

Minutes of the BSA AGM held on 30th November 2019
St Anne's Church, 55 Dean Street, London W1D 6AF.

Welcome: BSA Chair Tim Fell welcomed everyone to the AGM and opened the meeting.

Apologies: Jon Smith, Colin Marsh, Rob Grieve, Julia Ammon.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Proposed by Roy Tranckle and Betony Kelly, unanimously agreed.

Annual Accounts & Finance Report

James Smith talked through the 2018 accounts, touching on the recent legacy, our investment over 2019, and planned spend for 2020.

Neal Gilmore queried two items in the Annual Report: the number of Scroobius Pip's twitter followers, and the statement that we had 5 Strategic Objectives, when only 4 were listed. Jane Powell acknowledged that the twitter number was a typographical error, and that the error in numbering the strategic objectives was because one of the objectives got split ('Support more people who stammer' was split into two: 'Support more people who stammer' and 'Build community support & facilitate networks').

Neal also asked how the increase in income would be obtained, and at what point it was anticipated that the BSA would be sustainable? James indicated that this would be covered in the report on Stamma later in the meeting.

Lynne Mackie proposed that we accept the Financial Report, seconded by Neil Morjaria and carried unanimously.

Appointment of Independent Auditors

On behalf of the Board, James Smith proposed that we change our auditors to Royce Peeling Green, a Manchester company with solid experience in auditing charity accounts. The proposal to accept the change of auditors was proposed by Derek Maynard, seconded by Mandy Taylor and passed unanimously.

Stamma Report

Jane Powell presented a report on the Stamma campaign and progress to date.

In response to Neal's question earlier, she explained that the plan was for the BSA to invest £85K from our legacies each year, over the next three years, into the organisation. The BSA has asked the Big Lottery to match this investment. Additionally, we aim to increase donations to reach £80K in 2020. Long term, the BSA will seek to increase donations and fundraising from the public to reach sustainability at a higher level of operation. We aim to do so by expanding membership, encouraging greater engagement in campaigns and by persuading supporters to choose the BSA as their charity to support. If this is successful, then sustainability should be achieved by the end of the next three years.

Conference

Jane reported that next year's National Conference will be held in Sheffield on 21-23rd

August 2020. It will be called 'Stamma Fest', with the theme of 'no limits'. Mandy Taylor explained that herself, Dean, Paul, Natalie and Lynne are planning a slightly different conference next year in the light of the recent Stamma campaign. More details will follow and appear on stamma.org.

Trustee Elections

Tim formally thanked Julia Ammon for her service as Trustee over the past three years and announced that Neil Morjaria, Betony Kelly and Christine Simpson have been formally appointed to the Board. He welcomed Natalie Mortimer and Lynne Mackie as new Trustees, proposed by Abed Ahmed, seconded by Derek Maynard and carried unanimously.

Any Other business

None

The meeting was closed at 15:40.

*A copy the slides presented to the AGM can be found at stamma.org/news-features/AGM-2019