

# Friends of Stirchley Library

## Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 5pm-6pm

<b>Present:</b>	20, including Chair, Secretary, and members of the FOSL Committee and Stirchley Library staff
<b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b>	
Apologies received from Mark Summerfield (Treasurer). TS welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
<b>2. Minutes from the previous meeting</b>	
An online meeting was held on 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020 but unfortunately no minutes are available.	
<b>3. Reflections from the Chair of Friends of Stirchley Library</b>	
<p>TS reported that FOSL's Volunteer Coordinator had moved into a full-time position elsewhere after the Covid pandemic. She explained that the committee had been slow to organise FOSL activity and re-build the volunteer network following the pandemic due to limited capacity of existing committee members.</p> <p>TS reported that she had taken on management of volunteers following the departure of the Volunteer Coordinator, and that volunteers had been covering Tuesday lunchtimes and welcome mornings on Thursdays within the library. She noted that Lego Club was back up and running, with reduced capacity. She explained that FOSL would like volunteers to cover Thursday lunchtimes, and maybe even Fridays, but haven't currently got the capacity to manage this.</p> <p>TS formally welcomed NA and SB from Stirchley Art Room, who have joined the FOSL committee. She explained that FOSL were extremely fortunate to have a strong partnership with Stirchley Art Room, in addition to existing strong links with Stirchley History Group and Kings Heath Action for Refugees. She shared that Stirchley Art Room has kindly offered to write a funding bid to the National Lottery on FOSL's behalf which would fund a new Volunteer Coordinator.</p> <p>TS reported that, in the meantime whilst a funding bid was to be developed and submitted, BS (who currently maintains the FOSL website) will take on additional duties relating to volunteers. TS formally thanked BS for taking on these additional responsibilities.</p> <p>TS reported that building work had continued upstairs within the library building, making it a safe and useable space for staff members.</p>	
<b>4. Treasurers Report</b>	
TS presented the Treasurers Report which covers the period from December 16 <sup>th</sup> 2020 to 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2023.	
<b>5. Social Media update</b>	
TS explained that, whilst FOSL have a number of social media accounts, they were previously predominately managed by the Volunteer Coordinator. It is hoped that a new Volunteer Coordinator would take on responsibility in this area.	

TS encouraged those who wished to receive future FOSL newsletters to add their details to the sign-up sheet circulated at the meeting.

#### **6. Volunteers update**

BS explained that she is in the process of establishing a new way for volunteers to sign up for volunteer shifts within the library, utilising a rota management tool called 'Three Rings' which is specifically designed for volunteer organisations. This software currently comes at no cost to FOSL.

She noted that a sign-up sheet would be available at the AGM for those interested in becoming a volunteer, and that a sign-up form would also be available on the FOSL website.

#### **7. Officer elections**

The following officers were elected for the upcoming year:

Theresa Summerfield – Chair

Mark Summerfield – Treasurer

Adam Collins – Secretary

Becky Shales – Website and interim Volunteer Co-ordinator

Sarah Barton – Officer without portfolio

Nicki Allen – Officer without portfolio

Sarah Barton – Officer without portfolio

Jessie Cape – Officer without portfolio

#### **8. A.O.B**

SB shared some of the positive statistics she had received from library staff that demonstrated the positive impact FOSL had made prior to the pandemic (comparing April 2018 – March 2019 with April 2019 – February 2020). These included:

- More people visiting the library – in 2019/20 visit counts were up by 50%
- There were more library loans in 2019/20, with issue figures up 16% from the previous year
- During 2019 the library was able to hold twice as many Summer Reading Challenge activities, and over twice the number of children attended
- In 2019/20 the library held 30% more activities for adults, with a 57% increase in adults attending
- In 2019/20 the library held 30% more family activities than the previous year, with a 74% increase in children attending these events

She explained that this data would feed into the National Lottery bid for a new Volunteer Coordinator.