

BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**M I N U T E S**

**16 MAY 2012**

Minutes of the meeting held from 14:00 to 17:00 on 16 May 2012  
in the Pinewood Room, BFI, 21 Stephen Street, London W1T 1LN.

**Present:**

Greg Dyke (Chair)

Josh Berger (By telephone for item 4 and part of  
item 5)

Peter Foy

Beeban Kidron

Peter Kosminsky

Matthew Justice

Libby Savill (For items 1 to 6(b))

Cy Young

**In attendance:**

Amanda Nevill Chief Executive

Tim Cagney Deputy Chief Executive

Trevor Mawby Director of Finance & Resources

Iain Thomson Board Secretary

**In attendance for part of the meeting:**

Francesca Vinti Director of Development Item  
4(b)

Heather Stewart Creative Director of BFI Item  
6(b)

Clare Stewart Head of Exhibition Item  
6(b)

Paula Le Dieu Director of Digital Item 5

Eddie Berg Director of Partnerships Item 5

Alex Stolz Senior Executive Item 5

## **1. WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed the Governors to the meeting.

### **2.a APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Rt Hon James Purnell

Tessa Ross CBE

Shami Chakrabarti CBE

Tom Hooper OBE

### **2.b. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- Amanda Nevill and Trevor Mawby declared an interest as company directors of British Film Institute (Big Screen) Limited.
- Amanda Nevill and Peter Foy declared an interest as Trustees of the BFI Trust. Iain Thomson declared an interest as Secretary to the BFI Trust. It was agreed that the nature of these interests was such that they would not be required to leave the room during the meeting.
- Beeban Kidron declared an interest as a Trustee of FilmClub. It was agreed that the nature of her interest was such that she would be required to leave the meeting in advance of any decision being made on Item 5 - Policy Paper: Education.
- Peter Kosminsky declared an interest as a trustee of First Light. It was agreed that the nature of his interest was such that he would be required to leave the meeting in advance of any decision being made on Item 5 - Policy Paper: Education.
- Also noted were the interests of most Governors in different aspects of the film industry and various related parties. It was agreed that the nature of these interests was such that none of these Governors would be required to leave the room during this meeting.

*Josh Berger joined the meeting.*

### 3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25 APRIL 2012

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2012 were noted and approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

### 4. UPDATE FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

#### a) Nominations and Appointments Committee

Libby Savill updated the Board on the recent meeting of the Nominations and Appointments Committee which was held on 25 April 2012. The update paper before the Board was noted.

The Board discussed the rules for the election of a Member Governor, specifically Article 13 which states:

*"Where less than 10% of the total electorate has participated in the election the election will be null and void. The Board of Governors will then determine how to fill the resulting vacancy."*

Following the discussion it was agreed that Article 13 would remain in the rules for the next two elections after which time the appropriateness of retaining it would be reviewed by the Board. It was agreed that in advance of the election the number of eligible voters should be published.

#### **Action: Iain Thomson**

Following consideration of the matters in the paper it was resolved to:

- Approve the revised terms of reference of the Nominations and Appointments Committee appended to the paper;
- Upon the expiration of their terms, approve the appointment of Peter Foy and Shami Chakrabarti as BFI Governors pursuant to Article 6(d) of the Royal Charter until September 2012 or the conclusion of the new Governor recruitment process;
- Approve the deletion of Article 12 from the Rules for Member Governor Elections appended to the paper.

*Matthew Justice joined the meeting. Francesca Vinti also joined the meeting.*

**b) International Development Council**

The paper before the Board was noted. Francesca Vinti gave an update of recent Development activities and fundraising initiatives.

The considerable efforts of the International Development Council, chaired by Josh Berger, were noted by the Board. Plans for a BFI Fundraising Gala to be held in 2013 were outlined to the Board. The Gala represents a completely new initiative which it is hoped would become a landmark event generating significant income for the BFI year on year. A Gala Committee was currently being formed which would be charged with overseeing the organisation of the event. The Board would be kept apprised of developments in relation to the Gala. A great deal of enthusiasm was expressed by the Board for the planned Gala and other initiatives outlined.

*Francesca Vinti left the meeting.*

**5. BFI FUTURE PLAN 2012-2017**

**Policy Paper: International Strategy**

**[a part of this minute has been withheld for reasons of confidentiality]**

- 5.1** Tim Cagney outlined the International Strategy policy paper which was noted by the Board.
- 5.2** The Board discussed the six interlinked areas that the BFI's leadership and co-ordination role will focus on.
- 5.3** The Board recognised the work being done by the BFI to convene the disparate organisations that have an international dimension. The Board was informed that there is a growing recognition amongst these organisations that moving forward as a cohesive unit will achieve greater results.

