

Suffolk's Libraries IPS

The Industrial & Provident Society Limited enabling county-wide library services supported by Suffolk County Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Title of Meeting	Suffolk's Libraries IPS Ltd. - AGM
Date	25 th September 2018
Place	The Atrium, Wherstead Park, The Street, Wherstead, Suffolk IP9 2BJ
Time	7.00pm – 8.30pm
Attendees	Directors, Members and Staff of Suffolk Libraries (for a full list of attendees, please contact Sophie Moy at sophie.moy@suffolklibraries.co.uk)
1.	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed the members, staff and other interested parties to Suffolk Libraries' sixth Annual General Meeting.</p>
2.	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Janet Gandy (Beccles Library), Jonathan Agar (Birketts), Jonathan Lindley (DCMS), Matt Hancock MP, Mark Murphy (BBC Radio Suffolk), Penny Paterson (Kedington Library), Nick Poole (CILIP), Jonathan Read (Paddy & Scotts), Rachel Corcoran (DCMS), Sandy Martin MP, Alex Wilson (Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury District Council), Lee Carvell (Babergh/Mid Suffolk District Council), Jo Churchill MP, Aidan Dunn – SCC, Giles Kerkham (Larking Gowan), Guenever Pachent (Platinum Member), Julia Price (Gt Cornard Library), John Dugmore (Suffolk Chamber of Commerce)</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes from the AGM 2017 were accepted as a true account of discussions.</p> <p>Proposed: Sylvia Knights (Bungay Library) Seconded: Sue Buck (Long Melford Library)</p>
4.	<p><u>Annual Report</u></p> <p>Tony Brown (Chair) gave a speech highlighting a number of significant achievements. This included a transition process to ensure sustainable, rationally planned work patterns, the agreement with Suffolk County Council to a fixed contract sum to cover the next 5 years and the appointment of a new Chief Executive, Bruce Leeke. Also the award of the Arts Council's prestigious National Portfolio Organisation status would ensure the promotion of creativity, particularly among young people in communities. He then went on to mention some accolades which had been earned in 2017/18.</p> <p>Bruce Leeke (Chief Executive) presented a speech where he gave thanks to the libraries partners and supporters, as well as staff and volunteers. He also spoke about constructing a platform in</p>

	<p>order to build on the good work of the past 5 years. This journey would include focusing on supporting people’s wellbeing, becoming a more self-sustaining organisation by developing additional income streams, and as a result continuing to grow and develop.</p>
5.	<p><u>Accounts 2017/18</u></p> <p>Maureen Garratt Simpson (Honorary Secretary) presented a speech detailing the aspiration for building of the reserves. She also drew attention to the contributions from the Friends Groups, thereby allowing some additional resources to be used within the libraries for refurbishment, equipment and projects. In the future it was hoped to generate more income to remain stable and to do additional projects.</p> <p>There were no questions and the accounts were accepted and approved.</p> <p>Proposed: Jonathan Ogden (Kesgrave Library) Seconded: Maureen Garrett Simson (Ipswich County Library)</p>
6.	<p><u>Appointment of Auditor</u></p> <p>The nominated members were asked to consider the appointment of Larking Gowen as the society’s auditor for the ensuing year. The appointment was agreed.</p> <p>Proposed: Sylvia Knights (Bungay Library) Seconded: Sarah Wilson (Felixstowe Library)</p>
7.	<p><u>Announcement of the election of up to two Suffolk Libraries IPS Ltd Board Members</u></p> <p>Due to the retirement cycle, Tony Brown had been required to step down from the Board and nominations sought from Suffolk Libraries membership to become Board members. The membership had been asked to vote in three Board Members but, due to there being two nominations, both nominees took a place on the Board. The successful nominees were:</p> <p>Tony Brown (Beccles Library) Sally Irvine (Aldeburgh Library)</p>
8.	<p><u>Motion: To amend Rule 58(b) of the Rules of Suffolk Libraries IPS Limited.</u></p> <p>The Chair gave an explanation as to why Rule 58(b) required amending of which the nominated members were asked to consider and vote by a show of hands. The amendment was agreed by more than 75% of the nominated members.</p>
9.	<p><u>Guest Speaker</u></p> <p>David Sheepshanks CBE, gave a very inspiring speech suggesting that Suffolk Libraries had a growing role in the community. He felt the library service not only enabled access to their</p>

	<p>facilities for people who were excluded but also combatted loneliness, transformed morale and showed what could be achieved.</p> <p>He also reminisced of his time at Ipswich Town Football Club, in particular memories, some very humorous, of the glory days of ITFC.</p>
10.	<p><u>Suffolk Libraries Volunteer Awards</u></p> <p>Sylvia Knights, the Vice Chair, explained it had been extremely difficult to choose a winner for each category as the winning volunteers had been nominated for regularly going above and beyond the call of duty as well as being hugely valuable to Suffolk Libraries.</p> <p>Winner of Young Volunteer of the Year Award: Erin Keeble (Rosehill Library) Winner of Summer Reading Challenge Volunteer: Tracy Dix (Leiston Library) Home Library Service Volunteer: Mary Joels (Rosehill Library) Friends Group Volunteer: Colin Mayes (Gainsborough Library) Library Volunteer: Marie-Anne MacKenzie (Highpoint Prison North) Overall Volunteer of the Year: Mary Joels (Rosehill Library) Special Award: Sylvia Knights (Bungay)</p>
11.	<p><u>Closing remarks</u></p> <p>The Chair thanked the members for their attendance.</p>
12.	<p><u>Suffolk Libraries – A Year in Pictures</u></p> <p>The meeting closed by looking back in pictures at Suffolk Libraries over the past year.</p>