

Agenda Item A:

Attendees:

Sue Mowforth (SM), Jan Torkington (JT), Jane Snow(JS), Penny Griggs (PG), Phil Ray (PR), Mark Grainger (MG), Graham Richardson (GR), John Chilcott, Pete Torkington (PT), Vi Granger(VG), John Newland (JN), Ursula Starke, Larch Gault (LG), Mark Curtis.

Apologies: Rebecca Andrews, Helen Burgess, Stephen Cartridge, Stephanie Cheng, Pat Counsell, Nicki Crossthwaite-Eyre, Helen Doyle, Diana Easterbrook, David Eldred, Jean Eldred, Janette Finn, David Gartside, Rosemary Hamilton, Mike Holland, Adrian Hyncica, Marty Johnston, Will Liddell, Morag MacDougall, Stephen Makepeace, Julia McNeill, Glen Miller, Sarah Miller, Alison Needham, Vernon Needham, John Ottoway, Anne Paine, Anna Powell, Liz Scrase, Fiona Stormer, Gordon Verity, Jenny Verity, Margaret Walter, Pam Whitehouse, Kevin Wilding, Jane Wilson, David Wiltshire, Hylda WilsonHelen Wright, Nick Wright.

Item B: Confirmation of Minutes of 2013 AGM

Proposed by MG, seconded by GR. Approved.

Item C: Synopsis of Chairman's Summary (Full Report at Appendix 1)

- Another successful year for the Club with a significant increase in membership and tickets sold. Hence our AGM discussion (Item Hii) on what to do with surplus funds.
- The year started badly with our first film, Wadjda, not arriving. Positive actions by the ODEON team, the audience and committee members ensured that it resolved happily in the end. This was a prime example of the Club ambience which makes working on the committee so rewarding.
- The whole ODEON team is fully supportive of our Club.
- Because we can't show Classic Film at the ODEON we rely on other venues for our 'Special' events. This season we've had two such at the Wolversdene Club and one at the ADMES Hut in Harewood Forest. We are still looking for other suitable venues for showing films.
- The smooth running of the Club relies on the goodwill and hard work of our volunteer committee. This year we've undertaken a full review of all our processes in order to simplify them wherever possible. Most of this involves routine admin but one simplified process noticeable to members is the streamlined 'fast track' entry system for pre-booked tickets on film nights.
- Many thanks to the Committee for their hard work this year, and to the Members for keeping on coming!

Item D: Synopsis of Treasurer's Report (Full Report at Appendix 2)

- Membership and Ticket sales have increased.
- Three Special Events made a small overall loss.
- A cheque fraud was detected by the Treasurer and reimbursed by the bank.
- Outgoings remain steady.
- Overall profit this year with a healthy surplus.

Item E: Synopsis of Secretary/Membership Sec's Report (Full Report at Appendix 3)

- Audience participation has been far greater than in earlier years. The foyer at the Odeon has been fairly buzzing and indicates a real increase in 'Club' atmosphere.
- Membership numbers have increased 40% from 76 to 105.
- The most popular ways of attracting new members have been incentives for Members to introduce new members, and the £12 membership available to non-members who buy at least two tickets.
- Bring-a-friend-for-free vouchers are well used and popular.

Item F: Synopsis of AFC Programming (Full Report at Appendix 4)

- The process of obtaining films for showing at the ODEON is fairly straightforward but occasionally suffers from unexplainable problems. This means that we can't always get the films we want to show.
- There has been a shortage of foreign and English-Language films in this season's programming. We hope to address this next season.
- Our Special Event films have been easy to obtain through the BFI/BFFS, but the venues for showing these are limited and of small capacity. We are continually on the look-out for good venues.

The Committee members were all thanked for their contributions to the smooth running of the Club.

Item G: Election of Officers

PR updated the meeting that Helen Doyle had stepped down from the Committee. Her contributions to the Club, especially in her role as a funding advisor for Grant Applications and simplifying Club procedures had been extremely beneficial. PR thanked her for all her help and hard work over the past few years.

The Committee stood down and the meeting was temporarily chaired by MG while the following Members were elected:

Name	Position 2013/14	Proposed	Seconded	Position 2013/14
Phil Ray	Chairman	JT	JN	Chairman
Penny Griggs	Treasurer	VG	GR	Treasurer
Mark Granger	Secretary /Membership Sec			Secretary/ Membership Sec
Pete Torkington	Comms /website			Comms/website backup
Larch Gauld				Comms /website
Graham Richardson	Committee Member			Committee Member
Sue Mowforth	Committee Member			Committee Member

John Newland AFC Member
Helen Doyle Committee Member

Committee Member
(Resigned)

Item H(i) Proposal:

Proposal that the current wording in para 4.4.4. of the Club's Constitution specifying the quorum for General Meetings be replaced with "The quorum for General Meetings shall be eight members of the Club. These must include the Chair, Treasurer and one other member of the committee." Reason for change being the struggle to attract enough members to the AGM – though not this year!

