



FRIDAY



A39

30/05/2014

#90

COMPANIES HOUSE

MINUTES FROM AMAZE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Friday 22nd November 2013

At The Bridge Community Centre, Lucraft Road, Moulsecoomb, BN2 4PN

Attended: Karen Smith, Elizabeth Fodor, Tony Gove, Kim Smith, Keith Jamieson, Maria Tyrrell, Diana Boyd, Helen Arnold Jenkins, Oswalde Corke, Ruhiya Yousuf, Mahnaz Ataie, Reza Ataie, David Poole, Patricia Gleeson, Brenda Mann, Sue Reynolds and Amaze staff

Welcome to Annual General Meeting of Amaze Brighton and Hove by Rachel Travers and Diana Boyd, Dept Chair of Trustees

Apologies

Hugh Clench – chair of Trustees, Ian Gillett – Treasurer, Sally Howell, Ray Knight, Christine Allen, Doreen Wallace, Marion Silsby, Jane Talbot

a) Minutes of the last AGM

Accepted as an accurate record by Karen Smith and Tony Gove

Activities and Financial Report from Trustees – Rachel Travers and Diana Boyd

Diana presented a report on the activities undertaken 2012/2013 See attachment

Adoption of Clark Browncombe as Auditor for 2013/2014

Proposed by Diana Boyd, Seconded by Helen Arnold Jenkins

b) Proposal and Election of Trustee/Re-election of Trustees – Zoe Brinkworth

New trustees Ruhiya Yousuf

Proposed by Karen Smith, seconded by Kim Smith

Trustees standing for re-election

Hugh Clench, Fungi Woolnough-Murau, Karen Smith

Proposed by Tony Gove, seconded by Diana Boyd

c) Special resolution vote. See attachment for more details

1 To update Amaze charitable objects

Rachel Travers took questions relating to changes to the geographical areas of service We will still provide services to the Brighton & Hove area as a core service, this will not be diluted But we will be able to extend into wider Sussex area or South East if the opportunities arise We would be able to use our models to serve other areas.

Resolution 1 Diana proposed, all members voted for the resolution

2 To change name from Amaze Brighton & Hove to Amaze

Resolution 2 Diana proposed, all members voted for the resolution

d) Update on Amaze's new "Preparing for Adulthood Project" – Sue Winter

See attachment

e) Close

Rachel Travers thanked the team, staff, volunteers, trustees and patrons
Our patron Annabel Giles is currently in the ITV programme "I'm a celebrity get me out of here " We wish her luck

Also thanks to our funders, supports and parents for coming to the AGM today
Copies of the Annual Report are available on request

Ends

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working with parents of children with special needs

Proposal to Amaze Members to change Amaze's Name and Charitable Objects

Amaze was set up as a charity, with the Charities Commission, back in 1997 registering its formal trading name as 'Amaze Brighton and Hove' and our charitable objects as *'For the relief of children with special needs ordinarily resident in Brighton and Hove and to advance the education and development of such children'*

At the time there wasn't the option of registering our work with parent carers and it is the Charity Commission's use of formal language. We have thought for a while this description does not fully encompass our services and our particular emphasis on supporting parent carers and are seeking your agreement to change this.

In addition the Amaze Research and Training (ART) consultancy work and SEN SE7 Pathfinder have increased the potential for Amaze to work with families and other organisations in other parts of the UK, in particular the South East so we would like to increase our self-imposed geographical boundary. This would mean we are ready and able to respond in case any funding opportunities for supporting families with disabled children arise in other areas. Clearly this would need additional funding and would not divert our current (already stretched) resources from families in Brighton and Hove.

If members agree to this it would then follow to drop the 'Brighton and Hove' from our formal/registered name, to rename us simply as 'Amaze'. We have already been using just 'Amaze' on our logo, and day to day use but our letterhead and other formal documents and applications need to show our full registered name.

The one complexity in this decision is that our website address/'url' is currently www.amazebrighton.org.uk. Unfortunately the address www.amaze.org.uk is taken by another entity (who provide training, resources and inspiration for churches for youth work). There is the potential to buy the www.amazecharity.org.uk web domain name when more options become available to buy later in the year and whilst we have registered an interest in this, if this is cheap.

Amaze Trustees have discussed and agreed to these changes (see the questions they discussed below in appendix A) and now set out a 'special resolution' **which we need our members to vote on at the AGM on the 22nd November 2013.**

I would be very grateful if you could all take a moment to consider this decision prior to the AGM as we will take a vote on this then. If you have any questions please contact me on rachel@amazebrighton.org.uk

Best wishes

Rachel Travers, CEO Amaze

Members voting slip re. change to Amaze's Name and Charitable Objects

Please complete the slip below and return this in the freepost envelope or by email to info@amazebrighton.org.uk

Name of Amaze Member (and organisation if associated with one) _____

Date _____

1. Special Resolution to Change Amaze's Charitable Objects

From

"The relief of children with special needs ordinarily resident in Brighton and Hove and to advance the education and development of such children "

To

"To improve the education and development of, and relieve the poverty for, children and young people with disabilities and special needs ordinarily resident in the South East of England through the provision of advice, information and support to them and their parents and carers "

As an Amaze member

☐ I agree ☐ I disagree

to the above resolution to amend the Amaze charitable objects.

2 Special Resolution to Change Amaze's Name

From

"Amaze Brighton and Hove"

To

Amaze

As an Amaze member

☐ I agree ☐ I disagree

to the above resolution to amend the Amaze name.

Appendix A

a) Are the trustees satisfied that this widening would be in the best interests of the charity?

Yes, trustees believe this would be for two primary reasons

- i Working across local authority boundaries will allow us to input and shape the strategic framework that is being developed on a regional and national basis, for the benefit of all families. It will mean other families with disabled children may benefit from the experience Amaze has built up from working with parents locally in Brighton and Hove, through the delivery of our training or consultancy services
- ii In some cases we will be commissioned to deliver training and consultancy which should provide us with some surplus income to invest back into our core charitable activities. This is essential at a time when other sources of income are becoming less reliable

b) Has the charity got the funds in place in order to sustain this widening?

We wouldn't seek to undertake any new activities unless we were being additionally commissioned and funded to do this extra work in other areas in full. Changing the articles will mean we have the scope to deliver work beyond the City's boundaries which would be self-financing, but it won't oblige us to provide services to these areas if funding opportunities are not forthcoming.

c) Have the trustees considered how this will effect the current beneficiaries?

The response from the Charities Commission is "as well as widening the objects, the trustees have also altered the beneficial class. Currently the beneficial class is, 'children', '*For the relief of children with special needs*' and '*of such children*'. There is no mention of adults or parents. However, the new wording changes the beneficial class from children, to include the parents of such children. Can the trustees please confirm whether they no longer work directly with children, and instead only work with the parents and carers."

This is a concern as it seems our articles of association are currently incorrect by not specifying our work is predominantly with the carers and not with the child, albeit we would argue the intended impact of our work with carers is to subsequently impact the resilience and wellbeing of their children.

Current beneficiaries will not be affected by any additional working across boundaries as any new work would need to be fully costed and funded so not diverting funds from the local services.