**Minutes from City of Sanctuary AGM**

**Newcastle Civic Centre 15th of May 2018**



**Apologies**: from retiring trustees Alan Thomas and Rodrigo Edema and many groups who were unable to attend

1. **Minutes** from last year’s AGM approved
2. Sabir gave the **Chair’s report**. Very exciting year and great to have the increased capacity of the regional coordinators.
3. **Treasurer’s report**: Andrew White gave a report on the finances for the last 12 months. The full report will be on the website in the next few days. Andrew gave some highlights:

* It is the first year that Asylum Matters was included which has doubled the size of City of Sanctuary in terms of money and staff size
* Staff numbers have grown from 5.5 to 10.5 – and in 2018 by another three. This is the equivalent of growing from 4 full time staff to 8.
* Guardian grants successfully given to local groups.
* We have been able to increase the level of our free reserves. Reserves now above the minimum level set by the trustees of £60,000.

Andrew thanked the charitable trusts who support the movement including Joseph Rowntree, Network for Social Change, STAR, Paul Hamlyn, Esmee Fairbairn, Barrow Cadbury, Unbound Philanthropy and LUSH.

1. **Amendments to the constitution**.



Jeni Vine (Secretary) summarised the two amendments being proposed.

**Amendment 1**: Simplifying the membership process so any individual can apply to become a member

**In favour** – 61. **Against** – 0. **Abstain** – 0.

**Amendment 2**: Reducing the maximum number of trustees on the board to 12. This will involve setting up a network advisory board to inform the trustees

**In favour** - 61. **Against** - 0. **Abstain** – 0.

**Groups voting**

Ripon

Cardiff

Swansea

Bradford

Northumberland

Swindon

Hastings

Tees Valley

Durham

East Kent

Loughborough

Southampton

Cambridge

Bolton

Sheffield

Norwich

Leeds

Exeter

Belfast

1. **Elections of trustees**

No further nominations came forward.

Sabir thanked the trustees who are standing down: Alan Thomas, Betty Nyamwenge, John Mellor, Marzia Babakarkhail,Rodrigo Edema, Roger Nyantou. Some of them are joining the advisory group.

Sabir introduced the remaining board members: Andrew White, Caroline Beatty, Herbert Dirahu, Jeff Morgan, Jeni Vine, Jonathan Ellis, Pam Inder and himself, Sabir Zazai.

The board has recently carried out a skills audit and will be looking for people with the required skills to co-opt to the board over the year ahead.

Following feedback from the tables at the conference, a date will soon be set for the first Network Advisory Board meeting.