

**Minutes of the 31st Annual General held at Thames Tower in  
Reading on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**  
Commencing 8:00pm

**In the Chair:**

Dave Ormrod

**Chairpersons' Welcome:**

Dave Ormrod opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

**Attended and Apologies:**

See list attached.

**Minutes of last AGM:**

Minutes of the AGM held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were agreed as a true record, and were duly signed by the Chair.

**Chairperson's Report:**

The Chair presented his report and key points highlighted were:

- Fundraising in 2018/19 has been challenging.
- Central team staffing has been challenging, roles and responsibilities have been changed and there have been periods of time without all positions being filled. The Reading Centre has also experienced a lack of staff, though this is improving.
- Main Successes: There has been an overall increase in services provided and outreach by Family Support Workers is spreading knowledge of Dingley's Promise to those we haven't normally reached.
  - 12% increase in Learn Through Play Sessions provided
  - 50% more family trips
  - 13% increase in Play-schemes
  - 3 x as many coffee mornings were held to support parents/carers
  - 72% of children transitioned into the mainstream.
  - Dingley's Promise has promoted wider inclusion through more shared provision and the use of new entry and exit criteria.
- Dingley's Promise has increased its national influence through linking with the Disabled Children's Partnership, having the training offer accredited by Nasen and being approached by local authorities to implement our model.



- Training Offer:
  - 34 have completed the course so far.
  - The course has been accredited by Nasen.
  - Dingley's Promise has partnered with Action for Children to deliver training to Action for Children nurseries in the North East of England
  - Independent research from the University found that our training is helping settings to double their capacity for children with SEND. So far our training has unlocked 112 new places for children with SEND within mainstream settings.
- The Future: Dingley's Promise will improve its focus on inclusion, continue seeking ways to better support children and families, keep approaching local authorities to offer advice, and try to stay connected with the families that leave us, perhaps through a Dingley Alumni programme.

### **Treasurer's Report and adoption of the latest set of accounts:**

The full set of 2018/19 accounts can be seen on the Dingley's Promise website, the Charity Commission, and printed versions were available at the meeting. Accounts are examined externally.

Ian Mackinder, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report and explained that there had been a 15% increase in spending from the previous year. This was due to 11% increase in spending on salaries (including employment of new staff, increases in pension scheme contributions, and a commitment to paying a living wage), an increase in building costs (Reading boiler), an increase in operations costs (gas, electric and IT), and a small increase in fundraising spending. There was little change in equipment spending.

Income rose by 10%. Earned income doubled and the nursery grant increased. Dingley's Promise is securing more longer term grants and grant income increased by 12%. Income from donations was more disappointing. The overall position for 2018/29 was thus a deficit of £31,000.

End of year financial position (March 2019):

- Net assets: The amount needed is reduced as the valuation of the West Berkshire building decreases
- Reserves: Costs needed have increased slightly
- Restricted Funding: Decreased
- Unrestricted/Undesignated Funds: Due to the deficit this has decreased.

Steve Allen proposed adopting the accounts. This was seconded by Helen Hart. The accounts were therefore adopted.

### **Re-election of Directors:**

Ian Mackinder was the only director up for re-election but announced he would be stepping down as Trustee and Treasurer with immediate effect after 7 years in the role.



Alan Gibson stood down in April.

Richard Cronin stood down in October.

Jason Daniels appointment was ratified. This was proposed by Catherine McLeod and seconded by Karen England and therefore accepted.

Dave Ormrod announced he would be standing down as Chairperson and Trustee. This will be a slow transition, he will see the year through and cover the role of Treasurer.

**Any other business:**

Catherine McLeod showed a newly created video that celebrates the steps towards inclusion that Dingley's Promise is implementing. This video will be promoted on the website and social media.

**Date of next year's AGM:**

The proposed date of next AGM will be advised in due course.

**Summary and Thanks:**

Dave thanked his fellow Trustees, the CEO and the Dingley's Promise team for all their hard work; as well as everyone involved in volunteering, fund-raising or support for Dingley.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30PM

**Attendees:**

Antoine de Vazelhes  
Barbara Rielly  
Bethany Westall  
Carol Clements  
Catherine McLeod  
Dave Ormrod  
Delfi Ngadio  
Grahame Mole  
Hannah Goddard  
Helen Hart  
Ian Mackinder  
Jane Maskell  
Jason Daniels  
Jenny Heath  
Julia Cox  
Karen England  
Laxmi Patel  
Lorna Fairbairn



Louise Farmer  
Margaret Gardner  
Mick Clements  
Nick Richards  
Paula Chambers  
Meter McClintock  
Phil Johnson  
Richard Ranson  
Shakila  
Steve Allen  
Theresa Bowers  
Vikki Glencross  
Zora Morgan  
Michaela Gartside  
Matthew Bond  
Nabeen Jamal  
Christina Mole

**Apologies:**

David Berry  
Helene Raysford  
John McLaughlin  
Lynne Doherty  
Marce Colucci  
Masako Eguchi Bacon  
Rachel Spencer  
Sharon Colucci

