



Lincoln
Film
Society

world class cinema for a world class city

Registered Charity No. 1156478

**66th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER 2019
9.15PM**

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Present**
- 3. Minutes of Last Meeting**
- 4. Matters Arising**
- 5. Officers & Trustees Reports (including discussion)**
- 6. Election of Officers**
- 7. Election of Committee**
- 8. Election of Auditor**
- 9. Any Other Business**

Minutes of the 65th AGM of Lincoln Film Society held on 12th October 2018 at The Venue

1. Apologies

Barbara Cansfield-White, William Millar, Odette Millar, Richard Wheeldon and Maureen Wheeldon

2. Present:

Richard Hall (RH) (Chair)	John Rossington (JR) (Treasurer)
Tony Butcher (TB) (Joint Secretary)	Sue Firth (SF) (Joint Secretary)
Rob Sargent (RS)	Geraldine Roy (GR)
David Brook (DB)	Philip Stonehouse (PS)
Maurice Bingham (MB)	Helen Hancocks (HH)
Val Sargent (VS)	Paul Hancocks (PH)
Linda Hall (LH)	Bob Bratley (BB)
Ivor Davey (ID)	Pam Davey (PD)
Janet Galpin (JG)	Roderick Orner (RO)
Jonathan Killin (JK)	Paul Frodsham (PF)
Ray Longmore (RL)	Maureen Frodsham (MF)
William Russell (WR)	Jane Bullimore (JB)

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

RS proposed and JK seconded that the minutes of the 64th Annual General Meeting be accepted as a true record. Votes in favour were unanimous, with one abstention.

4. Matters Arising

RH asked JR to comment on the previous year's proposal of acquiring mobile projection equipment. JR said that this project had been put on the back burner and RH commented that it is possible to hire equipment from Cinema For All, should the need arise.

Two issues raised last year were the need for a reserves policy and the creation of a business continuity plan. JR said that the reserves policy is for the Society to retain sufficient funds to cover the costs of operating for one full season. RH explained that guidance and instructions have been set out to allow the Society to operate should any of the officers leave suddenly. SF said the continuity plan also covered procedures for events such as film screenings being cancelled at short notice.

5. Chair's Report

RH invited members to refer to the written report, but highlighted the following topics:

- a) Audience Building & Outreach – RH reported that the Society has begun to explore working with other organisations in the city to build the audience and fulfil the charitable remit. He cited as an example the showing of two films to celebrate the RAF centenary at the request of Lincoln BIG. Another example was a showing of Letters from Baghdad at The Collection in association with a local art group. Committee members are also attending conferences to learn what is happening in other film societies. HH reported back from the Cinema for All conference where she heard about ideas such as holding different types of screenings to reach a wider audience, funding these through sponsorship, crowdfunding or ticket sales. RH assured the members that there is no intention of moving away from the Society's core programme.
- b) Cinematheque project – RH invited ID to explain this project to members. ID said it is an international project under which children are encouraged to watch and make films. Every year

participants meet in Paris and one school from each country attend and show the films they have made. Lincolnshire primary schools have been participating for nine years, and for the last two years the Society has been involved in a weekend event at The Venue for the children and their families to attend and watch each other's films. This year it was expanded into a three day mini film festival and other films of interest to children were shown. The attendance was less than hoped due to competition with other events that weekend.

- c) Partnership Working Agreement (PWA) – TB reported that the PWA with The Venue has been renegotiated and has gone from a one-year to a two-year agreement, which should provide greater certainty for planning. This was triggered by the sudden announcement to the Society of a 10% increase in hire costs, after the membership fees had been set and announced for the current season. The committee were successful in getting the increase deferred to next year, but it does mean membership fees will rise. RS enquired whether the Society has any competition for use of the auditorium on a Friday. RH said that the Society is The Venue's preferred partner.

RH opened up the discussion to members to comment. RL asked whether the Society might grow its audience by attracting more students. RH said attempts to reach out to students have not been successful in the past and JR said when screenings were held at Lincoln University they were poorly attended. DB also said there were some issues with quality of projection. JB said she hoped that an attempt to attract younger people would not mean too many films purely aimed at them but RH said it would not change the Society's programming policy. WR suggested that, if students prefer to socialise in the pub on a Friday, perhaps films could be shown on another night. DB said he thought that pop-up screenings where the Society went out to students might be more successful.

- d) Financial Position – JR said the surplus last year was £1,669, down from the previous year's surplus of £2,587. The surplus on the balance sheet at the end of May was £17,623. The fall in the surplus was the result of higher film rental costs and a reduction in the number of temporary memberships sold. Membership numbers are slightly down this year. SF said this was due to everyone having to actively rejoin due to the new data protection rules. For this year only the Society will be offering a half-year membership for £25, which could address the shortfall and attract new members for the future. WR asked whether the Society have set a target for growth and RH said they have not and, as a charity, have no obligation to make a surplus. PF enquired about revenue from Gift Aid and JR said this was minimal because it can only be raised on sponsorship donations, not on membership fees.
- e) Rule Changes – RH referred to the amended rules which were circulated with the papers. The changes deal with clarifying the position regarding reimbursement of expenditure by committee members, introducing a reserves policy and providing for business continuity.

JK proposed and JB seconded that the report, financial statements and amended rules be accepted. The members voted unanimously in favour.

6. Election of Officers & Committee

JB proposed and ID seconded the re-election of the existing officers and committee en bloc and the members voted unanimously in favour.

7. Election of Independent Examiner

JR proposed and RS seconded that the current examiner, Michelle Allen of Yours for a Day, be reappointed. The members voted unanimously in favour.

8. Any Other Business

None.

The meeting closed at 10.30pm.