

**Minutes of the 64th AGM of Lincoln Film Society
held on 20th October 2017 at The Venue**

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)
Paul Hancocks (PH)	Linda Hall (LH)
Helen Hancocks (HH)	Debbie Wallis (DW)
Ivor Davey (ID)	Pam Davey (PD)
Jonathan Killin (JK)	Agnes Barstow (AB)
Denis Barstow (DB)	Bob Bratley (BB)
Ray Longmore (RL)	Les Dicker (LD)
Caroline Dicker (CD)	Andrew Howard (AH)
Maurice Bingham (MB)	Cathryn Hall (CH)
Maureen Wheeldon (MW)	Richard Wheeldon (RW)
Ken Hollamby (KH)	Janice Kearns (JK)
Grahame Killey (GK)	Mikey Murray (MM)
Angela Waddell (AW)	Judith Ditlef-Nielsen (JDN)
Anne Powell (AP)	Helen Dimbleby (HD)
Roderick Ormer (RO)	Philip Stonehouse (PS)
Val Sargent (VS)	

1. Apologies

Barbara Cansfield White, Jean Matson, Paul Shovlar, Helen Shovlar, David Brook, Adriana Spencer

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

RH reported that the online survey to gauge members' interest, which had been suggested at the last AGM, had been carried out. Only 27 members responded but their feedback was very positive.

4. Chair's Report

RH thanked JK for his six years as secretary and said that he had played a big part in helping the Society to transition from paper to electronic systems. He then welcomed TB & SF as the new joint secretaries. There had been another new committee member, John Campbell, but he had resigned due to personal commitments. RH then said that HH had expressed a willingness to join, and would be doing so.

In referring to his report on the past year, RH said there were three particular topics on which the committee would welcome the views of the members, as follows:

- a) Using reserve funds to reach a wider audience. JR suggested that the Society should investigate the possibility of buying mobile projection equipment which would allow screening of films in small venues. This could increase the numbers and diversity of the Society's audience. There was a wide-ranging discussion which covered issues such as how much time would volunteers need to give, who will manage the project, insurance and storage of equipment, ongoing running costs and whether there is any call for such screenings. KH also expressed concerns about the need under Charity Commission rules to keep a certain level of funds in reserve, and RH said the committee would look into this.
- b) Introducing more flexibility in programming. RH said that, because the programme for the season is agreed in May, this means that the Society can miss out on new releases which become available later in the year. Latterly, three slots have been kept open towards the end of the season for new releases. But this does not allow the Society to take advantages of BFI initiatives, such as the recent film noir season. Nor does it give scope for an idea which had been discussed by the officers of celebrating the 65th anniversary by selecting several films shown in the past and asking members to vote for their favourite. He asked members to consider what changes might be made to the programme, or are they happy with the status quo? The discussion leaned towards spacing out the blank slots over the season, and maybe increasing the number to four to allow an 'archive' film to be shown. LD wondered whether there was any scope to show a short film with some programmes, or to have trailers of the upcoming film. Members seemed not to be in favour of trailers, and TB said that an alternative would be to embed a link to the trailer within the email sent to members flagging up the film. AB asked whether, in view of some members' hearing problems, there was any possibility of having sub-titles on English-speaking films – but again this suggestion did not find favour with members.
- c) Cinemathèque project. RH reported that there had been a very successful screening day at The Venue in July of short films made by local schools under the Cinemathèque project. The day had been attended by the Society's president, Jim Broadbent. ID said that there will be another such event on 9 July 2018, plus a four day children's film festival at The Venue the weekend before. It was agreed that interesting

children in film is a way of “catching them young” and also helps to fulfil the charitable aim of reaching out to the wider community.

For each of these topics RH invited the members, by a show of hands, to indicate approval for the committee to carry on exploring the options. The members gave their support in each case.

JK proposed that the Chair’s report be accepted. The proposal was seconded by AB and the report unanimously accepted.

5. Treasurer’s Report

JR said that there had been an improvement on last year’s performance, with a surplus of £2,587 which had been assisted by there being no need to include any depreciation of equipment. Costs are stable and the membership numbers buoyant. The cost of membership had been increased slightly and there had been an increase over the last two years in the number of temporary memberships. It had also been a successful year for the raffle, which raised £1,139 – thanks to PS & MB. The relationship with The Venue is good and there is no indication that there will be any increase to the hire costs in the near future. RH pointed out that The Venue has agreed to sponsor two films per season.

KH proposed that the financial report and accounts be accepted
The proposal was seconded by MB and they were duly accepted.

6. Election of Officers & Committee

Chair

RH was proposed by AB and seconded by VS. There were no other nominations and RH was re-elected unanimously.

Committee

RH suggested that, if they were willing to serve, the rest of the committee should be re-elected en bloc. No-one objected to this.

LD proposed the re-election of the existing committee, ID seconded the proposal and the vote to re-elect was unanimous.

7. Election of Independent Examiner

JR proposed that the current examiner, Michelle Allen of Yours for a Day, be reappointed. This was seconded by PS. Two members abstained from the vote, but the proposal was carried.

8. Any Other Business

LD said that he liked the change to receiving the feedback slips before the film. This reduced the time it took to leave after the film, but suggested it could be even more efficient if there was a collection point lower down in the auditorium as well. RH said this suggestion would be considered.

The meeting closed at 10.30pm.