Digital Life Collective First Annual General Meeting - 26 September 2018

Attending: Laura James (part of meeting), Steve Taylor, Sophia Gallagher (part of meeting), Joachim Stroh, Gary Coulter, Jim Whitescarver, Michael Linton, Les Moore, Daniel Ospina, John Waters, John Grant, Philip Sheldrake, A Keala Young, Roy Brooks, Christina Bowen, Robin (Badgermind)

Joined after first vote: Graham Mitchell

Joined after second vote: Peter Bihr, Shaun Fensom

Joined after third vote (at very end): Gustavo

With 151 members, the required quorum is 15 people.

Meeting process introduction

- Where to find things (Google docs, general meeting notes [inc. these notes], video recording of this AGM)
- How to comment in the zoom chat (instructions)
- Where to follow up with questions after this meeting (mattermost: start in open chat channel if unsure of where to go)
- Brief overview of the agenda
  1. Acceptance and welcome for new members
  2. Last general meeting and any discussion points arising
  3. Report from the board including financial position
  4. Accounts arrangements - choice of accountant and request to postpone full report
  5. Election of board
  6. Resolution and amendment on our core purpose
- Who'll be speaking / how to comment or ask questions
- Consider inviting a non-exec to raise profile / endorse the Collective and its mission. For example, a technologist, academic, author or politician.

Acceptance and welcome for new members!

Where to go for more info or to get involved

- Website: www.diglife.com
- Mattermost discussions: chat.diglife.com
- Email info@diglife.com
- Upcoming prior to end of year:
  - Simpler structure
  - Updated orientation process
  - Calls to action/ announcements protocols so members can find info without being overwhelmed

Minutes of the previous General Meeting (Friday 22 June) and any matters arising

Minutes were agreed and no matters arising recorded.

Report on Collective governance

The Digital Life Collective has made attempts to instill a working governance model. While we have established basic co-operative rules, collective principles, and self-organised work teams, we were not able to legitimize a governance process across the Collective. In light of recent events that are moving DigLife into the public sphere, this proposal attempts to begin rectifying this situation.

The aim is the enact a Governance model for the Collective. This is a work in progress and many steps (Calls to Action, like member orientation) will unfold over the next weeks. Our aim is to give every member of the Collective a window into our world of activities and the ability to participate in the decisions we make together and across the Collective —at their own pace.

Summary

- DigLife is currently proposing a new governance model for the Collective.
- The purpose of this proposal is to (a) better align the Collective (increase coherence) and to (b) improve the decision making flow (increase velocity).
- This model is based on **Self-Governance** and an **Open Participatory Inquiry**.

- Any inquiry is based on a specific Call that guides the decision making process.
- There are 5 Calls available to every member of the Collective:
  - (1) Action Alerts
  - (2) Call for Clarity
  - (3) Call for Objection
  - (4) Call for Action
  - (5) Call for Funding
- There are 5 responses possible to Calls:
  - (1) Agree (no reservations)
  - (2) Disagree (some reservations, but not an objection)
  - (3) Block (paramount objection that blocks the inquiry)
  - (4) Abstain (no opinion on inquiry, but record presence)
  - (5) Comment without stating any of the above
- All decisions that are outside the scope of a work team must follow this process.
- The governance process must be in alignment with our rules and our principles.

Overview Presentation and Call for Clarity

Les proposed a vote of thanks - passed

Report from the board including financial position

At the time of the annual report published in January, we had 110* members. From January through June, 23* new members joined, as reported in the previous General Meeting (Friday 22 June). In the last 3 months, we have had an additional 20* members join.

* Note that these numbers add up to 153 - Philip Sheldrake commented that the actual number is 151 and this is due to a discrepancy in Skype.

Accounts arrangements - choice of accountant and request to postpone full report

Steve Taylor explained that the position explained in the General Meeting (Friday 22 June) is more up to date than the accountants report (May-Dec 2017). Note that bank statements and reports are stored in the Finance/Reports folder on Google Drive.

Action for first meeting of new boards of directors: Committee should review the quorum to be held by the new committee.

Election of board

Resignations of whole current board (required by our rules for first AGM)

Philip Sheldrake (chairperson), Shaun Fensom and Steve Taylor stood down from board. Laura James resigned from the board on 14 September.

Election of new board

Any member may stand for election. Some of the current board are not standing for re-election. A minimum of 3 board members is required. A quick discussion about a maximum limit was had, but it was decided that we would not end up with a board of unmanageable size.

Initial nominations for first vote: Jim, Philip, Roy, Steve, Christina

Unanimously carried with 16 votes carried (Laura James, Steve Taylor, Sophia Gallagher , Joachim Stroh, Gary Coulter, Jim Whitescarver, Michael Linton, Les Moore, Daniel Ospina, John Waters, John Grant, Philip Sheldrake, A Keala Young, Roy Brooks, Christina Bowen, Robin [Badgermind])

Nomination for second vote: Graham

Carried with 15 votes - unanimous for those present (Steve Taylor, Joachim Stroh, Gary Coulter, Jim Whitescarver, Michael Linton, Les Moore, Daniel Ospina, John Waters, John Grant, Philip Sheldrake, A Keala Young, Roy Brooks, Christina Bowen, Robin [Badgermind]). Note that Sophia had gone to a conflicting appointment and Laura was out of "room" at time of vote.

Nomination for third vote: Shaun

Carried with 15 in favour (Steve Taylor, Joachim Stroh, Gary Coulter, Jim Whitescarver, Michael Linton, Les Moore, John Waters, John Grant, Philip Sheldrake, A Keala Young, Roy Brooks, Christina Bowen, Robin [Badgermind], Graham Mitchell, Shaun Fensom; Laura and Daniel abstained). Note that vote from Peter Bihr not recorded by note taker.

Final board: Jim, Philip, Roy, Steve, Christina, Graham, and Shaun

Role of board in proposed new governance structure

From Rules:
In accordance with the Co-operative Principle of education, training and information, before accepting a position as Director an individual must agree to undertake training during their first year of office as deemed appropriate by the Co-operative. This training will include information on the roles and responsibilities of being a Director of a society which is also a co-operative.

Separate resolutions on "Our purpose" from Laura James and Philip Sheldrake

Resolutions were withdrawn prior to the meeting, but topics will be discussed in future meetings.

Final comments

Please refer to [video recording](#).