



## **Minutes from Annual General Meeting (30 June 2021)**

This was a hybrid meeting, taking place on Zoom and at 153-157 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7HD. All attendees chose to participate and vote remotely on Zoom.

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### **1. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by the Network Chair, Dr Márcia Balisciano (Chief Sustainability Officer, RELX), at 14:05.

### **2. Network Governance Matters**

#### **2.1. Quorum**

- The Chair confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

#### **2.2. Board of Trustees**

- The Chair introduced herself and each of the Trustees on the Network Board:
  - Anna Turrell, Head of Environment, Tesco plc;
  - Davide Stronati, Director of Sustainability, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority;
  - Deb Leary, CEO, Forensic Pathways Limited.
  - Nigel Lockwood, Head of Government Relations & CSR, G4S plc;
  - Rachel Moseley, Director, Sustainability and Responsible Business, London Stock Exchange Group;

- She also introduced the 17 members of the Advisory Group.

#### **2.3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 September 2020**

- As this was a virtual AGM, the Chair explained the electronic voting process.
- She then introduced the resolution to approve the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting.

#### **The Members approved the minutes of the AGM held in 2020:**

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 September 2020 are approved.

#### **2.4. Presentation of Ordinary Resolution to delegate authority to the Board to appoint an auditor**

- The Chair introduced the first ordinary resolution:

#### **The Members passed Ordinary Resolution #1: Delegate authority to the Board to appoint an auditor.**

Be it resolved that the board of the Company shall be authorised to appoint auditors for the Company for the financial year from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 and to fix the remuneration of the auditors.

#### **2.5. Presentation of Ordinary Resolutions to appoint new Trustees**

- The Chair and Executive Director asked the members to join them in thanking retiring Directors Nigel Lockwood and Deb Leary, for their many years of service to the Network.

- She introduced the Trustee candidates that had been nominated by the Board:
  - Matt Sparkes, Head of Sustainability, Linklaters LLP;
  - Charlie Bronks, Head of Strategic Partnerships, Marketing & Communications, Crown Agents Bank.
- The Chair presented the second ordinary resolution:

**The Members passed Ordinary Resolution#2: Appoint new Trustees**

Be it resolved that Matt Sparkes and Charlie Bronks shall be appointed as Directors of the Company.

- The Chair also introduced the new members of the Advisory Group:
  - Ben Ngobi, Procurement Sustainability Lead at Accenture;
  - Mark Roberts, CEO at Conscious Creatives;
  - Hiba Khan, Civil Engineer and Sustainability and Social Outcomes Lead for International Development Services at Mott MacDonald;
  - Leigh Broadhurst, Environment and Sustainable Development Lead at SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK.

## 2.6. Update to members

- The Chair gave the floor to the Executive Director for an update to the members on key aspects of GCN UK operations:
  - *Membership* – there were 332 members in the UN Global Compact Network UK, a net increase of 76 members (30%) since the start of the year. It is expected that strong growth will continue. Out of the 332 organisations, 253 have also become members of the Company Limited by Guarantee; the Network Secretariat has been working hard to increase the % of Network members that have joined the Company.
  - *Accounts* – The audit of the company's 2020 accounts was recently completed; in accordance with the UK Companies Act, these will be shared with company members after the AGM. The main headlines from the accounts are:
    - a loss of £37,439 for 2020 attributable to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and changes requested by our auditor to the way of reporting revenue;
    - overall, the Network is in a strong financial position with strong cash flow, a healthy balance sheet, and a surplus forecast for 2021.
  - *Application for charity status* – the draft application is ready and will be submitted after the AGM to include the names of the new Trustees.
  - *Secretariat staffing* – the Secretariat has grown rapidly since the start of 2020. There are currently 15 members of staff, with two additional Project Manager positions to be filled in the Global Goals and Member Engagement teams, so that we have capacity to maintain the current level of programming.

## 2.7. AOB

- There was no AOB.

## 2.8. Closing Remarks

- The Chair brought the meeting to a close at 14:30.