

Feasta Trustees' Meeting by skype, April 10th 2017

Present: Willi Kiefel, Graham Barnes, Anne Ryan, Mike Sandler, Michelle Murphy

Apologies: Seán Conlan, Michele Brady, Cólín Nunan, John Sharry

Mark Garavan's skype connection failed and he was unable to join the meeting

Notes: Anne Ryan

There was one matter arising from the notes of the February meeting. The meeting noted and thanked Morag for her comment on the drop in budget and members expressed the view that the comment sets the context for this drop. See Morag's full comment below.¹

The meeting agreed that, once they have been read and approved by the trustees, the notes of the trustee meetings should in future be filed on our website for ease of public viewing. A procedure for signing the notes will need to be arranged.

The meeting thanked Morag for her update.

The meeting reviewed the recent process of compiling the IEN funding application and annual report. The trustees thanked everyone who contributed. It was noted that it is a good opportunity to reflect on strategy and direction and that even though it sometimes seems a bit chaotic, the process gets people communicating with each other. It also seems to be necessary that two or three people do the lion's share of coordinating the various pieces of information and documentation. It was also agreed that it would be useful to start compiling information now for the 2017 AR and application process, in something like a google doc. It was noted that the names of the trustees should appear in the AR.

Regarding the Charities Governance Code requirements, a small working group of Seán, Michele B and perhaps John will work through the requirements and report back to the trustees about the outstanding items. The meeting noted the volume of work for which Michele B is taking responsibility and would like to ensure that she receives any supports she needs.

The meeting thanked David Healy for his considered response to our request for clarification about what he does in his role as IEN and Environmental Pillar Rep. Anne will follow up this matter with Theresa O'Donoghue.

Graham provided a discussion document, which sets out possibilities for an agenda for a dedicated meeting regarding Feasta direction and strategy. The first steps in this discussion will take place in a meeting on May 4th in Dublin. Caroline, Morag, David and Theresa to be invited along with all the trustees.

The next meeting of the trustees will take place on Monday May 8th by skype.

¹ Just one question re notes; "The trustees noted the dramatic drop in budget". Presume that was that in comparison to our glory days, as opposed to 2017 over 2016? I know I have been conservative in estimating income and minimising expenditure for the coming year, just in case, but hopefully income will be comparable - if not better, with increased memberships/donations - than last year. Similarly, Bruce started out 2016 estimating a much lower income and a little lower expenditure than turned out to be the case by year end.