Proposed by PT, seconded by SM, passed unanimously.

Item H(ii) Debate on Financial Assets.

The meeting was reminded that it is AFC policy to hold one year's expenditure (approx £4k) in reserve. The Club currently has approximately £1k over this amount in reserve, so the debate was on the best way of using this sum.

Suggestions were:

- The committee had already agreed to fund the printing costs of the '100 years of Cinema in Andover' up to £250. Suggestion to double this.
- LG suggested paying for speakers to talk on aspects of Film/Cinema.
Action LG
- One-off free events. But would only benefit those who attended.
- One-year fee reduction. Would complicate our already complex pricing structure.
- Capital expenditure. Buying a projector for Special Events has previously been debated and dismissed – overall too expensive plus insurance/storage overheads.
- AFC has been approached to support Andover Mind bring 'Dead Poet's Society' film to the Lights as a Robin Williams tribute. All profits to Andover Mind.

Meeting voted unanimously:

1. to double the payment for printing '100 years of Cinema in Andover' to £500, negating the need to apply for a grant.
2. to donate £250 to Andover Mind to support the 'Dead Poet's Society' Film to be shown at The Lights.
Action PR

Item I - Any Other Business:

- JS suggested a letter of thanks to the ODEON staff for their support this season. Agreed. **Action PR**
- MG raised the issue of the timing of the AGM as an August date conflicts with holidays. GR suggested moving it to October when the accounts should have been audited. Agreement to consult membership on either August or October. **Action MG**
- VG and JS asked if members who had trouble using email could be communicated with via the post. MG explained the time and cost overheads but willing to try it at his discretion. To be discussed in Committee.

Meeting closed at 1330hrs and attendees were invited to the buffet lunch.

Full transcripts of Committee Reports:

Appendix 1 Chair Review (PR)

I think we can all look back on what's been another very successful year for the club, from memory there's been a call every year to expect a year of consolidation but the figures, which we'll hear of later, keep outstripping expectation and are very positive which have been very exciting for those of us keeping track of the numbers. In fact the success has led us to the point where we are beginning to think beyond the years budgetary requirement and how we should utilise the excess for the best interests of the club and its members which is a fantastic prospect. This will be discussed later in the meeting nonetheless this all points to us reflecting on another great year though of course we shouldn't get carried away, a pat on the back is only 18 inches away from a kick up the backside. I think when we all arrived at the cinema in October last year to watch Wadjda to be told the film couldn't go ahead because of a technical hitch tells us to always expect the unexpected. Though there issues regarding communication of the situation I think we're very lucky to have conscientious staff at the ODEON and the duty manager that night took it as a personal slight that the film wasn't ready even though circumstances were beyond his control. We were also very lucky that the audience were very understanding and I feel that that was indicative of the nature of the club, its members and its audiences who I believe have now made the Monday night film a real part of their calendar, coming on the night with friends and apologetic if they've missed the previous month's film. The Committee have commented regularly over the course of the season on the pleasant mood in the foyer both before and after the film, wanting to further discuss the issues that the evening's film has addressed or find out more about next feature.

We've shown some challenging films over the year and I think the club element gives people the opportunity to assess and absorb some of the elements however troubling in a 'warmer' environment than a one-off single visit to a film which is one of those intangible benefits of a club such as this. The constant level of support and feedback from the members is thoroughly appreciated by myself and I'm sure the rest of the Committee and really makes the time spent on the club worthwhile. We hope that with the voting model, the feedback forms, the published feedback review and the other avenues of contact that members' and audiences' opinions are respected and represented fairly.

During the season Trevor Cavell left as manager of the ODEON and Chris Peeke was appointed in his place, we were very fortunate in that Chris had

worked at the cinema briefly before and was aware of the club so other than personal introductions there was no in-depth requirement to explain what the club is and what it does. Chris is a huge supporter of the club and is very happy to see it housed at the cinema and understands the benefit to the community, so I'd like to pay tribute to Chris and the staff who are all extremely helpful and thank them and ODEON for accommodating us. When I wrote to the Regional Manager to ask if ODEON would be happy to have us continue for another season recently I was delighted to receive a positive response the next day which I think is representative of the clear lines of communication and assistance we've experienced of late with what is a national company with many other concerns.

