



## **SWINDON FILM SOCIETY**

### **MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2024**

**Present:** Robert Elrick, Rosemary Young, Lyndy Griffin, Roger Griffin, Lizzie Brown, Patrick Aynie, Diane Miles, Katie Shipsides, Elaine Sheppard, Ivor Cheater.

Robert Elrick welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Apologies:** Martin Savage

**Minutes of the 2023 AGM:** accepted unanimously.

### **Annual Report 2023/24 Season:**

#### **Finance**

Rosemary Young referred to the audited annual accounts and commented that a profit of £621 had been made. Income was comparable to 2019/20 and, whilst ticket prices had not been increased, SFS remained vulnerable to higher costs particularly for the Arts Centre, licences and printing. Membership needed to be boosted.

#### **Membership, Audiences and Reactions**

Referring to the report, Lyndy Griffin commented that membership remained stable: 173 comprising 94 PAYG and 79 season ticket holders, 37 of which were new members. Figures were still down since the pandemic but this was in common with other community organizations.

The average attendance was 88, which was better than the previous year but still down on pre-Covid. *Official Competition* was the best attended (116); *Bergman Island* and

*Broker* the lowest (73) with average audience reactions being 72%.

### **Marketing and Advertising**

Robert Elrick acknowledged the support and contribution that Rachel Martin made towards the design of SFS marketing materials and to Richard Turpin for his much -appreciated work as webmaster for the SFS website.

The report was accepted unanimously.

### **Election of Committee:**

The existing committee: (Robert Elrick (Chair), Rosemary Young (Treasurer), Martin Savage (Secretary), Lyndy Griffin (Membership Secretary), Front of House: Roger Griffin, Lizzie Brown, Patrick Aynie, Diane Miles agreed to continue but acknowledged the need to recruit someone with marketing skills.

### **SFS Current and Future Plans:**

Lizzie Brown commented on a BFI funded initiative, Art in Action, to enable a joint event between SFS and Create Studios' sofa screenings on 8 November 2024 at Christchurch, Old Town. *The Woman King* would be shown, followed by a talk by a woman stunt co-ordinator. It was hoped that the collaboration would attract bigger audiences for community cinema and, hopefully, entice someone with marketing skills to join the SFS committee. In this regard, Elaine Sheppard suggested that an approach be made to Swindon College about the possible recruitment of a marketing student.

### **Any Other Business:**

In answer to Ivor Cheater's query, an explanation was given of the Committee's process of film selection. The Chair then closed the meeting after thanking the Committee for all their work during the season.