

# BRISTOL FILM & VIDEO SOCIETY MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

The meeting was held on Tuesday 20th February 2018 at The Pavilion, Elm Park, Filton, South Gloucestershire commencing at 7.35 pm

Tim Smart as Chairman opened the meeting and gave a welcoming address.

**Apologies for absence:** received from Steve & Jane Andrews, John & Sue Cockwell

**2017 AGM Minutes:** The minutes from the previous year were approved.

**The Chairman's Annual Report:** The Chairman presented his report of the club's activities as follows:

**March:** Featured a day long 'bullet time' green screen filming session. The club was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Glos Interclub competition with 'Kabul Sunset'. IAC – 2 films won 3 and 4 stars. Gordon & Bob won prizes. Bob won 2 prizes in the Spring competition.

**April:** The club issued a challenge in the form of a contemporary remake of Bob's film 'Pursuit'. Two teams of BFVS members took up the challenge. 5 club members entered the Frome 5 Minute Competition. The Burriss Cup reappeared.

**May:** Saw a temporary relocation to the party room elsewhere in the complex.

**June:** Filming commenced on the 2 updated versions of Pursuit.

**July:** A green screen filming session took place.

**August:** The filming in the club room of 'Count to 3' short film.

**September:** The club had 4 films screened in the Portobello film competition.

**October:** An expert on 360 degree filming gave a talk and following filming in the club room he made a short 360 degree film which is now on the club website. Diana won the Teign Cup with her film 'Man engine'.

**November:** A club first as the Annual Competition was judged by Skype link from Tasmania by former member Stewart Mackay.

**December:** In recognition for his remote completion judging Stewart Mackay was awarded Life membership of the club. A hands on green screen filming session was arranged using remote controlled cars in homage to the Italian Job.

**January 2018:** The year started with a hands on filming evening of a short vampire film in the club room.

All this recognition and activity is great for the club and reflects the hard work and dedication involved. The Chairman also reminded members of the need for further volunteers to assist the Committee with the programme and activities. He advised that the current archivist Caroline is standing down and a replacement is sought.

He also mentioned that the club's website is now 21 years old and thanked Mike George for his tireless efforts. He also reminded members that the club has a Facebook page and its run by Sue Cockwell.

**Finances:** The Society Treasurer presented his report as follows:

'I'll start with my usual opener that 'You've all had a chance to look over the Statement of Accounts'. The format is the same as usual, so I hope you have had no problems in finding your way around it.

As you know, I try to ensure that our income covers our costs for the year, and hope to have a little bit in hand. As you can see, we haven't made it this year despite there being a very welcome small increase in our membership numbers and subsequent income. Also you will recall that we introduced the small charge for refreshments last year, and this has turned a loss of £47 into a profit of almost £80. This is the second year in succession that we have spent more than we earned, although this is better than last. You can see that we spent some £160 more than we took in, compared to around £350 in 2016. Furthermore, you can argue that since £110 of that expenditure was on productions, which in effect come from a separate pocket, we are short by some £50. However I would like to be able to go back into the black if possible.

However, there is a problem looming on the horizon. As we know the Pavilion underwent a substantial refit this year and consequently the Council have dramatically increased the hire rate. However I have had a couple of bills since the refurbishment and it appears that the new charges have not yet been fully implemented. Clearly I don't know for how long this will continue but I have to make preparations to cover ourselves when they do. Various options have been considered, changing the venue is the obvious choice and we've looked at a few but generally speaking these are either a similar rate or higher or have drawbacks. So I have to announce that the Committee have reluctantly decided that we should increase the subscription rate. This will be the first increase since 2014 so we haven't done badly. We are therefore recommending that the subscription be raised to £45. So we will need to discuss and vote on that in a moment. I should point out that without an increase in membership numbers even this rate could result in a shortfall so I cannot stress enough the importance of redoubling our efforts to attract new members.

Now the situation isn't entirely all doom and gloom as we have a considerable cushion with a healthy bank balance built up over the years, but we can't keep dipping into that year after year without some remedial action.

As always, if you have any queries about items on the Statement I will do my best to answer them now.

Thank you for your attention, and of course I will remind you that the new membership year starts as of tonight, so I will be more than happy to start collecting your subscriptions during the FREE coffee break'.

The Treasurer noted in the subsequent debate that this is the second year that the club spent more than it earned and he is keen to reverse the trend. Given the income which is now all from membership subs, he sees no choice but to increase the membership subscriptions from £35 to £45 per annum. This is despite the financial contribution which charging for refreshments is making.

The meeting duly voted on the motion to increase the membership subscription to £45 pa. It was passed by a majority of those voting.

**Comments:** The Treasurer advised that the Super 8 Projector was to be added to the list of club assets. He confirmed that payment of subscriptions can be made by Direct Debit.

**Election of Committee Members:** The Chairman advised the meeting that following had been nominated and seconded for the Committee. The Chairman noted that Caroline Heatlie was standing down as she was working elsewhere in the country.

Tim Smart  
Graham Egarr  
Sue Cockwell  
John Cockwell  
Dave Mitchell  
David Price  
Neal Tucker

The Chairman confirmed that there had been no other nominations for the Committee and called on the members to approve the election of the above named nominees to serve as Committee members for the year.

This was approved by a majority of the members voting.

The Chairman asked for one of the members to volunteer to assist Dave Mitchell. Julian did but not as a Committee role.

**Close:** The Chairman officially closed the meeting at 8.25 pm.