

# Share The Vision Board meeting

Thursday, May 16th 2019, Judd Street London

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**Present:** James Bartlett (RNIB), Alex Britton (Clearvision), Mark Freeman (Stockton Libraries/Libraries Connected), Mark McCree (Chair/Blackpool Libraries), Emma Scott (Secretary/Calibre Audio Library), Nick Fuller (ASCEL), Jennifer Stewart (SLIC Fife)

**Apologies:** Claire Robe (ACE), Jemma Francis (MALD/Wales), Julie Gibson (Independent), Norma Millar (Libraries NI), Fiona Williams (Explore York, Libraries Connected), Naomi Kenny (SLIC Falkirk), Zina Sabovic (British Library), Jackie Chelin (SCONUL),

**Welcome:** Marsha Lowe (Libraries Connected), Robert Gent (Ulverscroft Foundation)

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Agenda Items	Notes	Action
<b>1. Welcome, introductions &amp; apologies for absence</b>	Jennifer Stewart was introduced as first time board attendees.	
<b>2. Notification of any other business</b>	ES asked to raise a point about CILIP's Information Professional magazine	
<b>3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MM thanked everyone for their feedback on the website proposals</li><li>• MM fed back that John Vincent's guidelines had been finalised</li><li>• MF had contacted CILIP about a representative and this will be Ayca Ilcen (PA to Nick Poole)</li><li>• Library on a shelf – Feedback from libraries is not forthcoming making evaluation difficult</li><li>• Six steps workshops – John speaking to Davinder about London session(s)</li><li>• Companies House Confirmation Statement submitted in April</li></ul>	
<b>4. Minutes of last meeting</b>	Minutes of the last meeting on 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2019 were agreed.	
<b>5. Partner Updates</b>	<p><b>ACE</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Coming to the end of consultation on 10 year strategy, aiming to relaunch July time. They have worked with several people on this including Libraries Connected.</li><li>2. Taskforce is continuing and funded until next year so looking at how to sustain what happens with it. The Public Library Skills strategy will be shared between CILIP and Libraries Connected</li><li>3. ACE funding given to CILIP for international projects</li></ol> <p><b>ASCEL</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Undergoing review of purpose, why they exist and what they should be doing. Have consultants in doing research. Looking at</li></ol>	

two options – one to join another organisation and one is becoming a charity. Currently exploring what it would take to do either option.

2. More work happening on autistic-friendly libraries
3. Looking at the Summer Reading Challenge, which this year has the theme Space Chase. Working on a theme for next year.
4. SLS UK via ASCEL has a paper with IFLA – doing work to help promote Schools Library Services. Working on impact of change and theory of change. Currently there is no data to show impact of giving books to schools so providing opportunities for them to feedback to show impact measurements.

### **Calibre**

1. Recruiting has now finished and positions filled, so busy with training new staff.

### **Clearvision**

1. Have received funding to put library catalogue online
2. Tactile book competition coming up – books designed to be explored by touch. Have been working with library group from CILIP to organise workshops round the country to encourage people to do this. Disseminating info about this through Carnegie/Greenaway. Want to add books in Greenaway list to Clearvision library.

### **Libraries Connected**

1. Working with ACE on putting money back into regional library support to help out. Looking at things like stock management/stock transfers, want advocacy in each region. Undergoing consultancy to gain info of what might be best in terms of regional support and who best placed to advocate. Looking at different models and funding to implement any ideas that come out of it. Universal Offers review runs alongside this to bring consistency across the country. Next step is to sit with The Combined Regions (TCR) and National Acquisitions Group (NAG) and look at core values, ILL systems, archiving and storage.
2. Universal Offers review – document should be ready for Libraries Connected seminar in June. Worked with Shared Intelligence and had controlled workshop sessions which generated useful ideas. The result aims to be an easier framework which takes the main points in the universal offers and Taskforce document forward.

### **RNIB**

1. New Chief Executive appointed – Matt Stringer
2. Working on new online registration form and first drafts looking good. Interested in working with libraries who send in forms – the forms will enable the public to register and professionals can set up an account online and have the ability to see who they have registered.
3. World Book Day books were provided in braille and audio, around 750 copies were sent out.
4. The Orbit 2.0 braille reader is available – users like the fact that they can search for a word. Some older archive braille have errors so discussing whether to rectify the mistakes or not.
5. Still working on developing a new digital platform for delivering audio and braille books.

6. Lego Braille bricks being piloted – possible thought to use with MANIL next year along with tactile book making workshops and 3D printing.
7. Several Talking Book repair volunteers at the RNIB who have completed 50 years volunteering are going to the Queens garden party at Buckingham Palace.

#### SLIC

1. Public Library Strategy (Scottish Reading Strategy) is being refreshed. Three groups were formed and should be 12 representatives from each authority but it has been difficult to get going. Recommendations have just been released. Part of the reading strategy is to encourage all libraries to be involved in the 6 steps.

#### 6. Ulverscroft Foundation discussion

MM welcomed Robert Gent, chair of Ulverscroft to the meeting

**Background re. Ulverscroft Foundation** – Fred Thorpe set up the Foundation in 1973 to use funds from the company to help those with visual impairments/sight loss. The Foundation has since purchased all the shares in the company so they now own it. They are a grant making trust to charitable organisations and have a group of trustees among which all relevant skills are represented including accountancy, libraries, cultural and opticians.

