

## **PROFESSIONAL LIVERPOOL LIMITED**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2019 at 11.15 a.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Liverpool**

#### **Present**

Esmaeil Abhari	Freelance
Phil Adams	Langtons/Professional Liverpool
Irene Afful	Ametrine Enterprise Solutions
Andrew Allen	Aabyss Ltd
Chantel Baldry	Liverpool Biennial
Moaz Bashar	ALJ
JT Benade	23 Consult Ltd
Guest of JT Benade	23 Consult Ltd
Graham Bond	RSM
Mark Borzomato	SPARK Impact Limited
James Bullock	ActionCOACH
Pamela Chesterman	BLM
Melanie Cheung-Turner	My Creative Thoughts
Elaine Courtney	Courtney Recruitment
Jayne Croft	Brabners
Derek Dawson	Morecrofts
Anna Duffy	DTM Legal LLP
John Fachiri	John Fachiri Ltd
Joanne Finnerty	JF Recruit
Stephen Fisher	Liverpool John Moores University
Agnes Fitzgerald	Irish Business Enterprise
David Gawne	Redmayne Bentley
Alison Gilbody	Nugent
Michael Gossage	Morecrofts
Jason Greenhalgh	Begbies Traynor
John Hall	Professional Liverpool
Vicki Harper	Millen Capital LLP
Angela Harrison	Mazars LLP
Michael Heverin	Supply Well
Gareth Hitchmough	Mazars LLP
Nick Hodson	Vistage UK
Jonathan Holden	Concept 22
J Neil Johnson	Metro Media
K Mark Kearsley	DSG Chartered Accountants
Neil Kelly	Mazars LLP
Anne King	Stephen Hunt & Associates



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L Richard Lackey	Moore media
Laura Leslie	DSG Chartered Accountants
Andrew Lovelady	LSCA & Andrew R Lovelady & Co
M David Maples	Brabners LLP
Janine Mitchell	ActionCOACH
Stephen Murray	Design Integrity
N Dave Nicholls	Cole Music Productions
Brian Noon	In-House Legal Solutions Limited
Lauren Noon	In-House Legal Solutions Limited
Charles Oddy	Charles Oddy
Sean O'Garra	Robertston Group
Lucie Osborne	The Alchemist Liverpool
Jan Peters	USP Creative
Mark Rathbone	Brabners LLP
Stuart Reed	Courtney Tender Services
Martin Roby	Professional Mortgage Services
Philip Rooney	DLA/Professional Liverpool
Neil Roscoe	Knowsley Chamber of Commerce
Peter Taaffe	BWM Accountants Ltd
Lesley Theadurus	Salvation Army
Myles Tunstall	Quilter Cheviot
Nina Valvi	National Museums Liverpool
Dave Verburg	Asentiv
Simon Walker	Quilter Cheviot
Ian Welford	Robertson
Matthew Whelan	Quilter Cheviot
Philip Whitehurst	DTM Legal
Mark Williams	Stephensons Solicitors LLP
Steve Wilson	Evo Media

**In attendance**

Alex Clark	Professional Liverpool
Rory Caine	Professional Liverpool
Keri Stanistreet	Professional Liverpool
Ciara Hutchinson	Professional Liverpool



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#### **1.0 Chairman's Welcome & Introduction**

PR welcomed all guests, thanking them for their support. He also thanked the Lord Mayor for kindly allowing the use of the Council Chamber for the meeting.

#### **2.0 Apologies for absence**

No formal apologies were received in advance by the Professional Liverpool team for the 2019 AGM.

#### **3.0 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 November 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a fair and accurate record of the proceedings.

#### **4.0 Chief Executive's Report**

4.1 John Hall, Chief Executive of Professional Liverpool, thanked members for their attendance at the AGM and events throughout the year. He was encouraged by the level of support for the meeting and for the Members' Lunch that was following the AGM. Announcing at the outset that this would be his last year as CEO, he thanked everyone for their work to make Professional Liverpool the organisation it is today.

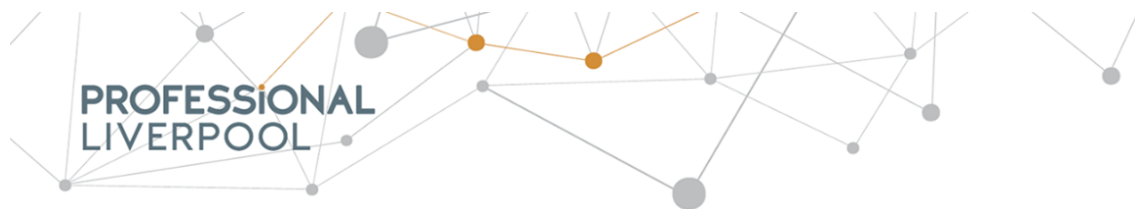
4.2 The membership had continued to grow with more than 500 companies registered as members, exceeding projections and there had been a steady flow of enquiries which meant that new members outstripped non-renewals.

4.3 Although there were more events taking place, JH was happy that quality had not been substituted by quantity. JH explained that the events planned by other organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool Vision and the LEP were also promoted by Professional Liverpool.

