**Indepen-dance**

**Annual General Meeting Minute**

**3rd December, 2021**

**Pollokshaws Burgh Hall**

1. **Attendance**

**Chair:** Mairi Brackenridge

**Board:** Irene Tweedie, David Flavell, Susan Levy, Clare Moscardini, Eve Mutso, Nancy Lombard, Bejal Desai

**Staff:** Karen Anderson, Carly Flannery, Claire Reda, Shaun McVean

1. **Introductory Remarks**

Mairi, Chair – Welcome to our AGM. This has been a strange year but good to be back together again. The staff have been great this year, and also if you have not seen our Young1’z member Dylan has also done very well.

1. **Approval of the 2020 Minute**

Minute Approved.

1. **Financial Update**

Irene, Treasurer, provide the financial update

1. **Income**

Our income for this year is much higher than before, this has a number of reasons but primarily a large factor has been our use of the job retention scheme.

Funders have also allowed us to re-purpose their money, which was wonderful, and additionally the funders had Covid resilience funding that was made available to us and we were able to benefit from this.

As you know, our online classes were free, but we were pleased and grateful that many people continue to pay and donate. This was very much appreciated.

1. **Expenditure**

This was down as would be expected, and our total was £283,000. This left us with an unrestricted surplus of £69,000.

This was positive, as we had a large loss last year as we lost money in projects that we were unable to deliver, and so this year’s surplus have gone towards clearing away this and putting money into our reserves.

Our reserves are sitting at £125,000, and the Board are happy with this and have approved.

1. I am happy to chat to anyone about this or pass across and information.

The current year is a changing situation and things can change at short notice, but our funders and donations have continued to stay strong.

In the future, we are hoping that there will be a near normal year. Thank you very much.

1. **Approval of the External Auditor**

We require each year to have an external auditor, and this has in the past been David Carslaw, are people happy to proceed again with David?

Yes.

1. **Election of Trustees**

Trustees are all happy to continue and there is one new Board member to be approved.

Nancy Lombard is a parent of one our Young1’z, Dylan, and is also a lecturer at Glasgow Caledonian University, and will be a real asset to the Board.

Both Approved.

1. **Review of the Objectives of the Association**

There is a need to review the Objectives of the Association. We have changed a lot since we first started, and our objectives are out of date, with the last reviewal date 15 years ago.

We also need to get this to OSCAR for approval.

**Motion –** We think that the current objective doesn’t show the inclusive nature of what we do and doesn’t relate to dance specifically.

Our motion is seek the substitution of the current objective:

“**To promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of children, young people and adults particularly by encouragement of the Arts including the arts of dance, drama, music, singing, literature and visual arts**.”

*With*

“**To promote inclusive participation in the arts, specifically in the field of dance and creative movement, with the purpose of improving the social, physical and emotional well-being of participants, by providing dance and creative movement classes accessible to individuals of all ages and abilities, advancing opportunities for disabled individuals to pursue a career in dance and creative movement and seek to influence other art providers to make their activity more inclusive**.”

We think that this better embraces the ambition of what we are.

Are people happy to move forward?

Yes.

1. **Update of Our Constitution**

We would like to update our constitution, so as the it will include people with a disability becoming Board members.

We have been speaking to the Centre of Disability in Scotland, who have been developing a training program to help people get on to Boards, and we will have discussions in the year and hope that this time next year we will have some people forward for this interested joining the Board.

Approved.

1. **Artistic Director – Karen Anderson**

**Thank You**

1. Thank you for coming today. Indepen-dance is a big machine and those people we wouldn’t function without are the Board, who have been behind us and had meetings every month and they really helped see us through the pandemic.
2. Thank you to our staff, who have gone above and beyond, they have worked so hard through this. They have been creative and adaptable throughout this time, working outside, and it has been incredible to the way they pull together.

1. Thank you to you and our members and thank you for being part of the family.

**Year Ahead**

1. For this year coming we want to have a full program of classes.
2. Nancy has funding for a research project with Glasgow Caledonian University and Columbia.
3. We will have dance residencies and performances for all our performing groups, hopefully as soon as the spring time.
4. Our Gathered Together Festival will be taking place, which will have everyone performing and guests from around the world.
5. Four Go Wild in Wellies has been accepted to go out on tour with the Theatre in Schools Program and will be having an autumn tour.
6. One exciting thing that is coming up is that we will be getting a new space of our very own with a dance studio and office space, with funding to build an outdoor space too.
7. **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be this time in 2022.

1. **End of Meeting**

Mairi – Thank you very much for being part of today’s AGM.