



# SOUTH EAST LONDON COMMUNITY ENERGY

## Selce AGM minutes

20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### In attendance:

Members: Anna Dolling, Joseph Swift, Gearoid Kennedy, Carol O'Tool, Clare Silcock, Andrew Baguley, Andrea Casalotti, Mark Gill, Ben Durcan, James Stevens, Fiona Moore, Sergio Olivares, James Sheward, Deborah Jones, Samantha White, Camilla Berens, Christian Rauch, Nadia Smith, Ruth Bradshaw, Ben Durcan, Bradley Roth, Andrew Rendel, Jason Blanchard, Glyn Thomas, Alex Hartley, Susan Watson, John Keidan, Anna Fairtlough, Deborah Jones, James Sheward, Yem Gurung, Ruth Bradshaw, Julia Roundtree, Giovanna Speciale

Selce Staff: Bilqis Alam; Katherin Garcia Rincon, Yunus Emre Nas

Apologies: Zak Preston, Louise Sunderland, Catherine Munday, Sue Pollock, Jonathon Porritt. John Webb, Ed Mayo

Minutes taken by: Jason Blanchard

Meeting held online and formally opened at: 7:36pm

Form attendance taken (Via the Teams chat function): 34 members present

Participants were asked to introduce themselves and give the length of their membership.

Selce's Chair, Camilla Berens, checked that all members had received the 2020 AGM minutes and the 2020/21 financial statements.

The chair confirmed that the meeting was quorate and that the names of attending members were submitted via the Chat facility on Teams.

Selce's CEO, Giovanna Special, provided a review of the co-operative's work over the past year and thanking Selce staff and volunteers. Fuel Poverty Alleviation Manager, Katherin Rincon, provided a review of the fuel poverty outreach work within the context of the pandemic and the additional initiatives that have been put in place to support the most vulnerable during the crisis.

LED and Future-Fit Homes Project manager, Nadia Smith, provided details of Selce's new initiatives to accelerate the uptake of insulation measures and low-energy LED lighting in SE London.

Giovanna provided a review of the ongoing challenges resulting from sub-standard installation of SO1 and SO2 solar arrays by the now defunct company, GHG, and the drop in income from all solar sites as a result of the buildings being closed during the Covid crisis.

Giovanna also explained that a lack of response from Eon Energy has also made it impossible to activate the agreed Feed-in Tariff on the largest array in Share Offer 3. Giovanna has now enlisted the help of local MP Matthew Pennycook to resolve this issue. Three members at the AGM also offered to write to Eon. Giovanna agreed to provide a template letter.

Selce's Treasurer, Andrew Rendel, provided a high-level summary of the financial accounts for 2020/21.

Former Selce director, Sergio Olivares, stated that it may be prudent to consider alternative accountants in the future to ensure that Selce has a fresh look at the accounts from both an internal and external perspective. He also praised the quality of the work being carried out by the current accountant, Shruti Soni.

**Resolution 1:** to receive the directors' report and financial statements together with the report of the financial statements by the accountant for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

Moved by Camilla Berens, Chair of the Board.

25 in favour

Move passed and accounts adopted.

**Resolution 2:** re-appointment of independent accountant, Shruti Soni, from Charity Accountants for the period 2021/22.

Moved by Giovanna Speciale, CEO.

25 in favour

Resolution passed. One abstention.

**Resolution 2a:** request for disapplication of Section 83 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Society Act 2014 for period 2021/22.

Moved by Christian Rauch, Director.

23 in favour

Resolution passed. Two abstentions.

**Resolution 3:** request for payment of annual dividends for 2020-21 to be 0% for all three share offers.

Moved by Andrew Rendel, Treasurer.

22 in favour

Resolution passed. Three abstentions.

**Resolution 4:** recommendation for members to be able to withdraw up to £20,000 of the share capital held by Selce.

Moved by Andrew Rendel, Treasurer.

25 in favour

Resolution passed. One abstention.

The following Directors stepped down

Ruth Bradshaw,  
Lesley Giles,  
James Sheward,  
Dr David Dixon (co-opted)  
Zak Preston (co-opted)

Camilla and Giovanna thanked the six directors who were stepping down at the AGM. One member expressed concern about the number of directors leaving the board. Selce director, Alex Hartley, noted that the board had been quite large at 12 in total and that there were still eight directors in place for the forthcoming year. She confirmed that there had been no 'falling-out' within the board.

Camilla provided a brief 'bigger picture' summary of Selce's role within the wider sustainability movement.

Giovanna outlined her idea for a planned gathering of local environmental and social organisations called *Together for Our Future*. This will be an open-space event to encourage collaboration for sustainable development in SE London. Selce members were invited to attend the event and a poll of possible dates confirmed that the most popular option was Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

The chair formally closed the AGM: 21:10