The club saw the return of Special Events this season which the Committee feel is an essential part of club programming. Because of rights issues unfortunately classic films can't be shown at the ODEON so another outlet is required unfortunately venues, or lack of, were the issue previously and always have been when considering an event. This season we managed to secure and use the Hayward Suite at the Wolverdene Club twice before they accepted a long-term booking which has prevented us going back. Though not ideal nonetheless the Committee were disappointed to lose it as a venue.

Our most recent event at the ADMES Hut, which we've used before, definitely captured the more intimate, relaxed feel these evenings have taken on and I hope we can work with ADMES again to put on another evening soon. We like to keep our options open of course and if anyone knows of any other venues in town we'd be grateful. I think the requirement for classic films is a valid one, though we've tried to grow the audiences for these events they remain smaller than the ODEON evenings they've still been very enjoyable and been appreciated.

As ever the Committee have over the season reviewed the processes used in order to refine and improve them especially with regard to the growth of the club. We are a volunteer group so in order to not be overwhelmed this is an aspect of the running of the club regularly addressed. This time it was done under the auspice of the 'Simplification sub-group' reporting back to the committee, its mandate was to examine roles, expenses and ticket pricing. Guided by Helen Doyle this proved to be a useful exercise, some elements remained unchanged after review but some will alter in the forthcoming season. This re-examination was especially successful in recommending fully documenting each individual's roles and duties, some of the roles have changed over the club's existence and some require technical expertise and the club would struggle if someone was unavailable for a significant period of time. To my mind this process only further illustrates the professional approach that the club takes when carrying out and fulfilling its duties.

To wrap up, I'd like to thank the rest of the committee for their efforts over this season and for making this year as chair very pleasurable and rewarding. To echo Graham and Pete in previous year, many thanks must go to Mark whose beady eye keeps the club running on a day to day basis and the drive in

membership this year is in large part down to him. I'd also like to thank Penny who had little choice(!) in joining the club and becoming Treasurer, I hope she's enjoyed her first year. Thanks to Pete for his overseeing of the Comms. Role and website, thanks also go to Sue, Graham and Helen, Helen who's standing down and takes with her our best wishes and gratitude for her contribution over the past few years.

And for next season? I'll keep the tradition of looking to a year of consolidation and an expectation of the numbers eventually levelling off. Other than that more of the same please!

Participation, interest, good films and fun! If we can pick up some more members and good audiences along the way then I think we'll all be happy.

Appendix 2: TREASURERS REPORT (PG)

We have had a very successful year having shown a total of 10 films this year, there being a problem with showing Wadjda in October and, therefore, we were offered, courtesy of the Odeon a free showing of Sunshine in Leith. With the exception of Frances Ha in December we made a healthy profit on 9 of them. The reason Frances Ha did not make a profit was the fact that, as a goodwill gesture to the Members for in inconvenience caused we carried forward credits for those people who were unable to attend Wadjda when we finally did show it in November.

We also put on three special events ie. Nosferateu, Black Orpheus and Buster Keaton/Charlie Chaplin and although we made a small loss on the first two, Buster Keaton made a magnificent profit of £1.01p. Our ticket sales have been brilliant with three films topping over 100 and on a couple of occasions we have had to move into a bigger screen at the Odeon.

Unfortunately the club has been subject to a fraud in the bank account when £15 cheque was stolen and altered to £1500 but HSBC have reimbursed us without any question as they can't be bothered to investigate: it's too much trouble!

Our Membership receipts are up by approx £450 as are our Receipts for Attendance which have increased by approx £150. As we are in a good financial situation we only had one raffle this year but made a good profit of £48.

This year our venue and film hire is slightly increased to £2905. Paypal fees amount to £195.50 but although this is considerable it reflects the fact that our audience figures have increased and that our film goers clearly find it very convenient to book their tickets and membership renewal by this means.

Printing & Stationery is quite a high figure at £904.78 but this figure also includes printing in respect of the Club's 100 Years of Cinema project together with a new supply of membership cards at a cost of £120 (the Club having only had one supply since its inauguration.

The website figure of £223 is for two year's hosting of the Film Clubs website. The magazine figure of £45 is a subscription to the Film Publication that our Chairman requires in order to select possible films for future showing. The sum of £95 is for membership of the BFSS and this enables us to have cheaper insurance and also hire films for our special events.

We have made a possible surplus of approx £1700/£1800 but this figure may well alter when the accounts are audited and as I have to recheck some figures I apologise for not have definite figures.

As at the 31 July our Film Club Bank balance is £5425.51.