- 5.4 Work was currently being undertaken to identify territories that should be focussed on in terms of future investment.
- 5.5 The Board discussed the issue of co-production treaties. While the usefulness of such treaties was recognised in certain circumstances, the difficulty involved in their negotiation was noted. [The remainder of this minute has been withheld for reasons of confidentiality]
- 5.6 The Board resolved to approve the recommendations in the paper contained in Point 9.1 and authorisation was given to proceed with the initiatives outlined. It was requested that the paper be made more concise and also more explicit in relation to how practically the objectives of the Strategy will be achieved.

*Josh Berger left the meeting.*

It was agreed to deal with matter 6(b) - London Film Festival next.

## **6. ORDINARY BUSINESS**

*Clare Stewart and Heather Stewart joined the meeting.*

### **b) Chief Executive's Report**

#### **BFI London Film Festival**

Heather Stewart briefly introduced plans for the 2012 BFI London Film Festival (LFF). This was followed by a presentation by Clare Stewart. The four main objectives for the 2012 BFI LFF were outlined as being to:

- Grow audiences and revenue streams;
- Diversify the audience and make the festival more accessible;
- Broaden the reach of the festival across the UK;
- Strengthen and build the international standing of the festival.

The Board were fully supportive of the initiatives planned to achieve the above objectives.

*Clare Stewart and Heather Stewart left the meeting.*

**5. BFI FUTURE PLAN 2012–2017 CONTINUED**

*Paula Le Dieu, Eddie Berg and Alex Stolz joined the meeting.*

**Policy Paper Update: Boosting Audience Choice**

- 5.7** Paula Le Dieu outlined the context in which digital interventions were taking place and how Digital is working in tandem with other activities across the BFI.
- 5.8** Further to the presentation given by Clare Stewart, the Board requested that at a future juncture the role of Digital in the BFI LFF be outlined.
- 5.9** Alex Stolz demonstrated an interactive map to the Board that contained all the venues that have publicised screenings in the UK in 2011. The level of detail available for each area and venue was also demonstrated. The Board noted that the map would be continuously updated.
- 5.10** The map would prove invaluable for extrapolating back to identify areas that have good access to specialised film. This would prove useful for the BFI in plotting a real UK-wide reach and would facilitate the making of informed decisions based on solid data.
- 5.11** Eddie Berg outlined the challenge of how to connect the widest audience with the broadest range of film and how a collaborative UK-wide network was being developed to meet this challenge.
- 5.12** The Board noted that the Boosting Audience Choice policy paper would be presented for approval at the next meeting.
- 5.13** The Board requested that the presentation be distributed to all Governors.

**Action: Iain Thomson**

*Paula Le Dieu, Eddie Berg and Alex Stolz left the meeting.  
Libby Savill also left the meeting.*

## **Policy Paper: Education**

**5.14** The revisions made to the paper since the last iteration were noted by the Board.

**5.15** The Board was satisfied that comments made and revisions suggested had been reflected in the paper before it. The Board expressed its gratitude to Tim Cagney in this regard.

Because of the existence of a conflict of interest both Beeban Kidron and Peter Kosminsky excused themselves from further deliberations and the final decision in relation to this matter.

*Beeban Kidron and Peter Kosminsky left the meeting.*

**5.16** Following a further brief discussion by the Board it was resolved to approve the recommendations contained in the paper at Point 6.1.

## **6. ORDINARY BUSINESS CONTINUED**

*Beeban Kidron and Peter Kosminsky rejoined the meeting.*

### **a) Finance Report**

The Board noted the Finance Paper and the Period 1 Management Accounts. Trevor Mawby informed the Board that the Statutory Accounts would be brought to the next meeting for approval.

### **b) Chief Executive's Report**

The Board were informed that both the Press launch and the BFI Future Plan launch at the IMAX on 14 May 2012 had gone very well.

The Board were informed that the new BFI Library at the Southbank was nearly complete.

### **c) BFI Film Centre Opportunities**

It was agreed to defer this paper until such time as further discussions had taken place between the BFI and other relevant parties.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 7.1** It was agreed that arrangements would be made for the Board to visit the new BFI Master Film Store Gaydon in the future.

The meeting closed at 17:00

**Iain Thomson**  
**Board Secretary**