



Rusthall Community Cinema
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
10th September 2021 7:30pm
at Sunnyside Hall

Attending (in person)	Alain Lewis	Irene Heskett	Rosemary Romano
	Ann McCue	John Scanlon	Sandra Blacker
	Anne Goldstein	Karen Gardner	Sarah Goddard
	Carol Mellors	Liz Goddard	Sue Deniz
	Charlie Brown	Mary Nolze	Toby Odone
	Chris Hyder	Natalie Hyder	Val Gurr
	Claire Betts	Peter Kemp	Vic Hillary
	Chris Gurr	Phil Winter	
	Eugene Gardner (scribe)	Rachel Gough	
Attending (virtually)	Barrie Stringer	Michael Lawrence	Rachel Bain
	Robert Newmarch	Sonia Lawrence	Susan Knudson
Apologies:	Gordon Becket	Hazel Duncombe	Kevin Mullery

Election of Trustees.

Retired:	Joe Mendell
Remaining:	Alain Lewis, Peter Kemp, Anne Goldstein
Re-elected:	Eugene Gardner, Irene Heskett, Karen Gardner, Kevin Mullery, Rachel Bain, Rosemary Romano

Finances.

The externally audited Accounts and Trustees' Report for year to 31st May 2021 were considered and accepted. The effect that the COVID-19 pandemic had had on turnover was noted – only six Saturday films and three (Film Society) Sunday films were screened in the year. Eugene explained that although the bank balance looked healthy, a reserve needs to be maintained to allow for replacement or repair of some expensive equipment.

Arts Council grant application

Owing to the absence of volunteers willing to assist with the per-season tasks, an application to The Arts Council was in late stages of preparation. The aim was to receive a grant sufficient to entice one or more people to undertake some of the roles.

Scheduling of per-film volunteers

The acting Scheduler (Eugene) reported a problem whereby some volunteers (frequently up to half of the 16 required to fully staff a show) were withdrawing their services after others had been 'released' to make other arrangements for the day of the film.

After a description of the current way of working some proposals were discussed

- changing the time before a screening by which proposed tasks were assigned (currently set to 7 days)
- the creation of a new role of reserve volunteer
- asking withdrawing volunteers to identify a replacement

It was decided that Eugene would invite existing volunteers (including those not at the meeting) to consider these options and suggest how we feel we would like to modify the status quo.

John wondered whether Duke of Edenborough Award candidates may be interested in helping in the knowledge that the process would be formalised on their record. Nathalie agreed to investigate this proposition.

Carol thought that West Kent College Media Studies students may be interested in helping. Karen offered to help with brochure design training. Charlie volunteered to investigate this and report back.

Irene suggested listing requests for specific roles on Nextdoor.

Goodwill films

Karen suggested that the end of the coming season was ripe for another food fest along the lines of Babette's Feast where we invite paying guests and (possibly subsidised) volunteers to eat a meal at a local restaurant themed to match a (possibly Trustees' Choice) film. This event could be linked to a fundraiser for Nourish Foodbank. The Trustees will consider this once voting for the forthcoming season of films draws to an end.

Discussion Groups

Alain wondered whether we should continue with hybrid in-hall and virtual discussion groups. It may be possible to link up with another community cinema doing the same thing at the same time. The discussion moved to contemplating another Saturday study seminar, possibly with a famous guest contributor.

There being no other business, attendees were thanked and the meeting closed at 8:30 in time for a 45 minute reel of comedy short films.