

Swansea Hackspace Annual General Meeting 2017
Swansea Hackspace, 11 Wind Street, Swansea, SA1 1DP.

2018-02-08, 19:00

Present: Sophia Komninou [SK], Tim Clark [TC], Matthew Daubney [MD], Peter Barnes [PB], Andrew Price [AP], Justin Mitchell [JM – Chair], Andy Rush [AR], Elizabeth Diffley [ED]. Neil Jones [NJ], Thomas Lake [TL], Nathan Hackett [NH]

Apologies: Kate Dudman [KD] – Proxy vote given to AR
Skylar Ross [SR]

1. Distribution of brownies
Completed

2. Minutes of last AGM
Approved as accurate.

3. Financial Summary
The summary accounts for the period 2016-12-01 – 2017-11-30 were presented and discussed, along with trends in membership numbers.

4. Election of Directors, by poll
In accordance with the company constitution, Tim Clark stepped down by rotation and was nominated for re-election.

1) Tim Clark	12 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions
2) Elizabeth Diffley	11 for, 1 against, 1 abstention
3) Nathan Hackett	11 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions

All candidates elected to serve as directors of the company in accordance with the above votes.

5. Updated rule/Code of Conduct
SK suggested that the existing rules should be improved, along with a suggested wording. A discussion was held regarding the wording and enforcement. MD also contributed suggestions based on experience at Reading Hackspace.

TL suggested that a working group be put together to draft an updated code of conduct for approval by the membership. Initial volunteers for this group were NH, AR, PB, TC and SK.

AR suggested that the various rules could be placed around the space as an “Easter egg hunt for the rules”

6. Scholarships/Rewards
A discussion took place regarding goal based membership – where a member’s fees for the month would be waived if certain agreed tasks were met. There were concerns raised about how this could be administered fairly and whether it should be time limited.
Concerns were also raised regarding the implications for membership status – a non-paying individual is not technically a member, and may count as an employee if carrying out tasks for notional payment. This may have insurance implications.
It was decided that anyone struggling to meet minimum payments should speak

to the directors who may come to alternative arrangements with individuals as required.

7. Handling communications

The concern was raised that we need a better method for dealing with enquiries – just the directors is generally too small a group while the public mailing list is not always suitable.

The consensus was that most communications should remain public, but that specific contacts/groups could be identified for given tasks. This should be made more obvious to find.

PB offered to review the website contact page.

8. Helpers / Section Leads

ED still happy to remain as the prime contact for the sewing paraphernalia

NH suggested that there should be more 'ownership' of equipment to promote repairs/maintenance.

The lead to further discussion of the 3D printers. It was decided that the printers need to be "tools, not projects" and that they need to be easy to use and reliable. It was also decided to purchase a Prusa i3 Mk3 using the available funds.

9. Funding priorities

Following discussion, the following items were decided on as needing increased expenditure:

- 3D Printing (as above)

- General ironmongery supplies

- CNC machine

- Material stock

- Storage

- Better chairs

The following items need spending, but were considered less of a priority:

- Laser cutter

- Textiles tools

10. Workshops/Activities

Suggestions of a monthly induction night, more "themed" nights and lightning talks.

11. Equipment

The following items were suggested:

- Build some display pieces – re-purposed bus signs?

- Bandsaw (something more modern and safe!)

- Replace the drill (and get spare batteries)

- Socket set

NH agreed to organise the sales cabinet

12. Pick'n'Mix and general supplies

Aluminium foil and general fixtures (screws, nuts, bolts etc) were suggested as a good addition to current supplies.

Regarding the snackspace, it was suggested that there should be a greater selection of sugar free items and that bottled water should be kept in stock.

Cup-a-soup was a suggested addition, along with possibly reducing some prices to reflect current costs.

13. Newsletter

The newsletter was considered a good idea, and members were encouraged to submit projects to be included. It was raised that events held and attended needed to be mentioned to reflect the activity of the space.

A collective tag to be used on social media was suggested, although the suggested tag was not agreed on.

14. Advertising

Local markets, radio rallies and/or car boot sales were all suggested as potential venues for raising awareness of the space. For all of these, demo projects and promotional material need to be created.

Ideas for this included 3D printed stitch markers, laser cut tools/widgets and another round of badges.

Automated event promo on our social media accounts was suggested as a project.

15. Gamification – Open badges etc.

Brief discussion, with the meeting broadly in favour as long as it remained an optional item.

16. Group projects

Repurposing and reverse engineering the bus display boards was suggested as a starter

17. Long term plans – Growth, services and premises

No immediate concerns were raised.

18. AOB

Storage and reorganising the space are items that need addressing at the next Hack the Space day.

Next organisational meeting: Hack the Space, 2018-05-05