

**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND**  
**UK FUNDING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 10am  
 Plough Place, London, EC4A 1DE

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Peter Ainsworth	Chair
Tony Burton	Vice Chair
Stella Everingham	Scotland Committee Member
Kevin Bone	England Committee Member
Michael Dobbins	Northern Ireland Committee Member
Elizabeth Passey	Board Member

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Dawn Austwick	Chief Executive Officer
Joe Ferns	Director, UK Portfolio & Knowledge
John Knights	Senior Head of UK Portfolio
Assaya Imaya	Head of International Programmes
Yvonne Campbell	Senior Portfolio Manager
Peter Heywood	International Policy and Partnerships Manager
Dominic Newlyn	Governance Officer (minutes)
Catherine Roberts	Head of Governance
Ian Hughes	Finance Director [item 6]
Elly De Decker	Head of Funding [item 6]
Liz Watchorn	Portfolio Manager [item 6]
Jon Eastwood	Head of Funding [item 6]
Jenny Olsen	Senior Head of Brand [item 6]
Emma Robinson	Portfolio Manager [item 7]
Renu London	Portfolio Manager [item 7]

**1. CHAIR'S WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 1.1. Peter Ainsworth opened the meeting as Chair. This was Peter's final Committee meeting, and he took the opportunity to thank everybody for their efforts and recognised the work that had been accomplished during his tenure.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 2.1. Apologies were received from Sian Callaghan.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 3.1. There were none.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - UKFC(19)M02**

- 4.1. Minutes from previous meeting were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

**5. ACTIONS ARISING - P13**

- 5.1. The Committee noted that Eden had been invited to the December Committee meeting to discuss The Big Lunch. All other actions were addressed in the meeting.

**6. PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW - P14**

- 6.1. The Committee noted that there had been a lot of funding activity within the team despite there being relatively a low amount of proposals tabled for the September UK Funding Committee. The Digital Fund proposals continue to progress, and the team have been contributing to work on the Climate Action Fund and preparations for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Financial and Cashflow Update**

- 6.2. Ian Hughes provided the Committee with a financial overview which focused on the Fund's cashflow. The Committee noted that the following a funding awards peak in 2015/2016, the Fund was maintaining stability by committing less in awards than is received in income.

This rebalancing exercise will continue beyond this year, and is reliant on income remaining the same.

- 6.3. The Committee discussed the relevance for the UK portfolio, noting that the average award length has reduced from 4 years to 2.8 years, meaning 1.2 years' worth of funding was needed earlier than usual.
- 6.4. The impacts on the UK Portfolio strategy were discussed, and it was agreed that UK and Finance team together would produce a plan of action to advise on the type of funding, length of grants, and potential thresholds that the portfolio would need to consider.

***ACTION: UK team to continue to work with Finance to manage cashflow, and produce an update to UKFC in March 2020.***

***ACTION: Finance and UK teams to produce a holistic summary of all grant awards and the associated timescales.***

### **The National Lottery 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

- 6.5. Jon Eastwood and Jenny Olsen provided the Committee with an overview of the activity surrounding the anniversary. The Fund would be involved in 9 of the 25 key moments (activations), with a clear focus on the people in communities involved in these moments.
- 6.6. The Committee noted that the mechanism for awards had been confirmed and clearly communicated externally. Providing the number of applications in a region hit a pre-determined threshold, there will be a lottery to determine which applications are assessed.

### **People's Projects Update - P15**

- 6.7. Liz Watchorn gave an update on The People's Projects. The Committee noted this was currently on hold due to activity for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This had been recognised as a major part of the engagement calendar and would be given a separate timeframe to maximise impact. The Committee welcomed the direction The People's Projects development was taking.
- 6.8. The partnership with ITV would be reviewed in the coming months to ensure that it is still suited to the Fund's requirements.

### **Climate Action Fund Update - P16**

- 6.9. Liz and Elly De Decker provided context to the Climate Action Fund paper, which the Committee noted had been written prior to the initial meeting.
- 6.10. The inaugural meeting had been successful and very useful in shaping the approach of the Fund. The team had been challenged by the Advisory Panel to further define aims, desired outcomes, and scope of the Fund, and would make these amendments prior to the next Panel meeting in January.
- 6.11. The Committee discussed the benefits of private sector involvement in the Climate Action Fund, agreeing there is an appetite amongst corporates and investors to be involved in environmental projects. This would help to amplify the impact of the funding.
- 6.12. The Committee noted that the Head of Climate Action would be a key player in developing and determining the success of the Fund.

## **7. UK PORTFOLIO FUNDING DECISIONS - P17**

- 7.1. Decisions on proposals presented for UKFC's consideration are restricted and can be found at Annex A.

## **8. INTERNATIONAL PORTFOLIO - P18**

- 8.1. Imaya gave an overview of the activity within the international portfolio, noting that the team had just returned from a first visit to East Africa with DfID. In addition, the Committee welcomed Peter Heywood to his first Committee meeting.
- 8.2. The Committee discussed the safeguarding challenges that faced the sector as whole, and the Fund's involvement in developing and implementing safeguarding policy.

- 8.3. The Committee commended the team's conduct in uncovering and highlighting the safeguarding issues, and the Fund's role in updating and advising DfID and the Charity Commission. It was agreed these issues amongst INGOs had highlighted the successful safeguarding processes that the Fund has in place.
- 8.4. The Committee agreed it was of key importance to work alongside existing groups to embed safeguarding principles, and to learn from well-established women's rights activist groups in the region.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 9.1. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1255.

**MINUTES AGREED**

**DATE**

**PETER AINSWORTH  
UK FUNDING COMMITTEE & BOARD CHAIR**