**The Life Project (Bath)**

*(Loving Life)*

(Registered Charity: 1142459)

**Annual General Meeting**

Sunday 15th October 2017 at 4pm

St Luke’s Hall, Bath

**Minutes of Meeting**

1. **Present**

Clive welcomed everyone:

**Clive** and Josh Brooks

**Colin,** Pauline and Siobhan McSherry

**James** and Sarah Couchman

Helen Spackman

Sarah Moxham

Elizabethand LilyGayner

Rachel and Jude Bright

Jo Curd

Uriel Renton

Robert Simons

**Bev** Harris

Anna Robinson

Josephine Forsey

Edmund and Chris Prideaux

***Trustees shown in Bold****, Supporters in plain type.*

1. **Apologies from**: **Dave** and Jocey Twine, **Tony** Russell, Kathryn Spackman and Vickie Brooks.
2. Uriel and Robert opened the meeting in prayer**,** sharing a psalm of praise that had been written that week at the Springs group.
3. **Minutes from the 2015 AGM.**

These were approved and signed by Clive.

Proposed: Bev

Seconded: Colin

1. **Chair’s Report**

Copies of the annual report had been circulated prior to the meeting, so Clive explained that he would not be talking through it word by word but would rather express thanks to a number of groups of people.

Firstly to our core members (nearly 40 on total) at the barn, Springs and Mini Springs group. Clive acknowledged that we have also had the right people and money when we needed it. He also mentioned the 6 staff and the number of dedicated volunteers. He also reflected on the generous gifts we have been given by individuals as well as grants from St Johns and Chrysalis. Our new charity fundraiser has also been a great help in this area.

Clive also reflected that his fellow trustees are also volunteers and look after so much in terms of governance and support of Rachel and day to day operations.

Rachel went on to highlight some of the key achievements of the past year as well as plans for the future.

Rachel reported that the barn, Springs and Mini Springs groups continue to flourish and that work continues on establishing a hub in the city, homes for life and a fundraising strategy.

She reflected each person connected with the Life Project has an irreplaceable role to play. Everyone is here for a reason. We are all part of an incredible journey.

Regarding the key strategic objectives, Rachel stated that:

* A ‘hub’ has started at Southside Youth Centre, proving activities for unfunded adults, and children with additional needs and parents and carers.
* The Life Project has now received the offer of a house and it is hoped that some of our core members will be able to move in the next year.
* There is an intention to continue focussing on fundraising to resource new developments.

Aims for the coming year include:

* Creating a register of members
* Increasing the size of the board
* Progressing on the strategic objectives
* Recruiting a Communication and Fundraising Manager
* Developing core policies
* Holding more regular retreat days for parents and carers

Rachel encouraged all present to consider what ‘irreplacable roles’ they may play in the life of the Life Project in the future.

**Financial Report**Tony had prepared a report that had been circulated prior to the meeting, which James summarized to the group on his behalf.

1. **Appointment /Retirement of Trustees**

Clive reported that Elizabeth has stepped down as a trustee during the last year. He expressed great thanks to Elizabeth for her service as a trustees and gratitude that she continues as an active member.

James and Dave came to the end of their terms of office but both agreed to stand again.

Proposed: Colin

Seconded: Bev

1. **Appointment of Auditors**

Tony recommended that Hollingdale Pooley of Bristol continue to be our auditors and independent examiners.

Proposed: James

Seconded: Bev

1. **Any Other Business**

James asked that we remember in prayer Jocey and Hannah who will be travelling to Romania soon …. That they would be blessed and be a blessing.

Rachel encouraged people to come along to the Rock of Life concert on Saturday 11th November 7.30pm at Widcombe Baptist Church. Life Project members may pay concessionary rates. Flyers available from Rachel.

Clive concluded the meeting and reminded all present that we always welcome new volunteers to enrich our work.

**The Meeting closed at 4.50pm – followed by tea and cake.**