

Minutes of 2016 AGM

Tuesday 25th October 2016 5.00pm – 6.00pm

Wrigley's Offices, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AG

Item

1. Welcome

An introduction and welcome to the AGM was given by Stephen Hill, the current Chair of UKCN.

2. List of attendees and apologies and clarification on voting

A list of the attendees, proxies and voting eligibility is attached below.

3. Confirmation of minutes of the previous AGM

Members approved the minutes of the last AGM.

4. 2015-16 Annual Report

Anna Kear, Director of UKCN, highlighted a number of key points from the annual report including:

- An increase in membership
- The use of the Big Lottery Accelerating Ideas Fund to improve the UKCN web presence and to better connect groups across the UK
- The recent steps to achieve charity status

Stephen Hill also outlined the political changes in the previous nine months and how those are influencing the work of UKCN including the enhanced working relationship between UKCN and other community-led housing organisations in order to propose ways in which to spend the £60m announced by the government.

Pam Flynn from MUCH referred to Charity Commission applications being a long and difficult process – the same thought was echoed by other members. Laura Moss explained that charitable status is important for UKCN because the organisation is funded by the Tudor Trust and it is difficult for this organisation to fund us while we are not a charity. Anna Kear noted that an appropriate amount of time has been dedicated to the charity commission application but it is not the only route UKCN are pursuing.

Lydia from MUCH suggested creating closer links with universities in order to share knowledge. Anna Kear explained that the new website will include a research area which will enable knowledge sharing between groups and academics. She added that UKCN do have a network of 6 universities that they have worked with on the ESRC seminar series and are open to expanding this through the website research area.

5. Presentation of audited financial accounts July 2014 – July 2015

Neil Stephens welcomed questions on the financial reports from 2014 – 15 from members who accepted the accounts and approved the use of the same accountant for a further year.

6. Confirmation of the list of current directors

Phil McGeevor, Helen Jarvis and Stephen Hill will stand down as directors in May 2017.

It was moved and seconded that the list be accepted and that Laura Moss be re-elected as co-optee.

7. Open Discussion with AGM attendees inc. requests for future events

There was a positive response from members for holding a spring gathering and groups felt that learning, training and networking were all important. MUCH offered their support and Anna Kear welcomed further offers of support and suggestions from members to organise this.

During the open discussion, James from YorSpace noted that educating councils is an ongoing problem and asked whether UKCN could organise an event that could bring together councils. Susannah from YouSpace added that she felt that evidencing social value is really important. Members of Shirle Hill in Sheffield commented that they have a positive relationship with their council. Anna Kear responded that UKCN are working with Power to Change, the GLA and DCLG in order to grow support infrastructure with local authorities and groups. She outlined the aim to work with receptive councils first to create model examples which other local authorities can then follow.

A point was raised around possible connections with the Co-op party. Anna Kear and Stephen Hill responded that it was important that UKCN is politically neutral as the cohousing concept appeals to all parties and this is advantageous. Laura Moss added that there is nothing stopping groups from connecting with politicians if they wish to.

8. AOB

No further business was raised.

UKCN AGM 2016 Attendees

First Name	Surname	Group	Votes	Vote
Paul	Redgrave	Shangrileeds		Yes
Tom	Heller	On the Brink		Yes
Pam	Flynn	MUCH		Yes
Lydia	Merryl	MUCH		
Judy	White	Bradford		Yes
Bob	Cannell	Bradford		
Susanna	Bird	Yorspace		Yes
Liz	Lewis	Lilac		Yes
James	Newton	Yorspace		
Phil	McGeevor	Cannock Mill		Yes
Bridie	Lavender	N/A		
Anna	Kear	N/A		
Stephen	Hill	Dartmouth Park		Yes
Neil	Stephens	Individual member		Yes
Laura	Moss	UKCN Co-optee		Yes
Angela	Vincent	Kent		Yes
Jackie	Carpenter	Trelay	Proxy	Yes
Dan	Dunleavy	Individual member		Yes
Chris	Coates	Lancaster		Yes
Helen	Jarvis	Co-hut	Proxy	Yes
Jez	Ince	Charity Bank (Associate)		
Laura	Smith	Lilac		
Oliver	Chamberlain	Shirle Hill		