



Friends of Stretford Public Hall Board of Directors

Update on Key Decisions | January 2018

The Board of Directors met on 7 January 2018. This was the first meeting of the year and followed one of our busiest periods at the Hall. It offered an opportunity to take stock and reflect on the achievements in 2017 including:

- Successful community share offer, which increased our members from 80 to 800 including a well-attended AGM in November and appointment of new board members.
- We generated extensive and positive publicity coverage including achieving a high profile at the national Locality conference
- Recognition of FOSPH at national Social Enterprise Awards
- We expanded our activities and events helping us meet our aim of running the Hall to benefit the local community, including Wellbeing Tuesdays, Stretford Singers, Community Cinema and “Back to the Civic” music nights. We continued our amazing art classes, in partnership with SAC32, and finished the year with our incredible weekend Christmas Festival.
- The Board recognised and are grateful to the fantastic team of volunteers who make these activities happen.

Funding and finances

The Board work hard in a voluntary capacity and recognise that in order to deliver on our projects as well as expand on our events and activities programme, we need to bring in a small team of staff. We have successfully secured additional funding for this and this provided an opportunity to re-visit our financial projections and to improve our financial procedures.

Ballroom transformation

This was an important meeting with the Board reflecting on the unexpected and unavoidable delays during 2017 to the planned works and refurbishment of the Ballroom. The age of the building and listed status requires all planned works to be handled with sensitivity and care and to prioritise activities to ensure we meet fire and health and safety regulations, including adequate lighting and heating.

At the same time we will be improving the overall décor, including new toilets and kitchen facilities and this will increase our ability to attract more commercial hires.

The Board have reviewed and agreed options to appoint a new Project Organiser / Contract Administrator and are fully confident that we are on track to have a wonderfully transformed ballroom in 2018.

Events and activities

The Board received reports on our events for the last period as well as noting excellent forthcoming activities.

- Both screenings of England is Mine sold out within hours
- Back to the Civic night: 24 February
- Family friendly community cinema: 25 February Beauty and the Beast (2017)
Sing A Long
- Creative Thursdays starts 11 January in collaboration with Sac32
- Stretford Singers starts 10 January
- Wellbeing Tuesdays starts 9 January and will run through to 27 February.