



## THE TRUST FOR DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES

### FINAL MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Zoom (online) on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 6pm.

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#### **Present:**

**Individual Members:** Linda Ashton-Saltwell, Robert Brown MBE, Denis Byrne, Nikki Gatenby (via proxy), Angela Greany, Emma Haughton, Geoff Heath, John Homewood, Rami Mansour, John Mc Phillips (via proxy), Jenny Moore, Sylvia New, Linda Newman, Eileen O'Leary, Eileen Teresa Oliver, Anthony Purkiss, Tim Sayers, Saskia Wesnigk, Laura Williams (via proxy), Teresa Lipson, Mike Pattinson, Shaun Kennedy, Tania Skae, Julian Ribera (24 in total)

**Organisational members:** ADHD Aware, Hangleton & Knoll Project, Purple People Kitchen Queen's Park Community Association, Together Co, Woodingdean Youth Centre (6 in total)

**The Trust for Developing Communities staff members:** Shamann Back, Claire Burchell, Kaye Duerdoth, Mathilda Gregory, Athol Halle, Hazel Hart, Emma MacPherson, Adam Muirhead, Anke Thurm, Caroline Vitta, Kirsty Walker, Jo Winyard

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#### **1. Welcome, thanks and housekeeping:**

Mike Pattinson (Trustee and chair of the meeting - MP) welcomed everyone to the February 2021 TDC Online AGM and thanked everyone for giving up their evening.

MP also thanked everyone for their continued support to TDC, he has personally been made to feel very welcome by all and has been very impressed by the range of work carried out by the charity. Mike emphasised that we must acknowledge the difficult circumstances that this work has been carried out under over the last 12 months due to the pandemic. We must also pay special tribute TDC founder Barry Hulyer who sadly passed away in July 2020. He transformed this city for the better and made such a great impression on us.

People were invited to ask questions, and there would be opportunities throughout the evening to vote.

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#### **2. Apologies for Absence**

MP reported that there were some apologies received from organisations and members and the list of their names was available if required. Some members have voted via proxy and this list is also available if required.

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### **3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous AGM**

The minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting (held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020) were available on the website prior to the meeting, or available in paper format via request.

Athol Halle (Chief Executive of TDC - AH) highlighted that there were a two outstanding actions from the previous minutes that he would address in his later speech.

John Homewood (member) had spotted that the previous minutes referenced '2018 minutes' instead of '2019 minutes'. It was agreed that this needed amending to 2019.

An online vote was then held to approve the minutes from the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 AGM.

There were 27 votes affirmative and no votes against.

***The previous AGM Minutes from 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were formally approved.***

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### **4. Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2020:**

Geoff Heath (Treasurer - GH) presented the financial accounts from 2019/20. A copy of these were available on the website prior to the meeting, or in paper format via request.

GH highlighted that it had been a reasonable financial year and that we had come out roughly where we had expected to be. Income had seen a 30% increase on the previous year, taking us to our largest ever income. TDC also had their biggest ever year of expense. We expect to break even this financial year, possibly with a small surplus. So far, we have not been too adversely affected by the economic climate around the pandemic, but we do need to keep an eye on this and how it may impact us with regards to fundraising. No questions were asked by members.

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### **5. Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2020:**

AH thanked everyone for coming. Since the last AGM, everything has been dominated by Covid. Over 400 people have lost their lives in this city and two million people worldwide. Serious work is needed to address the injustice of how Covid disproportionately affects people in poverty and from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

All of the activities that we usually do to keep us well and connected have disappeared, so everyone is experiencing really tough times at the moment. Despite this, the community response has been incredibly inspiring, and AH is very proud of how TDC has been there in the background supporting our communities.

Now that we finally have falling infection rates and the vaccine rollout is going well TDC has an important role to play supporting communities to recover and reinvigorate and to help people to become even more connected in the future.

To respond to the question at the last AGM ‘What is the value of volunteering that TDC supports?’ Last year we supported an incredible 70,316 hours of community volunteering. This equates to over £1 m worth of time that all our community groups have contributed. This doubles the money that TDC receives and doubles our impact and is a remarkable tribute to the community activists and volunteers we work with.

AH reported on the work of Neighbourhood Team – delivering local community development work, the Healthy Neighbourhood Fund and our work on Ageing Well a new programme which has enabled over eleven hundred older people from deprived neighbourhoods to access support.

AH reported that TDC’s Youth Work had a very successful year. As well as running regular youth clubs in the North and East of the city we launched two major projects tackling violence and offending, and delivered many special projects, such as the graffiti wall in Whitehawk, the Skate Ramp in Moulsecoomb and the Kit Car project.

Regarding TDC’s Equalities work – we had the amazing Wellbeing Fair at the BMECP – and did a range of work supporting community led projects. Some from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities – such as the Sussex Syrian Group and the Racial Harassment Forum and other community groups across the city such as our continuing work supporting ADHD Aware and the Old Boat Centre. We also have our individual support work such as the Community Roots and Social Prescribing Plus and MESH projects which support people with English language, or health and wellbeing issues.

Regarding our work supporting people from Black Asian and minority ethnic communities - relating back to a point made in the last AGM. This year we have launched a Racial Equalities Task Group which is both looking at improving TDC’s own equalities practice and is also aimed at trying to improve community led structures in the city for people from Black Asian and minority ethnic communities.

AH explained that 2019-20 was TDC busiest ever year – with an incredibly broad range of work – but hopefully the common theme shines through. All this work is about creating a city of greater equality where all our communities can thrive.

A PowerPoint Presentation titled ‘A year in the life of TDC’ was shared. AH then paid tribute to Barry and introduced Kirsty Walker (Director of Neighbourhoods - KW) to share a new memorial initiative for Barry.

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## **6. Barry benches**

KW launched a new initiative to honour Barry Hulyer’s memory. Barry was the founder of TDC and some of us will really be missing him. He rarely said no to a coffee and a chat and this is what inspired the idea behind Barry’s benches – a ‘happy to chat’ bench where anyone can take a seat and talk. This seems particularly timely after the Covid pandemic, when lockdown is lifted, so we can start talking again. We will keep everyone updated on this initiative.

## **7. Votes for Approval of Accounts and Reports**

A vote was then held to approve the Accounts and Annual Report from financial year 19/20.

There were 28 votes for and none against.

***The Accounts and Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st March 2020 were formally approved.***

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## **8. Votes for Re-appointment of Auditors**

MP explained that auditors Kreston Reeves had been appointed after the previous AGM in 2020. From the Trustee's perspective, it was felt that they had done a good job and recommended that they were reappointed.

A vote was then held to approve the re-appointment of auditors Kreston Reeves.

There were 28 votes for and none against.

***Kreston Reeves were formally re-appointed as TDC's auditors.***

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## **9. Election of Trustees**

MP explained how 1/3 Trustees step down each year. As three had stepped down during 2020. Their resignations had meant that no other trustees now needed to step down. MP thanked all departing and serving Trustees for their contribution.

A vote was then held to approve the following Trustee nominations:

Appointment of Mike Pattinson – 27 votes affirmative.

Appointment of Shaun Kennedy – 28 votes affirmative.

Appointment of Tania Skae – 28 votes affirmative.

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## **10. Close**

MP confirmed that the formal business had been concluded. He thanked everyone for their time, support and fantastic work. He also emphasised that (hopefully) we will be back in person, in a real place, with food and entertainment in October 2021.

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### **NOTE:**

The formal AGM closed at 6:45pm.