



# AUTSCAPE

[www.autscape.org](http://www.autscape.org)

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Aut scape Organisation  
Held at 9:30am on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013 at Ackworth School, Ackworth, Pontefract, West  
Yorkshire, WF7 7LT.**

**Chaired by: Martijn (Chair of the Board of Directors of The Aut scape Organisation)**

The meeting adopted the agenda as printed.

## **1. Minutes of the 2012 AGM.**

The minutes are available at: <http://www.autscape.org/organisation/generalmeetings/> or in hard copy from the company secretary, on request.

One member queried whether item 7, which related to the setting up of an Aut scape forum, had been addressed. Yo confirmed that it had yet to be addressed.

**Action:** To raise the issue of an Aut scape forum as opposed to an email list via Aut scape's info@ email address at the next board meeting.

The meeting approved the minutes of the 2012 AGM.

## **2. Presentation of the Annual Report (including accounts) as distributed to members on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013.**

Martijn gave an oral summary of the activities and main objectives of The Aut scape Organisation and Stephen presented a summary of the Accounts of The Aut scape Organisation.

## **3. Announcement of retirements**

Martijn announced that current directors, Trish Jubb and Elaine Binhammer, had both reached the end of their terms and were now seeking re-election.

Martijn also announced that the current company secretary, Yo, has decided to resign. She will nevertheless continue on as a board member.

## **4. Election of directors (6 vacancies).**

Prior to introduction of the candidates for election, Yo reported on the recruitment process for board directors. She explained that there were insufficient members on the Board to perform the Board's duties. Advice was therefore sought from the Charity Commission regarding recruitment and the board conducted a skills audit to determine which skills were especially needed. On the basis of the skills audit, Yo advertised widely for the positions of Director of Aut scape and Treasurer of Aut scape.

Aut scape is the trading name of The Aut scape Organisation, a registered charity (no. 1141913) and limited company registered in England and Wales (no. 7325467). Registered office: 24 Anson Road, Cambridge, CB23 6DQ



# AUTSCAPE

[www.autscape.org](http://www.autscape.org)

She received several applications from people with suitable skills. The board met with each of the applicants and, on the basis of two of these interviews, the board decided to co-opt candidates prior to their election at the AGM (Agnes Fairhead and Liz Pellicano).

Martijn introduced the six candidates to the membership. Two candidates, Elaine Binhammer (present) and Trish Jubb (present), were recommended for re-election by the Autescape board. Three candidates, Debbie F (in absentia – with apologies), Agnes Fairhead (in absentia) and Liz Pellicano (present), had been co-opted during the year and were recommended for election by the Autescape Board. One candidate, Alistair Cooper (present), was nominated by A. Green.

Many questions were put to the candidates, particularly with regards to the skills each candidate would bring to the board. Much attention was focused on the non-autistic candidates, with several members raising concerns regarding their place on the board.

**After much discussion, the membership voted for the following individuals to remain, or to become, directors of The Autescape Organisation: Agnes, Alistair, Debbie F, Elaine, Liz, and Trish.**

Following the vote, there was further discussion about the distribution of autistic people on the board. Concerns were raised that autistic people would not maintain a majority on the board. One member (Suzy) made suggested that perhaps autistic members who would like to be on the board but do not have the current skills could be encouraged to shadow current board members. Yo noted that The Autescape Organisation does not have a formal mentoring programme but that members who were keen to be more involved were encouraged to join subcommittees. Another member (Lyte) suggested that members should try to observe the board meetings, assuming sufficient notice was given.

**Action: Board members would ensure that adequate notice was given of board meetings.**

5. One member (Larry) formally resigned his membership from The Autescape Organisation in protest of the election of non-autistic members to the board.

6. A. Green thanked the current board members for running Autescape.

7. There was no other business.

Meeting adjourned.