



DOCA AGM
Thursday 31st October 2019
Devizes Museum 6.30pm

1. Welcome by the Chair

Dave Buxton (standing in as Chair) opened the meeting and welcomed those present

Apologies: Kelvin Nash, Andy Geddes

2. Minutes of 2018 AGM – adopted

3. Chairman's Report

DOCA is a relatively small organisation, yet it delivers a big punch! Its activities delight the townsfolk, and attracts many visitors who enjoy the tremendous artistic programme, and adds significantly to the vibrancy of Devizes.

We live in a time where the only constant is change.

We see this wherever we look, and it is the bold innovators that thrive.

The last 12 months has been a very interesting and successful year for a bold DOCA :

- Thought provoking events and installations marking the centenary of the 1918 armistice
 - Every year we buy our poppies, but what does that mean?
 - DOCA's work caused people to stop and think, and talk about sacrifice
 - Exactly a year ago, DOCA commissioned a remarkable Rangoli artwork in St John's
- In 2019, DOCA brought in an amazing new team of professionals to develop the arts, liaise with its volunteers, and to provide administration and support to its well established and highly respected Artistic Director, Loz
 - Bringing in Liz, Claire and Aimee in the same season was a bold change, but they have all come together to form an awesome team... I sincerely thank you all.
- The really bold change this year was to move Carnival to July
 - The aim was to increase children's and school's participation, and it worked really well. Some schools reported a 100% turnout from their carnival clubs.
 - The change also worked well for people like Jennings Fair, synonymous with carnival.
 - Looking forward, I'd like to see more community participation, particularly from groups and organisations from the town, so that we can develop carnival even more.
- The Confetti Battle and Colour Rush was moved to a Saturday
 - The result was most definitely an increase in numbers, and giving many more people the opportunity to come along to this unique event... local people who couldn't come before because of work or school restraints, and visitors who had more time to travel.



All this is made possible by our wonderful team of Festival Makers, led by the DOCA staff and trustees, together with our sponsors, advertisers and partners, who provide a mix of financial and in-kind support. We have a long list of sponsors and funders, which can be found on the DOCA website, www.docadevizes.org.uk

So here's to another amazing year to come in 2020!

4. Artistic Director's Report

5. Treasurer's Report

. The Accounts before you are for the period 1 May 2018 to 30 April 2019 and have been independently audited and signed off by Charlton Baker Accountants.

Financially speaking, 2018/19 proved to be a more successful year, as compared to 2017/18. We ended the year with £1,113 in surplus, making a small contribution to the Festival's Reserves but this was nevertheless £1,600 less than we had hoped.

Our income was around £9,800 short of what we had budgeted but off-setting this our expenses were also less, by £8,200 than budgeted.

INCOME

We did very well with Earned Income particularly with Summer Stall concessions where we took over £7,000, almost doubled that which we budgeted; and we did exceedingly well with Colour Rush where we took over £3,000. However, we did not achieve what we had hoped for in funding from the Local Authorities or, indeed, from Corporate and public funding, which together fell short of the budget by over £11,000.

EXPENDITURE

To off-set this, we spent less overall on the Festival than was budgeted. Although we spent £2,550 above the budget on the Street Festival and an extra £1,000 on Marketing, we made savings of £1,160 on the other Summer events and £2,000 on the Winter Events. The main savings, however, were on Salaries, where we saved £5,900 and £2,400 on Lantern workshops and Carnival development.

Balance Sheet

Turning to the Balance Sheet. The figures here are a snapshot as at 30 April 2019; these are the balances in the account in respect of transactions which relate either to the prior, or current, year. As you can see, our bank balance at the end of the Financial Year stood at a healthy £53,295, with the final tranche of the 2018 /19 Arts Council Grant of £7,800 still to come.

The debtor figure, which was money owing to the Festival as at that date, included this final tranche from the Arts Council;

The stock figure of £1,187 related to the value of the Pimms, glasses and goblets held in the storage containers; and the Prepaid expenses related to what we had paid in advance, the largest item being £7,400 to Beautiful Creatures for the creation and delivery of Big Beryl, the 6m puppet seen in both the Amesbury and Devizes Carnivals.

The Accruals figure, including Tax and National Insurance, is the expenditure we had incurred but had not then paid from our bank account;

And lastly, Income in Advance is monies we had received but which related to activities in this current year, £16,500 of which was funding for the joint Amesbury Carnival Project.



As you can see from the bottom of the balance sheet we started Financial Year 2019/20 on a sound footing with £1,113 added to our Reserves.

Happy to take questions.

6. Election of Trustees

All current Trustees were re-elected

Kelvin Nash

Elaine Gale

Dave Buxton

Cliff Evans

Tony Woodison

Sarah Gregson

7. Appointment of Auditors

Charlton Baker to be re-appointed.

Proposed Tony Woodison

Seconded Dave Buxton

8. Close of Meeting & AOB

Questions were raised from the audience on the use of the Market Place and it was confirmed that DOCA will continue to have access to the whole of this during events.

A further question was raised concerning the involvement of volunteers.

The AGM for 2020 will be brought forward to July in line with DOCA's year end and the Arts Council funding cycle.