Over 80 extremely well attended, high quality events, including the Region of the Future series, had taken place throughout the year and speakers had, and are set to include the following:

Steve Rotheram, Metro Mayor  
Tony Reeves, Chief Executive, Liverpool City Council  
Dr Liz Bishop, Chief Executive, Clatterbridge Cancer Centre

4.4 The Cannes Do sold out all 610 tickets in less than 3 hours and raised more than £12,000 for charity. The after party, a new addition this year, took 370 ticket bookings. Region of the



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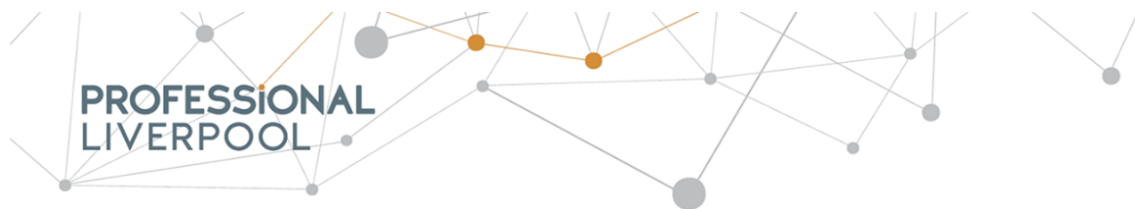
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Future events garnered some of our most consistent guest records, each having 120+ attending. The Summer Drinks achieved 90, and the Quiz 140 attendees respectively.

- 4.5 The Sector Groups had also hosted many events and John thanked the Chairs of these groups for their hard work. The launch event of the Creative, Digital & Tech Sector attracted 140 guests, showing great promise for the Group and the work they intend to do.
- 4.6 Although members find the main benefit to be networking – Membership also ensured an elevated standing in the business community. Ambassador Steve Stuart runs the PBS Board on behalf of the LEP, and this close connection allows PL a significant input into city development. PL maintains its close links with universities, and our panel sessions with Tony Reeves & Steve Rotheram are examples of putting members in touch with key decision makers within the city.
- 4.7 The relationship with Pro Manchester this year has developed and strengthened, and we hope to see this continue, with more joint events across the North West and Northern Powerhouse into 2020 and beyond.
- 4.8 John thanked the board members for their support, this being his last AGM, and Alex Clark, Rory Caine and Keri Stanistreet for dealing so well with their heavy workload. He also thanked the departing board member, David Varey, and welcomed new member Julie Campbell.
- 4.9 Whilst membership activity increased, it is important to maintain the quality of events, and output moving into 2020. With a fee increase for the new membership year, beginning in April 2020, PL remained considerably cheaper than other organisations and excellent value for money. Key to ensure this continues.
- 4.10 Overall, the year had been very productive and the organisation was in a good place financially and John added that he looked forward with optimism.
- 4.11 PR echoed John's comments adding that Professional Liverpool had a fantastic team in Alex, Rory and Keri. He added that David would be greatly missed on the board.

#### **5.0 Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts**

- 5.1 The Treasurer, Phil Adams, delivered his presentation of the final accounts that had been circulated prior to the meeting. He also took the opportunity to thank the board members for their support.
- 5.2 Turnover increased by 15% across the year; however, costs increased by 30% due to the take on of new staff and amortisation.



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- 5.3 The increased amortisation of the website, which – in the directors’ view – now has a lower residual value (due to technological advancement) than that which was assessed at 31 March 2018, means that a higher amortisation charge has been reflected in this years’ financial statements. As such, the company has made a loss for the year of £13,294, compared to last years’ profit of £3,866.
- 5.4 Aside from this, the company has continued to exert great influence on the City Region, with partnerships, and events like the Region of the Future series, and the efforts of the team should be praised.
- 5.5 Bookkeeping that had previously been outsourced, had been moved back in house within the organisation. PA thanked the team for their efforts in helping learn the software and keeping on top of this extra element.
- 5.6 Accounts were approved.

#### 6.0 Election / Re-election of Directors and Officials

- 6.1 Directors: The Chairman presented details of the current Board members.

Re-appointment of Directors: In accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association the following Directors were standing down in rotation:

- a) Mr Ben Miller
- b) Mr Matt Noon
- c) Ms Jan Peters
- d) Mr David Varey

Under the requirements governing periods of service as a Director, Mr David Varey was obliged to retire from the Board. The Chairman recorded his thanks to David for his service to Professional Liverpool. Ben Miller, Matt Noon and Jan Peters were, however, eligible for re-election.

**The members in attendance were in favour of the re-election of Ben Miller, Matt Noon and Jan Peters as directors and none was against the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.**

- 6.2 Chairman: The Meeting was advised that the Board recommended the election of Mr Philip Rooney as Chairman. There were no other nominations received for the position of Chairman.



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**The members in attendance were in favour of the re-election of Mr Philip Rooney as Chairman and none was against the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.**

6.3 Appointment of Directors: The Meeting was advised that the Board recommended the election of Ms Julie Campbell as Director.

**The members in attendance were in favour of the election of Ms Julie Campbell as a Director and none was against the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.**

6.4 Treasurer: The Meeting was advised the Board recommended the election of Mr Phil Adams as Treasurer. There were no other nominations received for the position of Treasurer.

**The members in attendance were in favour of the re-election of Mr Phil Adams as Treasurer and none was against the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.**

6.5 Company Secretary: The Meeting was advised that the Board recommended the election of Mr Phil Adams as Company Secretary. There were no other nominations received for the position of Company Secretary.

6.6 **The members in attendance were in favour of the re-election of Mr Phil Adams as Company Secretary and none was against the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.**

**7.0 AOB**

PR again thanked JH for his commitment as Chief Executive of Professional Liverpool.

There being no further business, in closing the meeting the Chairman thanked all for their attendance and support and on behalf of all thanked the Lord Mayor for allowing Professional Liverpool to hold the AGM and the Members' Lunch in the Town Hall.

The Meeting was closed at 12.15pm.

Chairman.....

Date .....