**Minutes of the 2016 ASDC AGM**

27th September 2016

Hosted by The Royal Society

3.30 - 5.30 pm Chaired by Chas Bishop, ASDC Chair

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| **Welcome and Thanks**  |
| ASDC Chair Chas Bishop welcomed all members to the AGM, and thanked The Royal Society for hosting the conference. CB invited all delegates to ask questions.CB also thanked the ASDC trustees, CEO Dr Penny Fidler and executive team for their work over the past year.CB introduced the ASDC team. |
| **CEO’s summary of the year by Dr Penny Fidler** |
| Dr Penny Fidler thanked everyone for attending,PF introduced the ASDC team PF delivered the summary of the 2015/16 year.HighlightsAchieved 30 million for science centres6 national strategic programmes PF thanked all of the trustees The 6 National strategic programme* National Astronaut programme – Destination Space
	+ Great national spread with 20 centres
	+ 491,244 participants of which 73,174 were school children
	+ 2 training academies
	+ Space agency capital funding awarded to centres.
	+ PF passed on Tim Peake’s thanks to all centres delivering Destination Space
* The crunch
	+ 9 Centres taking part
	+ A year of activities to engage audiences with Our Food, Our Health, Our Planet
	+ Aardman game was developed and has now been nominated for an awards
	+ Aim was to engage hard to reach audiences
* EU Hypatia
	+ Inspiring Girls into science
	+ ASDC are the UK lead partner
	+ Pf invited delegate to speak to Shaaron Leverment if they which to take part
* Cimulact
	+ Citizens Dialogue on their visions for the future – to inform funding of EU Horizon 2020
* Explore Your Universe
	+ 20 centres delivering the programme
	+ Inspiring audiences with physics and engaging people with STFC innovative science
	+ Phase 3 has just been agreed
	+ Techniquest Glyndwr join the Explore Your Universe family

Other activities* Museum of the moon – developed by Luke Jerram
* In the process of 2 other national programmes yet to be confirm
* PF highlighted that ASDC main source of income is through Programmes

Lobbying* Inspiring Science
* In January it was announced that BIS and Welcome would input funds
* 14th October is the deadline for the preliminary applications
* Science communication enquiry – held. PF was on the panel
* One question asked was do we have the premise ‘ do no harm’

PF thanked everyone and asked the floor for questions. No questions were raised |
| **Approval of minutes of last AGM** |
| Terry O’Connor voted that the minutes be approvedBryan Davies (BD) seconded Minutes approved |
| **Presentation and consideration of annual accounts for 2015/16** |
| * Phil Winfield (PW) (ASDC Treasurer) presented the Treasurer's report and annual accounts 2015-16,
* PW asked everyone to look at their delegate packs for details

**Income*** Core funding – no core funding is sought by ASDC
* PW highlighted that project funding is the only way forward at present
* Subscriptions have dropped however the ASDC are working to improve membership
* Total income is 995,063

Expediture* Total expenditure £783,779
* This directly correlates to an increase in project funding

Reserves* Total reserves are £372,638
* PW highlighted that this was a year end number and some of these funds are from projects that will roll onto the following financial year
* Reserves are monitored by the board during quarterly meetings
* The main reason the reserves are high at the moment as there is project money that has yet to be spent
* The board look at the uncommitted reserves which look healthy

PW noted that the ASDC team have a lot of work to do that is not covered by core funding. The project work enable this work to take place, however it is always an area that requires attention* Full accounts are available online
* PW thanked PF and the ASDC team
* PW thanked Chris and Gill Godden
* PW thanked auditors

PW asked for any questions* BD asked about uncommitted reserves
* PW they are 20K up for 2014/15 and continues to grow
* BD asked as the reserves have grown, where do you put your reserves as interest is so low?
* Terry noted that there is a limit to when the reserves drop to 100,000 a trigger point is reached
* PW noted we are still a going concern

Anita Shaw voted the accounts should be approvedLiz Hodge seconded |
| **Thanks to Corrigan Associates. Approval to go out to tender for auditors for future years.** |
| AGM has to approve going out to tender for auditors.PW sought proposal to go out to tenderLeigh- Anne Stradeski proposed that the application for auditors should go out to tenderTerry O’Connor and Karen Davies seconded |
| **Introduction of the current Trustees** |
| Current ASDC Trustees introduced themselves to the members present Anita Shaw - TechniquestKaren Davies – Science museumLeigh-Anne- Eureka! The National Children’s MuseumBryan Davies – Cataylst Science Discovery CentreLiz Hodge – Aberdeen Science Centre |
| **Elections to the ASDC Trustee Board** |
| Each year elections are held for members to stand for the ASDC Trustee Board. The term is 3 years, and each year approximately a third of current trustees retire or stand for re-election. All those standing for election had their manifestos displayed on-line in advance and circulated to members. CB asked all delegates standing for election and re-election to present their bio to the AGM delegatesEach candidate presented their election statement.All member seeking re-election and election for the board presented to the group:* Terry O’Connor – Head of Communications, Science and Technology Facilities Council
* Scot Owen – Education Manager, Techniquest Glyndwr
* Linda Leuchars – Interim Chief Executive, Dundee Science Centre
* Adrian Lutton – Head of Exhibitions, Design and Marketing, W5

For details see online bioScott Owen , Techniquest Glyndwr– standing for re-election - reintroduced himself to the delegatesBryan nominatedTerry secondedTerry O’Connor – STFC - standing for re-election – reintroduced himself to the delegatesAnita nominatedLeigh-Anne SecondedLinda Leuchars – Dundee Science Centre– standing for election – introduced herself to the delegatesTerry O’Connor nominated – also added as acting CEO she has had to take over in difficult circumstances and brought a lot of experience to the boardScot Owen secondedPF provided a gift for LouiseAdrian Lutton – W5 – Standing for election - introduced himselfKaren Davies nominatedLiz Hodge secondedCB noted that he was extremely grateful for being chair |
| **Member Discussion: AOB** |
| CB asked the group for questionsHermione Cockburn– Dynamic Earth – Core fundingHow far has ASDC got in identifying any core funding and how likely is it?PW responded – there was a core funder of 57,000 by BIS which ended in 2009PF noted that it was relatively easy to get project funding rather than core funding. PF asked the group that if they knew any funders that may be interested in providing core funding, please let PF knowPW noted that ASDC is in a good position with funders approaching ASDC for project funding.CB noted that the current model currently works well but it is noted that is project funding does not come in it causes a concern.Terry noted that money is incredibly tight, but cautioned that is the need to demonstrate the value of present funding has allowed ASDC to showcase positivelyBryan DaviesDuring good times – should ASDC increase marketing budget too try and highlight future core funders.Should ASDC do more marketingCB recommend putting it on the agenda for the next board meetingTerry O’ConnorMembership criteria – if the market is tight should we look at mergers and acquisitions and look at other organisations to deliver a single voice. Trying to help other organisationsPF responded, as SL is now duty CEO, the ASDC contact database is being revamped and SL Is now able to look at improving new relations and extending memberships/SL noted that there are many smaller centres, and ASDC needs to address what the membership of ASDC means for themTerry noted that the AGM should extend their appreciation Penny and the ASDC team for the work that they do.Chas seconded.The formal proceedings of AGM were closed and this was followed by an informal members questions and answers session. |