

YMCA TAUNTON
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 15th May 2018

1. Fr Julian opened the meeting with a prayer

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from, Ozzy Flowers, Paul Harper

3. Present

Nick Low(Chair), John Godley , Vicki Phillips, Clare Langley, Jackie Northcott, Fr Julian Laurence, Rev'd David Fayle (part), Antony White (part), Jane Kilty

4. In attendance

David Lovelock, Hannah Dibble, Jason Ashman, Andrew Squire,

The Board introduced themselves to the meeting and to those in attendance.

5. Election of Officers

There are no officers to elect but at the next Board meeting, Nick will stand down and seek re-election.

Antony needs to be formally appointed by the Board, as he is a co-opted member at the moment. John is awaiting instruction from Ofsted so this will need to happen at another meeting.

6. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the AGM held on 16th May 2017 had been previously circulated and were agreed and signed by the Chair.

7. Matters Arising from that meeting – None

8. Chairman's Report -

The centre continues to maximise overall use of its facilities including sporting activities such as Dance, Parkour, Gym and Football sessions. Opportunities for training and social events have also been sought thereby widening the scope of their income generating endeavours.

In September 2016 the board of trustees appointed a new part-time General Manager who has focused on establishing a robust financial budgetary process and has worked with board members on the development of a 3-year strategic plan. Setting an annual budget for income generation and expenditure has helped to identify future opportunities to raise income and maintain a focus on cost control.

Youth work, the focus of our charitable aims continues to grow. In May 2017, in partnership with other Somerset based youth providers, the association was awarded a 3-year lottery grant (£143,300). This award will help the association to focus on understanding the needs of young people in the Taunton Deane area, and to increase the services they provide to meet these needs. The appointment of a Youth Team Leader will help drive and coordinate the delivery of these extra services. In addition, the grant has enabled the association to subsidise the cost of providing a range of holiday activities which would otherwise be unaffordable for a number of the young people attending these activities. The award has also funded a business administration apprenticeship (one per year) providing multi-functional on-the-job training. This will lead to a Level 2 business administration qualification.

The board of trustees meet regularly throughout the year to review the progress of the association in meeting their charitable goals. The association is committed to attracting new board members with a range of specialities, and are actively seeking trustees with experience in Finance and HR.

I would like to thank our employees, volunteers and board members for their continual hard work and the support they have provided over the last 12 months.

Financial Review

The organisation's financial performance continues to improve in terms of income generation and cost control. Our accountants provide managers and board members with regular financial updates which are scrutinised closely during management and board meetings. Overall business turnover (including grants and donations) increased by 14,700 or 5.2%.

Improvements in turnover were achieved across all areas:

- Pre-school (T/O £149,915) increased by 6.7%
- Youth club and sports (T/O £68,720) increased by 4.6%
- Lettings and Car Park (T/O £40,717) increased by 8.0%

In addition, a focus on reducing operating costs has also meant that whilst overheads have increased, this has been kept to a manageable level (2.5% above the previous year). The net result of the associations activities therefore generated an operating surplus of £27487.

The association has clear and robust financial policies in relation to expenditure, investment management, and the security of the associations assets, which are scrutinised by outside agencies. All financial matters and policies are regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

Reserves Policy

The Board monitors reserves regularly, and are committed to building reserves up.

Future Plans

The association will continue in their efforts to increase income and manage their cash flow, whilst maximising the impact of the lottery grant on services provided to the youth and young people in

the Taunton area. A specific emphasis will be made to provide staff training which focuses on mental health and safe guarding issues. Resources will also be allocated to increase income through grant funding, and, where possible work co-operatively with other providers and YMCA's to increase the impact of each bid. The association will also continue to provide and enhance the services they offer, to support residents of all ages within the local community.

9. Approval of Accounts

Fr Julian proposed and John seconded the approval of the accounts for financial year ending 31st August 2017 with the proviso of a couple of changes; our name, removal of the Trustee from YMCA England and inclusion of thanks to our grant providers.

Clare would like to change the reserves policy so that it is more descriptive and want to make the provision sustainable to keep a year in reserve for this. Fr Julian stated that we also need to keep reserves for redundancies so we have money to pay if we reach dire circumstances.

John stated that nothing has been done with the building yet and monies are required for this.

10. Appoint independent accountants

The Board agreed to continue with Monahans for now but we may change them during the year. It was agreed that the Board can make this decision.

11. Questions

AW asked the young people attending whether there is anything we can change to improve things here. They would like more cues for the pool table, AW knows someone in Allstars so thinks he may be able to get some for the youth club. There was a suggestion for a gym on the premises.

The Board thanked the youth club members for the 24 hour jump at flip out, its great to see young people engaging and giving something back.

Clare stated that Jane has put in a lottery bid for £9,800 to undertake a community survey which can be used to build a strategy to support community needs as it will identify what people want from the centre.

12. AOB

Nick thanked David L for his work on the Board and it was agreed that we would continue to keep his DBS up to date.

Meeting closed at 7.25pm