

# Share The Vision Board meeting

Thursday, September 27th 2018, Judd Street London

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**Present:** James Bartlett (RNIB), Alex Britton (Clearvision), Mark Freeman (Chair), Mark McCree (Secretary), Zina Sabovic (British Library), Emma Scott (Calibre), Mark Taylor (CILIP),

**Apologies:** Jackie Chelin (SCONUL), Jemma Francis (MALD/Wales), Julie Gibson (Independent), Anna Miller (ASCEL), Norma Millar (Northern Ireland), Fiona Williams (York, Society of Chief Librarians)

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Agenda Items	Notes	Action
<b>1. Welcome, introductions &amp; apologies for absence</b>	<p>MF welcomed all to the Board meeting and gave apologies for those unable to attend (see above).</p> <p>As we had a new attendee, MF gave a brief overview of the history and functions of the organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- STV has been operating since 1985</li><li>- Company limited by guarantee and a charity</li><li>- UK-wide, cross-sector organisation (covering public, British Library, Wales and NI observers, ACE observer, CILIP, SCONUL/Academic, RNIB, Calibre, Clearvision) did include ASCEL but not of late, and meant to include SLIC too</li><li>- Meet four times a year; AGM in December, which features elections, annual report, and annual finance/accounts</li><li>- Initially a campaigning group led by National Library for the Blind (then RNIB)</li><li>- Not as active as we once were due to capacity issues; need to become more innovative in our approach – looking at funding bids, more externally-delivered/produced content and activity.</li></ul>	
<b>2. Notification of any other business</b>	<p>JB requested that we made time to discuss the Summer Reading Challenge, having been contacted by The Reading Agency regarding this matter.</p>	
<b>3. Minutes of last meeting</b>	<p>Minutes of the last meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were agreed.</p> <p>In terms of matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. We still have not found an ASCEL or Scottish/SLIC representative as yet</li><li>2. ZS of British Library to be formally added to the Board (MF proposed, AB seconded); and JB now confirmed as a Board Member, so need to ensure that all the correct documentation has been completed</li><li>3. JC SCONUL article completed</li><li>4. Social media has been taken on by RNIB – thank you!</li><li>5. ES will be attending LACA, not had a meeting as yet</li><li>6. Workplan: Hasn't been updated recently – Board need to consider different way of approaching this</li></ol>	<p>3.1 <b>MF</b> to contact Anna Miller to check in on ASCEL attendance and speak to SLIC about Scottish representation (Oct 2018)</p> <p>3.2 <b>MM</b> to add ZS to the STV records and check/provide documentation for ZS, JB and FW (Oct 2018)</p> <p>3.6 <b>MF/All</b> to consider</p>

## 4. Public Libraries

### 1. Libraries Connected

Libraries Connected up and running – full team now in place; has been a complex transition from SCL to Sector Supported-status organisation, finances and governance-wise, especially.

Taskforce has a new Chair, Prof Stephen Broomhead, CX Warrington.

Looking to work through business plan, but at the same time not miss out on any funding opportunities.

Have been reviewing Assisted Digital partnerships.

Talking to ACE about support for sector around the spending review; and the re-establishment of a regional support network.

Working on the skills strategy with CILIP; another Leadership programme is planned.

Exploring possible accreditation for libraries too; given the 'flexible' attitude to/interpretation of the 1964 Act.

Needing/trying to facilitate a more unified voice to advocate and discuss libraries with government and others. Trying to support Wales (still SCL Wales) and NI (whilst acknowledging that LC funding comes through ACE); and due to speak to SLIC too.

### 2. Universal Offers

Consultants are in the process of being appointed to carry out review of the UO and regional engagement is planned. Will cover 6 offers and 2 promises (Six Steps and Childrens) Should be completed by April (to feature at seminar in June).

### 3. Six Steps

1. MM attended the LC Advisory Group meeting in London last week. Covered updates on all recent activity across the UOs/Promises/Regions; and discussed review of UOs and AGM theme. Neil MacInnes sits on this Group as past President.

2. Training / Workshops: The training module on Learning Pool has been reviewed and updated. ZS asked if possible to arrange for a basic refresher for BL staff. Need to consider Scottish workshop roll out too.

3. Guidelines: JV has updated the guidelines that were produced earlier in the year, initially focussed on community-led service provision. The guidelines have been 'road-tested' with group in North Yorks. MM raised versatility of guidelines re. for wider use outside of community-led libraries and it was agreed that they should be broadened out so that they will apply to all.

