

MINUTES
24 NOVEMBER 2016

Minutes of the Board meeting held from 09:30 to 13:00 on 24 November 2016 in the Pinewood Room, BFI, 21 Stephen Street, London W1T 1LN.

Present:

Josh Berger CBE (<i>Chair</i>)	Pete Czernin	Libby Savill
Tom Hooper	Andrea Wong	

In attendance:

Alison Cornwell

Charles Cecil MBE

Amanda Nevill CBE *AN* *Chief Executive*

David Parkhill *DP* *Director Finance and Resources*

Iain Thomson *IT* *Board Secretary*

Richard Shaw *RS* *Director MC&A* *Item 2*

Ben Roberts *BR* *Director of Film Fund* *Item 2*

Nikki Christie *NC* *Head of Education and Skills* *Item 3*

Heather Carey *HC* *Associate Consultant, The Work Foundation* *Item 3*

Lesley Giles *LG* *Director, The Work Foundation* *Item 3*

Seetha Kumar *SK* *CEO Creative Skillset* *Item 3*

Ceri Morgan *CM* *Director of External Affairs* *Item 4*

Neil Watson *NW* *Strategy Consultant* *Item 4*

Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies: Matthew Justice, Jonathan Ross, Tim Richards, Pat Butler, Oona King

Declarations of Interest

- Amanda Nevill declared an interest as a Trustee of the BFI Trust. Iain Thomson declared an interest as Secretary to the BFI Trust. It was agreed that the nature of these interests was such that they would not be required to leave the room during this meeting.

- Also noted were the interests of most Governors in different aspects of the film industry and various related parties. It was agreed that the nature of these interests was such that none of these Governors would be required to leave the room during the meeting.

1. Minutes and Matters Arising

1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 26 October were considered and it was resolved to approve them as an accurate record of the meeting.

1.2 Amanda Nevill gave an update on developments relating to the proposed BFI Film Centre that was noted by the Board

2. BFI 2017-2022 – Messaging the Strategy

Part of this minute has been withheld for reasons of confidentiality

Andrea Wong, Richard Shaw and Ben Roberts joined the meeting.

2.1 Richard Shaw gave a presentation on BFI2022 addressing:

- Core messages;
- Key press and media;
- Response to the strategy from Government, NDPBs, key stakeholders and funded partners.

2.2 The strategy would be born digital. The launch event was being held in Birmingham with a further event in London. The decision to launch in Birmingham was a direct response to feedback received during the consultation in relation to greater BFI visibility in the regions. It also spoke to a central initiative in BFI2022, devolving more decision-making and funding to create more opportunity across the English regions and the Nations.

2.3 Ben Roberts clarified certain points relating to the how the Film Fund would now support work across different platforms and lengths and how 25% of production funding would be devolved to decision makers outside London.

2.4 The Board endorsed the proposed initiative that all productions in the UK voluntarily adopt the BFI Diversity standards. This initiative was preferred to advocating that this be made a condition of receiving the tax credit, which could have negative implications for the industry. Confidence was expressed that the key leaders in the industry were deeply committed to diversity.

2.5 It was agreed that, as always, any questions from the press should be directed to the BFI press office. Contact details would be circulated to all Governors in this regard.

Richard Shaw and Ben Roberts left the meeting.

3. Education and Skills Strategy

Part of this minute has been withheld for reasons of confidentiality

Nikki Christie, Heather Carey, Lesley Giles and Seetha Kumar joined the meeting.

- 3.1** Nikki Christie introduced the work that had been commissioned by the BFI and undertaken by The Work Foundation in relation to skills gaps, challenges and opportunities and that identified strategic priorities. Industry wide consultation and numerous roundtables had been conducted. Over 100 individuals had been consulted. Regular reports had been made to a Skills Steering Group, chaired by Barbara Broccoli. It was an economic and cultural imperative that this work be undertaken.
- 3.2** The presentation before the Board was noted. It highlighted three programmes of change:
 - A requirement that the film skills infrastructure be overhauled;
 - A need to drive diversity;
 - The need to strengthen continued professional development.
- 3.3** It was noted that the BFI Diversity Standards and the BFI Film Academy were making significant strides in relation to driving diversity.
- 3.4** The next step would be to turn the recommendations into an action plan that would specify what the BFI, its partners and Government needed to do to achieve the defined objectives in this area. The plan would be brought to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

Nikki Christie, Heather Carey, Lesley Giles and Seetha Kumar left the meeting.

4. BREXIT. What it means. What we are doing. What the Sector is doing.

Neil Watson and Ceri Morgan joined the meeting.

- 4.1** Ceri Morgan gave an update on developments relating to Brexit that was noted by the Board. There was a sense that the industry was sufficiently well represented and engaged in discussions relating to Brexit. The Government was listening to the creative industries.
- 4.2** The Board discussed the industry's requirements. It was imperative that the tax reliefs were safeguarded in addition to ensuring that works remained *European* and that the free movement of workers was retained. It was clear at this juncture that Government was unlikely to commit to the latter. In terms of advocacy, the Creative Industries Federation was currently doing good work. This notwithstanding, it was still essential that the BFI continued to develop evidence and argue robustly in relation to the competitiveness and critical success of the film industry.

- 4.3** The Board would be apprised of developments in this area at future Board meetings as required.

Neil Watson and Ceri Morgan left the meeting.

5. Stephen Street

- 5.1** David Parkhill gave a presentation outlining the proposed redevelopment of floors 2, 3 and 4 of BFI Stephen Street.
- 5.2** It was noted that *Area Squared* had been selected as the design and build contractor for the Stephen Street redevelopment through a competitively tendered process. *Area Squared* had developed the concept design into a fully designed scheme and was currently tendering the various work packages.
- 5.3** It was resolved to award the construction contract to *Area Squared* on the terms outlined in the paper.

6. Finance

Part of this minute has been withheld for reasons of confidentiality

- 6.1** The paper before the Board was noted.