

Minutes: ASDC AGM

Date: 27 Sept 2012, 2-2.45pm

Venue: The National Space Centre,
ASDC National Conference

Chaired by Dr Ian Griffin, ASDC Chairman

See attendee list below

Action
Welcome and Thanks
Chairman Ian Griffin welcomed all members to the AGM, and thanked The National Space Centre for hosting the conference. IG also thanked the ASDC trustees, Penny Fidler and executive team for their work over the past year.
Chairman's Report by Ian Griffin
IG overviewed the successes of ASDC across the year, and raised the issue that membership fees only raised about 18K per year and most of the ASDC income now comes from projects following the removal of all core funding This creates a balancing act between delivering funded projects, and delivering core activities (not funded).
Approval of minutes
Minutes from the 2011 AGM were approved as an accurate record (these are on-line) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed by Ian Simmons Seconded by Teresa Anderson
Presentation of the CEO's report by Dr Penny Fidler
Dr Penny Fidler, ASDC CEO, reported on the successes of the year, including The 'Hands-on DNA' project in partnership with 18 UK centres and funded by Wellcome Trust, including presenting the excellent evaluation results from this National Strategic Programme. PF also highlighted the new national strategic programme 'Explore Your Universe' funded by STFC in partnership with 12 centres and a host of scientists. She noted the absence of core funding, despite attempts to secure it, reiterating the comments of IG above.
Financial Report, Audit Process and Approval of Accounts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Godden (finance director) presented the annual accounts 2011-12, noting that the majority of income is from projects which ASDC bids for competitively. The membership fee brings in only 18K and this is the entire core funding contribution. Peter Trevitt (Treasurer) presented the Treasurers report: noting the fragility of finances. He thanked Chris Godden, Penny Fidler and executive team and board. Peter Trevitt recommended the 2011-12 ASDC Accounts for approval Accounts approved by members present Peter Trevitt proposed the re-appointment of Corrigan Associates as the auditors for the Independent examination. This was approved by members present
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 on-line in advance and circulated to members. The following Trustees retired (or retired since the last AGM) and were thanked by the ASDC Chair: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robin Holgate Heather Mayfield

- Goery Delacote
- Robin Hoyle

There are a maximum of 16 Trustees allowable on the ASDC Board. This year, combined with the current trustees, we had space on the board for all those standing for election, thus a vote was not held. Each candidate presented their election statement (*= in absentia). Peter Trevitt then asked Members to approve the appointment of the following Trustees:

- Ian Griffin
- Leigh-anne Stradeski*
- Anne Hunt*
- Vicky Brightman*
- Chas Bishop
- Chris Lennard
- Stephen Breslin
- Anthony Richards

Members present approved the appointment of the above Trustees

For names of Trustees centres, please see the attendee list

Membership Discussion on increasing the membership fee

- Ian Griffin: Is there an appetite to increase ASDC membership fees given the need for core activities?
- John Ellison: organisations may have a psychological barrier to higher cost
- Stephen Breslin: £475 per annum is ridiculously low
- Terry O'Connor agreed and questioned a) what would the fee be? and b) what would we do with it?
- Ian Griffin: a message from funders, 'get your act together' but difficult when all resources are funded by, and directed to, projects.
- Teresa Anderson: Budget speaks volumes – we're doing a great deal of project work, not enough core work.
- Chas Bishop: all the leadership calls are commercial and useful and justify the fee – maybe charge an extra premium for those wanting to participate? The cost would be more than is being charged now, centres will make money from the information gained.
- Terry O'Connor: we like ASDC, that's why we wanted them to partner on projects, but balance is important.
- Ian Griffin: Is it a capital issue? Should we start a capital fund? Or a campaign?
- Goery Delacote: Propose to double the fee? More time for lobbying, Not increasing sends a bad message to funders, we need to be courageous.
- Terry O'Connor: I Propose we double the fee for next year
- Peter Trevitt: snap decision not optimal and requires discussion, might need to be different, e.g. a tiered system.
- Teresa Anderson: Is there a support for doubling the fee? Then the ASDC Trustee board can discuss and decide details.
- About two-thirds of those present raised hand. None against. Remainder abstained
- Terry O'Connor proposed that trustees report back in one month with a plan.
- Ian Griffin: The next ASDC board meeting is at Dundee Science Centre on October 20 and we will be happy to discuss and agree it there.

