# **Canopy Housing Annualm General Meeting**

# Hybrid meeting held at 66 Burley Lodge Road, Leeds LS6 1QF and via Zoom 1.00pm, Tuesday 28 June 2022

**Current board members present:** Mark Rutherford (Acting Chair), Mhairi Tomlinson (Treasurer), Bridget Relton\* (Secretary), Martyn Broadest\*, Janet Onslow\*

**Proposed new board members present:** Leroy Ivanov, Danielle Joy, Kinga Salisbury

**Members present:** Laura Barker, Mark Dewar, Megan Green, Stuart Hall, Steve Hodgson, Michelle Hogg, Alex Leccardi, Jasmine McNiven, David Nugent, Lucia Santos, Patrick Spencer, Kirsti Staindale, Elisa Taylor, Rebecca Thewlis, Tilly Wallis, Sharon Whitehurst, John Wood, Valentin Zhechev

- \* indicates attendance by Zoom
- **1. Apologies for absence:** Keith Gibson (Chair), Anna Łysakowska, Lyn Charters

#### 2. Introduction

 MR welcomed everybody to the AGM and thanked everyone for their hard work during the year – staff adapting to cope with challenging situations, ensuring business continued as normally as possible, providing much-needed support to tenants and volunteers, who had themselves given excellent support in keeping sites moving. Finally MR outlined the order of business, aims and procedures of the AGM

# 3. Annual Review (David Nugent)

- DN highlighted the success and challenges of the previous year:
  - three months since we came out of lockdown 3.0; volunteers back in force; training programme running smoothly; staff back in offices.
  - Harehills office closed in May and will become a family home for another self-helper.
  - Harehills operations will focus on a new project on Bayswater Grove over the next year; converting office space into three flats, including our first ever level access accommodation
  - Yorkshire Building Society's trainee programme where unemployed people benefit from more formal training, both in the classroom & on site, went well.
  - Every successful graduate left with their own PPE and a fullyequipped tool bag
  - The Social Enterprise Support Fund helped fund two new Assistant Properties Workers - Aisling & Yoseph

- Ambition to become a registered provider of social housing continues.
- Rules were modernised in February, making Board more transparent & democratic, and ensuring Canopy's homes would remain as social housing if it ever ran into financial difficulties
- Thanks to Leeds City Council, Unity Bank & charitable trusts who have supported us
- Thanks to self-helpers & volunteers who put so much into the homes Canopy creates
- Apologies for Scarborough and Christmas Meal being cancelled last year due to COVID, but both should be going ahead in 2022.
- o Thanks to Keepmoat for helping fund Scarborough.
- Looking forward to seeing staff, volunteers, tenants and selfhelpers all back together again
- Take care & stay safe everyone
- MR thanked everyone involved in Canopy on behalf of the Board for all their efforts over the last year in very challenging circumstances

#### 4. Financial Statements

- MT confirmed the audited accounts were adopted by Board earlier this year and presented brief financial highlights, which included:
  - Canopy Housing being a going concern with no fraudulent activity identified
  - Surplus reported for the year being £39,510. The society's funds at 31 December 2021 stood at £4,970,018 represented by mainly residential properties
  - o Income down due to timing of right-to-buy funding.
  - Expenditure increased due to more activity as the country came out of lockdown.
  - Value of fixed assets increased as Canopy purchased two more properties and capitalised refurbishment costs on four properties in total
- Members agreed to adopt the accounts.

#### 5. Appointment of auditors

 MR indicated that a review of costs would be undertaken before appointing auditors for 2022 accounts.

#### 6. Minutes of 2021 AGM

All present indicated that the minutes were a true & accurate record

# 7. Minutes of February 2022 SGM

All present indicated that the minutes were a true & accurate record

#### 8. Board Member Elections

- MR explained that in the absence of a new candidate for Chair, KG had agreed to stand again but did not wish to fulfil a three-year term. KG had indicated his wish to continue fulfilling the role of Chair but to stand down as soon as a suitable replacement was found.
- MT indicated her wish to stand down as Treasurer but to stand again as an ordinary Board Member.
- LI, DJ and KS introduced themselves and indicated their wish to stand as new Board Members.
- The following Board Members were appointed for a period of three years:
  - Leroy Ivanov
  - Kinga Salisbury
  - Danielle Joy
  - Mhairi Tomlinson (re-elected)
  - Keith Gibson\* (re-elected)
    - \* Those present indicated their assent to KG's proposal to stand down as soon as a suitable replacement Chair is found.
- MR proposed and MT seconded the proposal that DJ be appointed Treasurer. All present agreed by show of hands.
- Everyone present welcomed Danielle, Kinga & Leroy to the Board.
- It was noted that MB, JO and MR would be required to stand down or stand for re-election in 2023; and that LC, AŁ and BR would be required to do so in 2024.
- MR asked anybody else who might be interested in joining the Board or taking on the Chair role to contact Sharon Whitehurst.

# 8. Any Other Business

No issues raised

# 10. Acknowledgements

- MR, on behalf of everyone present, expressed his thanks to Keith
  Gibson for many years of supporting Canopy. All of his hard work had
  helped make Canopy grow from humble beginnings into what the
  organisation is today. It had been an absolute pleasure to share this
  journey with him
- MR wished everyone all the best for the future