screening. AS emphasized that they hoped there could be more movement, for example to get titles for a limited amount of time, and that hearing from people who are interested in this would help in the engagement of conversations.

Chester Film Society mentioned how they have difficulty getting independent art house films.

Paula Stott observed that they were advised to use DCP and while this has pushed the prices up, it means they can get the titles they want.

Andrew Ormston asked about the situation with audiences and whether they are back to the levels they were pre-pandemic.

END