Attendees

The AGM was open to all Conference Delegates.

A full list of attendees was not taken at the AGM

ASDC Board members and those standing for election (All Present at AGM)	Delegate
ASDC Chairman / Science Oxford	Dr Ian Griffin
At Bristol	Phil Winfield
At-Bristol	Dr Goery Delacote
Centre for Life	Ian Simmons
Eden Project	Dr John Ellison
Cambridge Science Centre	Dr Chris Lennard
Glasgow Science Centre	Dr Stephen Breslin
Glasgow Science Centre	Dr Robin Hoyle
Independent Consultant	Dr Anne Hunt
Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre	Dr Teresa Anderson
National Space Centre	Chas Bishop
Science Museum, London	Anthony Richards
Techniquist	Peter Trevitt
Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum	Dr Kenny Webster
ASDC executive (All Present at AGM)	
ASDC CEO	Dr Penny Fidler
ASDC	Bonnie Buckley
ASDC	Madelon Foard
ASDC	Dr Michaela Livingstone
Blenheim Consulting	Chris Godden
Blenheim Consulting	Gill Godden
Remaining conference delegates, a subset of whom attended the AGM	
At-Bristol	Dan Bird
At-Bristol	Rachel Murray
Boo	Bala McAlinn
Cambridge Science Centre	Gaetan Lee
Catalyst Science Discovery Centre	Phill Day
Centre for Life	Linda Conlon
CREW Training & Development	Adam Senior
Department for Business Innovation and Skills	Isabel Spence
Dundee Science Centre	Hannah Crookes
Dundee Science Centre	Linda Leuchars
Dundee Science Centre	Gemma Black
English Touring Opera	David Burgess
English Touring Opera	Tim Yealland
Eureka! The National Children's Museum	Elizabeth Smallman
European Space Agency	Fernando Doblás
GEM	Dr Nick Winterbotham
Glasgow Science Centre	Dr Gillian Lang
Ignite!	Rick Hall
Intech	Angela Ryde-Weller
Jelf Lampier Insurance Brokers	Ben Riddell
Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre	Naomi Wyles
Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre	Katy Dixon

Lakeland Trust for Natural Sciences	Dave Marsden
Lakeland Trust for Natural Sciences	Jo Marsden
LEGO Education	Matt Parkes
Magna Science Adventure Centre	Stuart Ballard
Museum of Science & Industry in Manchester	Mark Rowlands
National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement	David Owen
National Marine Aquarium	Paul Cox
National Railway Museum, York	Annie Devitt
National Science Foundation	Dennis Schatz
National Space Academy	Dr Kierann Shah
National Space Centre	Sophie Allan
National Space Centre	Anu Ojha
National Space Centre	Dr Sarah Hill
National Space Centre	Neil Shorrocks
National Space Centre	Chris Darby
National STEM Centre	Tom Lyons
Parliament	Nicky Morgan
Ray Hole architects	Ray Hole
Science Museum	Kat Nilsson
Science Oxford	Dom McDonald
Science Oxford	Bridget Holligan
SEPnet / University of Sussex	Dr Darren Baskill
SSERC	Dr Paul Beaumont
STFC	Terry O'Connor
STFC	Dr Robin Clegg
Techniquist	Dr Anita Shaw
Techniquist Glyndwr	Scot Owen
Techniquist Glyndwr	Claire Evans
Wellcome Trust	Dr Hilary Leever
Wellcome Trust	Dr Leah Holmes
Y Touring Theatre Company & One KX	Steven Byrne