4. Sign up: MF has emailed out to 'Champions' to check/update contacts.

4.3.2 **MF/All** to consider as part of forward planning

4.3.3 **MF** forward on updated versions (Oct 2018) **All** to review and provide feedback

## 5. RNIB

Have upgraded LMS to Vsmart Air; and a further update is due and cloud storage of audio content is still planned.

Working intensely on the new online (audio) platform (TKBs and newsagent).

Orbit Reader 20 launch in October – refreshable braille display machine. Orbits will retail at £200 and working hard on the content that will be available through this device. Aspiration is that people will be able to self-serve. Looking to give away a number of these to young people in education. Looking to recruit a ‘digital transformation’ officer post to work around all of this.

**JB** to talk to AB about the dissemination via schools

Book selection still work in progress (re. customer involvement) and updated registration form is still in development too.

RNIB just started to sell a low-cost CD player (tactile, will play DAISY).

RNIB re-brand has launched.

Marrakesh Treaty – UK looking at ratification after Brexit. IFLA March 2019 is due to have a special session on Marrakesh (Libraries for print-disabilities).

**ES** to explore via LACA

DAISY Board meeting at RNIB, London in October (Richard Orme, Chair).

## **6. Library on a Shelf**

Awaiting evaluation report from pilot phase before considering next steps.

**MM** to chase JG on evaluation report (Oct 2018)

## **7. ACE**

Taskforce transitioning from DCMS to AC, will be completed by March 2019, will still be a Memorandum of Understanding in place between DCMS and AC. DCMS will still retain access to Minister(s) but most roles will move across.

Commissioned a Higher Education report into work between HE and PLs, Katie Peckacar, due late autumn publication.

**CR** to send on to MF/All

DCMS are putting together a LoFE celebration event in November.

Single Digital Presence: AC funding this with Carnegie, CR liaising with BL around this. Consulted with Public Libraries, and speaking to publishers and tech companies to see how it could work.

Also trying to create/convene a stronger, singular presence e.g. around comprehensive spending review discussions.

## **8. British Library**

Single Digital Presence progressing well – looking internationally for models of practice/ideas (e.g. One Card in S.Australia, offers an interesting model). Report due in March/April 2019.

MM raised a concern around accessible content and how will it be reached (lots of legacy systems).

**MM** to speak to Liz White around this (Oct 2018)

Prof Dame Carol Black new Chairperson (Public Health background); New Chief Librarian, Liz Jolly; and have new members of their advisory committee.

Signage working group looking at the accessibility of building.

Business and IP Centre have had a successful start-up day a couple of weeks ago.

BL are looking to develop an open access repository service, available to smaller organisations (all digital content and metadata).

New exhibition 'Anglo Saxon kingdoms' opens soon.

## 9. Projects

**1. Reading Friends** - ES had to send her apols for the last meeting, and will forward the meeting notes when available.

**ES** to share notes of meeting when available

Still in pilot phase, looking to extend/push out wider. Tackling social isolation and loneliness. At next meeting having a showcase element from partners.

Film launch on 30/10/18.

Looking for a grant from BLF to help develop the programme (to take into Prisons, extend inter-generational element).

STV has provided an endorsement towards the bid.

**ES** to share with full Committee.  
**ES** to share her contact details with **MM** to liaise around that (Oct, Nov 2018)

TRA, Alison Blaxland, will be coming to the Dec meeting to share their planning with us (will circulate guidance/fact sheet for VI people prior to the meeting, by 19<sup>th</sup> Nov). Could explore a shared project with them.

**2. IFLA** - Positive experience despite background issues around human rights. MF found it to be friendly and organised. Conference was very interesting and with a diverse and complex programme. MF attended European caucus; hadn't had one previously – c.250 people attended; picked up on what's going on across the continent (e.g. Public Libraries 2020). Malaysian libraries are booming, massive capital development programme.

MF attended/delivered a session around accessible libraries, with a focus on design. Covered universal design principles; CELIA (Finland) MF spoke about the practical delivery best practice across the UK e.g. Yarm, Great Sankey library Warrington, and Childrens Library in Chelmsford, maker space in dementia friendly planning across Glasgow libraries – where accessibility has been to the fore – lots of positive feedback.– all presentations are available on the Congress.