Appendix 2(a) Attached as a separate document contains all the relevant Club Accounts for the 2013-2014 season

Appendix 3: Secretary/Membership Secretary's Report (MG)

Good Afternoon. Like Phil & Penny my report this year is extremely positive. I will shortly deal with the membership situation, but before I do that I would like to put my personal view on how the Club has developed over the last 12 months.

I have been able to attend all bar one of our routine monthly films at the Odeon and only missed Black Orpheus at the ADMES hut because I was away on holiday. At all of the events I have attended, I have been pleased to note that the audience participation has been far greater than in earlier years. The foyer at the Odeon has been fairly buzzing with conversation, both before and after the film Members and non-members alike are greeting old friends and treating the whole experience as something a bit more than just a trip to the cinema. Responses to our feedback forum are increasing and voting for future films has been steadily increasing. Even those members who I have been badgering for their membership fees seem to part with their cash with a smile. In short I think the Club has developed much more of a Club atmosphere and for that I would like to thank you the members. Without your support and participation it would not be possible.

Now I will talk about membership. Last year I was pleased to announce a 16% growth in membership to a peak of 78 members and a year-end figure of 76 full members. This year we broke the 100 member mark for the first time, and currently have 105 full members, a slight drop on the season's maximum of 107 members but still an increase of 40% on last year's maximum. We have lost 14 members but recruited 40 new members. Last year we recruited an number of new members through an advertised discounted membership of

£15.00 but as the last of those had a poor response we have not repeated the exercise.

Nearly half of our new members have joined as a result of recommendation from existing members, who get a reward for the introduction in the form of a free entry voucher. In fact 3 of our members have managed to introduce 2 new members thus helping the growth in

Another successful method of recruiting new members has been what we have called the £12.00 deal for any non-member buying 2 or more tickets. By means of effective communication, offering this package both before and after each film to all relevant non-members, we have managed, at no financial cost to the club to persuade 13 non-members to take out membership. As we point out when offering the deal they only need to attend 2 more of our events with a guest for it to membership to be self-financing.

We have continued to offer Gift Membership as an option for both members and non-members to buy for friends or family, but in the last year we only sold 1 Gift Membership pack. Although Gift Tickets have also been available as a “low cost present” idea, there has been no take up in the last 12 months.

The Bring a Friend for Free vouchers have continued to be a popular benefit for the majority of our members, with approximately two thirds of the members using at least one voucher over the season and several of our members using all their voucher entitlement. As using the vouchers encourages participation in our events by a wider audience than we would otherwise get, it is expected that this benefit will be continued into next season and beyond.

Appendix 4: Film Programming (PR)

On the whole the process of tracking down and getting the films for consideration has been fairly straight-forward. 2/3 thirds of the films we requested from ODEON for the committee vote were available, admittedly a I took the occasional risk on a specific film but from where I sit ODEON deals with a large amount of distributors but seemingly not all of their films, the decision whether to show a film for a single screening is though ultimately down to the distributor who might not be willing for a number of reasons.

I'd like to mention and thank Graham O'Connor who is our contact at the booking office and is the one who tracks down these films is extremely helpful and the club benefits greatly with his assistance.

Unfortunately three times the most favoured film by the committee was unavailable to us, one of them was Cinema Paradiso which we thought would be hard to get distributor-wise and proved to be, the others were Gloria and Unforgiven, both foreign films. I think the main criticism looking at the list would be the lack of foreign films or English-Language films, only one was shown, Wadjda. The majority are American but if you look at the actual voting

it was closer. There were the films I just mentioned but Renoir, The Great Beauty and Hannah Arendt lost out just to the eventual winners and it is of course the members who have final say.

During the season the committee came to the decision that with a steadily growing membership that the opportunity is there to take some more risks with the Committee Choice, this was helped when the Committee didn't take the opportunity to pick The Great Beauty as a screening and was regretted by most if not all. Though not binding, Foreign-Language films will be given more serious consideration as committee picks.

The Special Event films, Nosferatu, Keaton/Chaplin and Black Orpheus were easy to obtain from the BFI and BFFS who each hold a wide range of classics, the process of paying for them is easy and the films are usually sourced by us so can be tested beforehand. All three evenings were specifically chosen by themes, Halloween; 100th Chaplin anniversary; World Cup. I think using exterior factors or themes are a good way to interest the email list and are a fun exercise for the committee to think up.

As I mentioned earlier venues are an issue with regards numbers and from a purists point of view, the screening of some films. We know that this venue, this room (at the Wolversdene Club), is potentially available but the size of screen is not viable especially with classics when they're 4:3 projection which would drastically cut down the image seen on this screen for instance. To retain credibility as a film club and be appreciative of films we should bear that in mind.

end