



## **Bristol Cable Annual General Meeting 2018 - Minutes**

**Location:** Malcolm X Centre

**Date and Time:** Monday 14th May 2018, 18:30-20:30

**Number of attendees:**

**Minutes taken by:** Arvind Howarth, Cable member

Q=question

A=answer

C=clarification

- [For the full agenda see here](#)
- [All results can be found here](#)

### **Agenda item 1: Introduction, the year in review and the 2018 AGM**

*Item hosts: Izzy Tarr (Membership engagement co-ordinator) and Adam Cantwell-Corn (Media and projects co-ordinator)*

Adam introduced the Cable and the broad challenges ahead of the co-op.

Izzy introduced the format and aims of the AGM and some of the outcomes of the 2017 AGM.

### **Agenda item 2: Election of directors**

*Item host: Kat Wall (Workplace co-ordinator)*

Kat introduced the main function of the voluntary board of directors as to oversee, advise and scrutinise the co-op's activities.

Kat asked for a thank you and applause to all sitting and former board members, including Mike Jempson and Delroy Hibbert who stand down permanently at the 2018 AGM.

Delroy Hibbert, who has been a director since 2015, spoke of how watching things grow at the Cable is fantastic, not just about policy, debating big questions but guiding the growth and connections of the co-op.

Delroy is involved intimately with developing the Cable's diversity strategies.

Kat Wall then introduced the voting process: Vote for up to three candidates in a secret ballot.

Supporting documents for director's election

[Board members standing down](#)

[Current board members](#)

[Candidates for election](#)

NB: Sue Mackinnon withdrew her candidacy.

### **Agenda item 3: Editorial approach and policies**

*Item host - Lorna Stephenson (Media co-ordinator), Alon Aviram (Media and projects co-ordinator).*

Alon outlined the successes and challenges of journalism at the Cable and how members can help steer the editorial strategy of the co-op.

Lorna introduced the activities:

- Members were asked to discuss and vote whether the Cable produce more opinion pieces.
- Members were then provided with two stickers per person and asked to demonstrate their preferences placing the stickers on two of twelve statements.
- Members were then asked to discuss and write down why they chose particular preferences

### **Supporting and exercise documents:**

[Editorial exercise Item 1](#)

[Editorial exercise Item 2](#)

[Editorial exercise Item 2.B](#)

### **Agenda Item 4: Members to query, approve and direct the 2018-19 budget and vote on moving the 2019 AGM date**

*Item hosts: Isy Schultz (Finance co-ordinator) and Adam Cantwell-Corn (Media and projects co-ordinator)*

Isy presented the Cable's financial accounts for 2017/18, the Cable's current budget for 2018/19 and information on main expenditure lines and membership targets.

Members asked questions from the floor:

Q: What are you paying coords?

A(Isy). Recently gone up to living wage for coords (£8.75/h), plus scale of payment for contributors, writers

Q. Happy with what I've seen....not happy with what I haven't seen, what's the 10 year picture?

A(Isy).Business development fund, long time sustainability, community focussed, you're right we should move towards being less dependent on grants.

Q. Total income and expenditure compared to what you budgeted for - are you up or down?

A(Isy). We're up as we have spent less than expected and earned a lot more through the grant funding.

Q. What's the gender split on the membership?

A (Lucas Batt - Digital membership co-ord) We don't collect that information currently

Q. Principle of being a co-op, enabling other co-ops. Do we do that?

A(Adam Cantwell-Corn) As much as possible through procurement E.G AGM Apple juice. But mainly through working with other co-ops to replicate what we're doing, share experiences and learning eg Ferret. As there is no blueprint for co-op media, the biggest help we can give and receive is to help each other leapfrog challenges and avoid pitfalls

Q. Operating expenses going up by 130,000 in the 2018/19 budget. Why?

A(Isy) Increases in all areas that were previously unsustainably very low - staffing, higher wages, contributor payments.

### **Budget prioritisation exercise**

Adam introduced the budget exercise: There are a number of core activities and strategies that we would like to employ. However, we do not have the resources to do them all at once. Members should rank the activities in order of priority.

What do members think can help us directly and indirectly achieve our aims, both in terms of our values and financial sustainability.

### **Supporting and exercise documents**

[Cable accounts infographic 2017/18](#)

[Budget infographic 2018/19](#)

[Priorities exercise info sheet](#)

[Priorities exercise activity sheet](#)

### **Ballot on moving the AGM**

Isy presented a vote on moving the AGM to autumn 2019 in order to align with our financial reporting, but would mean the next AGM isn't for 18 months.

Q. People not that invested in when it is. Would it be more helpful for the Cable to have it in autumn

A. Yes, it would be more 'proper'

Izzy Tarr: Downside is that it would be 18 months away

A member raised that the start of year is good time to set priorities for the year ahead.

A member raised that would it be helpful to have members meeting check in instead at 12 months if the AGM is moved back.

**Result:**

**The 2019 AGM will be held in autumn 2019.**

64 In Favour

15 Against

8 Abstain

**Agenda item 5: The Bristol Cable and Facebook**

*Item host: Matty Edwards (Media co-ordinator) and Hannah Vickers (Media co-ordinator)*

Hannah and Matty introduced to what extent the Cable uses Facebook to promote and have paid-for boosting of content. The ethical issues regarding Facebook were also outlined.

How should we work with Facebook activity:

Members were asked to discuss and vote on statements that related to how the Cable should use the services offered by Facebook, bearing in mind the Cable's need to reach people through social media and the Cable's values of upholding high ethical standards.

**Supporting and activities documents**

[Facebook info and voting sheet](#)

Q. Does the social media team engage with neighbourhood partnerships?

A. Part of what we do is engage with communities, we will be looking into that.

Q. Have you done much around stakeholder mapping?

A. Yes, membership side has looked at that, hopes to do more.

## **Agenda item 6: Wrapping up**

Adam thanked all members in attendance. Candidates for election to the board were thanked and the following successful candidates were congratulated:

Yulia Kosharevska  
Roseanna Dias  
Robert Triggs

Lucas Batt spoke on behalf of the team and the membership in thanking Izzy Tarr for her contributions to the Cable as the membership engagement coordinator.

Izzy Tarr invited members to sign up to member-led activities over the summer and a raffle was called by Hannah Vickers.

**The formal agenda of the AGM then closed.**