They have two large funding programmes which cover the UK and overseas and small ones up to £10,000 again for UK and overseas projects. In the last four years they have funded the chair in global eye health in Belfast and given money to a unit in Leicester to develop a portable device that can take pictures of the back of infants eyes. Also given money to University of Newcastle to research a project into use of collagenase - a clinically approved drug – and testing its efficiency on corneal burns. Clinical trials will be done in India and if it works it could be in use across the world.

Other beneficiaries have included:

- Kenyan Albino Child Support – run a few schools across the country, given money to replace a library.
- Penine Bowling Club for the blind – received funding so they could transport members to tournaments.
- Vocal eyes – given funding to develop new audio description training programme
- Listening books – given funding to help make membership free to those who couldn't afford it.
- Deaf Blind UK – given money for a sensory garden

Historically Ulverscroft also gave Share the Vision funding for start up costs.

There are two rules for funding – organisations have to wait 18 months between bids for funding and the money is not to fund general admin costs like salaries etc. They don't support libraries where the local authorities have divested itself of its statutory responsibility.

**Future Projects** – Ulverscroft are looking to support libraries and also looking at ways that a strategic partnership could work with Share the Vision that will enable Ulverscroft to enhance the libraries offer for

people with visual impairments. E.g Six Steps, Library on a Shelf and Universal Offers.

Partnership would have to be time-limited, but ideas for future could be training library staff to help them understand the needs of people experiencing sight loss and improving accessibility of services to customers. Also signposting the needs in libraries and highlighting what services they have to help people. Need to convey a package of what STV would be interested in over the next few years – RG happy to participate in buiding this.

**ALL** to start to consider how we can shape up a joint STV/ Ulverscroft Foundation programme

## 7. Website review update

MM welcomed Marsha Lowe to the meeting.

### Website Update:

- Deb Ryan (works for Rochdale Public libraries) has been appointed to do the audit of the website and is reviewing what content to keep/discard
- Appointed Ech to do the website build
- Marsha is project co-ordinating and doing things round branding. Building of the website has started.
- Hoping to launch at end of MANIL fortnight
- The website will be a word press build making it easier to cut and paste articles and text. The web developers will do accessibility audits on the site.
- ML is asking libraries if she can come and take pictures for the website, targeting visually impaired book groups that meet there.
- AB raised a consideration that there were no images of children on the site.
- DR had raised a point that there was no reading sub section on the site and did we want one as it currently sits in accessible libraries.
- RNIB, Calibre and Clearvision to send links to their online joining forms for new website

**ML, ALL** to try and source some appropriate images (with permissions)

### Comments:

- New guidelines from John Vincent should be on there.
- Discussion around Your Reading Choices and Ways of Reading Leaflets and if they could be updated and added.
- Agreed that six steps should sit on Libraries connected and Reading Sight sites.
- Discussion around contact us tab and where those communications should be directed to.
- Reading technologies section needs a regular review of new technologies –should we employ someone to do this. JB to ask at RNIB.

**MM, ML  
ML, JB**

**MM, ML**

**JB**

## 8. Current/ emerging projects

**Reading Friends** – The Share the Vision resource has been finalised and they are looking to launch in MANIL. Point raised that Ulverscroft funding could be used for specific Reading Friends related projects for the visually impaired.

## 9. Other Updates

### Right to Read:

AB reported that there has been no notification of a next meeting date for Right to Read but had received correspondence from Richard Orme to discuss its future and relevancy.

**JB, AB, ES**

Disussion held around who was now lobbying on relevant issues and conversation was had around the difficulty in forming relationships with

publishers to gain access to their audio content and the disadvantage this creates for the VI community. Suggestion raised about whether this was something that Share the Vision could help with.

**IFLA:**

MF went to Helsinki in March for the Marrakesh seminar

**10. Finance/  
budget report**

MF – A £136 cheque was returned but has now been sent out again  
27,000 spent for first elements of the website with the first payment  
also to Ech

**11. Board  
Admin**

A discussion was had around changing the registered address of STV to  
the Libraries Connected address for all correspondence to go to.

**MF**

Up to date contacts list to be sent out for contribution letters.

**MF MM JG**

MF to look into online banking access for MM.

**MF MM**

**Succession Planning:**

Jennifer Stewart was welcomed onto the board of Share the Vision:  
proposed by Mark Freeman, seconded by Alex Britton. ES to update  
Charities Commission and Companies House.

**ES**

Julie Gibson is to step down from the board but stay on as an observer –  
MM thanked Julie for her contribution and time on the board. ES to  
update Charities Commission and Companies House.

**ES**

**12. Comms**

Website:

- Look at how we add social media onto site
- Discussion on mission statement/values, do we need it or not?  
MM to write a sentence for mission statement and send to  
everyone for comment.
- Promotion needed when new site goes live – infographics on  
Twitter etc.
- Need to work out a programme for someone to take up web  
editing and create guidelines e.g how many tweets a week,  
regularity of events, featured articles.
- Further actions regarding the website will be electronic as  
decisions will need to be made before the next meeting.

**MM**

**13. A.O.B**

ES asked about possibly submitting articles about STV activities/MANIL  
etc to CILIPs Information Professional magazine as it could possibly be a  
good platform for promotion and raising STV's profile.

**14. Next  
Meetings**

- September 19<sup>th</sup>
- December 5<sup>th</sup> (AGM)
- February 20<sup>th</sup> (2020)
- May 14<sup>th</sup> (2020) provisionally agreed

All to be held at RNIB Judd Street unless otherwise informed.

