

Minutes of Platform 6 Development Co-operative Limited AGM. 13th February 2020, 2pm by Zoom conferencing

Present: Mark Simmonds (Co-op Culture)(MS), Alain Demontoux (CCF)(AD), Graham Mitchell(MC3)(GM), Cath Muller (Footprint & Chair)(CM), Austen Cordasco (CAN)(AC), Pete Burden(PB), Simon Carter(Just.coop)(SC), Leo Samallahti (Coop Exchange)(LS), Gareth Nash (CMS)(GN)

It was agreed to record the meeting using the Zoom facility to do so.

Apologies for absence

Martin Meteyard

Bob Cannell

1. Directors' report

Membership update – we currently have 8 organisational and 21 individual members. At end of last financial year (June 2019) we had 8 plus 17 individuals.

At this point CM gave an update on what Platform 6 is (for newer members).

Open Collective – GM gave us an update on what it is and who we are currently hosting 8 open collectives as a fiscal host:

- [Wobbly](#)
- [The Potting Shed](#) Climate Hub
- [Rochdale Stronger Together](#)
- [Wikipedia Coop Fund](#)
- [Open Credit Network](#)
- [Changebase](#)
- [York Collective](#)
- [Lowimpact.org](#)
- we are about to host social.coop open collective

Loomio group update – we have two P6 Loomios, one for members and one public facing. We have negotiated a reduced rate with Loomio of \$1 per member per annum. Stats below:

Organisation stats (including subgroups)						
February 12th, 2018 15:26 - February 13th, 2020 16:13						
General						
Visits	Members	Subgroups	Threads	Polls	Votes	Comments
2934	113	1	78	20	116	1590
Polls						
Proposal	Count	Choose	Allocate	Score	Rank	Time poll
3	1	4	1	2	0	9

Social media - [coop support network](#) – we now have over 200 members of this international FB group. We have a coop crowdfunding monitor which tweets regularly – seen as a success.

Website devpt. GM is updating the mechanisms for listing a co-op crowdfunder. GM updated us on the website development – looking to develop some outward facing resources and improve visibility of resources. Upcoming features:

- Members page on website – easily created and updated by members.
- Project profile option – for startups to register and grow their “crowd”

GM is looking for help around this web development.

CM mentioned our [HackMD resource wiki](#)

Cooperantics and other resources – Cooperantics will be winding up soon. Kate will be joining P6 as an individual and we will be hosting Cooperantics resources in a discrete archive to ensure that they remain available as a co-op development resource..

Resource development with CAN – we have recently started a project to develop on-line tools for co-op development workers to use with their clients (eg development needs analysis). These are currently owned by CAN, spreadsheet based and used by co-op developers under licence. The proposal is to develop some on-line tools. Early days – at planning stage. Seeking to identify potential funders and need to develop a revenue model.

Aspiration to become a Hive provider

We are already doing some ad hoc co-op development work as Platform 6 and where possibility of that being paid are spinning it out to P6 members.

We would like P6 to be a Hive provider in its own right and will shortly submit an application to become a Hive provider using the pro bono advice to date as evidence.

MS also talked about Barefoot Co-op Development and the possibility that P6 may be the vehicle for the Barefoot CD project in the future. Funding bids in and about to start if they are successful.

Ways Forward – Platform 6 has taken over the Ways Forward event brand with the approval of Co-operative Business Consultants who will be winding up shortly. Whilst there will be no Ways Forward 8 in 2020, members of P6 are involved in a weekend event celebrating Worker Democracy in Hebden Bridge in July – [All our own work](#)

Digital Life Collective (DLC) – It is proposed that P6 move to DLC a UK registered co-operative (GM is chair) with a focus on open source and co-operative approaches to digital tools and technologies – they current offer based around Mattermost (alternative to Slack) – available as a beta service with an invitation to help with co-development. Also provides channels to work with other groups. Could also potentially be a member benefit. There is a negotiable fee (looking at \$10 per user per year). GM has put a proposal into Open:2020

Breadfunds UK – CM gave us an update on P6's role in hosting the funds for the existing UK Breadfunds pilot. Now supporting [Leeds Mutual First Aid](#) and we are rebuilding their website.

2. Presentation of accounts

The accounts were presented and accepted by the members.

3. Election of Directors

All existing Directors resigned, stood for re-election and were re-elected unanimously en masse. CM, AC, GM, LS and MS.

4. General discussion on the future direction of Platform 6

PB was impressed with the breadth of what has been done and there appears to be an emerging sense of direction "Keep going and experimenting". The spreading of responsibility should be the main issue. Suggests we explore what's working well and seek to develop the culture around that. CM suggests that it is the personal interest of those involved. MS suggests we look to develop that culture that involvement in P6 should make life easier rather than involve more work.

LS – priority to widen the participation. Monthly members meeting. Open chat group and start using the funding to support startups. Really values the international aspect. Particularly the US.

Action: MS to promote P6 to US co-operative development workers in SofA coop circle.

AD – very exciting. Worry that we might have too many things going on to do the priority things well.

GN – Agrees with PB. There's a limit to voluntary activity. How do we tap into those people who are interested in helping to create more coops – eg retail societies. The idea of this wider constituency is interesting and we need to remove the boundary between members and directors.

LS excited by the option of using OC more as an alternative to Patreon.

SC has been disappointed by the lack of support generally for co-op start-ups from the co-op movement – still here and still trying. GM offered to pick up with SC on-line.

Virtual incubator – GM is interested in the concept that we could host a virtual start-up environment, similar to start.coop

AC suggested that might already be a virtual incubator or something close to it.
MS suggests that we explore this on Loomio.

5. Any other business. None.

Meeting finished approx 3.30pm