Attended session on Libraries of sanctuary and a fashion show (focused on what you wear and what it says about you/your service and to customers) – prompted to make people think about barriers to access!

Public Library Standing Committee session – focussed on Public libraries mgt/performance information e.g. an outcomes-based system (ALA project) (should be able Conference website). Public library of the year – featured some UK entries this year; shortlist of 5, and the winner was a Netherlands library, based around an old school.

**MF** to send on details

Next year Athens; and then 2020 Auckland!

<b>10. Right to Read Alliance</b>	AB couldn't make the last meeting but will share the minutes when available; likely to focus on Marrakesh.	<b>AB</b> to share notes of meeting when available
<b>11. Communications</b>	<p><b>1. Website/Reading Sight development</b> - MF has spoken to Marsha (Libraries Connected) about updating our site; she needs to know what we want to do. Too small a deal to have to undertake a tender exercise. Will look to convene at the first meeting in 2019 and workshop it.</p> <p>IT Teachers – website has been updated MF to update Board Membership details.</p> <p><b>2. Social media</b> – Many thanks to RNIB for taking this on!</p> <p><b>3. Bulletin</b> - David is still doing this; have changed the format to make it more accessible.</p> <p><b>4. MANIL 2019</b> – MM raised issue of confusion around this at the Libraries Connected Advisory Group. Looking to hold over for next year (i.e. not make wholesale changes, and repeat 'as was' with a view to integrating into the UO review. Key issue around whether RNIB wishes to retain ownership?</p> <p>MF shared feedback from Julie Duffy from Portsmouth – feedback that a change has happened now, and MANIL is about awareness and championing, highlighting...</p>	<p><b>MF</b> to talk to Marsha about this and all to discuss at first meeting of 2019</p> <p><b>JB</b> to share electronically KWs paper for <b>All</b> to consider internally</p>
<b>12. Finance</b>	<p>MF, MM to work on banking mandate and signatories.</p> <p>Healthy balance; 16k donations have come in. Haven't received anything from the SW Consortium as yet (wanted to take it out of their SWRLs subscription but...). MF to speak to regional chair of Libraries Connected about this and may need to shift to individual auths.</p> <p>Expenditure have been mostly focussed on bulletins.</p> <p>Cleared the IFLA balance (hopefully accountant will be OK around this!)</p> <p>MF went through the financial report and it was accepted by the Board. The annual accounts are in hand and MF will present at the AGM in December.</p>	<p><b>MF, MM</b> ongoing</p> <p><b>MF</b> Oct 2018</p> <p><b>MF</b> Dec 2018</p>
<b>13. Board Admin</b>	<p>MM offered to take on Chair position from December with the understanding that the Board as a whole will be open about capacity; STV's scope of works; and our approach; and most of all, patient and understanding!</p> <p>MM will no longer be able to operate as Company Secretary, and it is a critical position for organisation re. annual returns (Jan/Feb), update Board membership details etc. ES kindly offered to take on Secretary (with guidance from previous Chair and Secretary; and the previous offer and agreement that JG would be able to provide extra administrative support).</p>	<p><b>MM</b> and <b>MF</b> to meet up prior to Dec 2018 to go through handover discussion – MF to identify potential dates ASAP</p>

With regard to the organisation's finances; it was agreed that the Treasurer element would be separated off to MF.

#### **14. Any Other Business**

**1. Summer Reading Challenge** - JB has been speaking to TRA about future of the Summer Reading Challenge and how it can be delivered in order to be accessible for all, especially around digital element. Very physical engagement at present (visit library, get stickers) etc.

TRA concerned that people go to specialist schools far from home and over summer miss out on reading. AB noted that Clearvision put their collections into public library; and RNIB send books out to the local library – so people can access services/books together.

Might be able to harness social media to make those connections; could use shared profiles – Libraries Connected, STV partners etc. perhaps develop an Memorandum of Understanding out around this; to achieve co-ordination?

Attendees expressed the importance of having a tactile prize – medal, wrist band.

**JB** to respond to TRA

#### **15. Next Meetings**

##### **AGM Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

MM raised a query as to how many meetings per year were needed.

**MF** to review articles and feedback

Meeting dates for 2019 were agreed:

- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> (invite Norma from NI, Welsh SCL)
- May 16<sup>th</sup>
- Sept 19<sup>th</sup>
- Dec 5<sup>th</sup> (AGM)

**JB** to book dates in the RNIB Judd Street diary ASAP