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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Bio-Based and Biodegradable Industries Association (BBIA)

The AGM of the BBIA has been called for Friday 24th May 2019 at 11,30am at the offices of The Institute of Directors in 116 Pall Mall, London.

The Members of BBIA discussed the agenda items as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes of the AGM of May 9th 2018
2. Chairman's annual report on the activities of the BBIA
3. Treasurer's financial report for 2018 and budget for 2019
4. proposal regarding the membership fees for 2020
5. proposal for activities of the BBIA in 2019

Present were representatives of the following members:

Futamura, Biome Biotechnologies, Novamont, BASF, Biotec/Sphere Group, Natureworks, Parkside Packaging, Tipa Compostables, Fuchs Oils, representing 9 of the 20 members having voting rights.

The AGM is quorate according to article 27(2) of the association articles and therefore able to discuss and decide upon the agenda.

Also present were David Newman the Managing Director and Mr Hector Grant who is introduced as newly responsible for the administration and accounting of BBIA.

1. The Chairman welcomed members and thanked them for being present. He proposed to approve the minutes of the AGM of May 9th 2018 and members approved unanimously.
2. The Chairman read his report on the activities of the BBIA over the last year and attached to these minutes. Members discussed the Chairmans' remarks.

Steve Pritchard of Fuchs said that a new Ecolabel on biodegradable lubricants was about to be issued and required some work from the BBIA and he would send that around for comments.

Mariagovanna Vetere of Natureworks complimented the BBIA on the policy documents issued for the consultation process.

Andy Sweetman also gave a short presentation on the way forward for compostable packaging and a discussion developed around this. He also mentioned that we should consider how to go forward on the work with Sancroft International in the later part of this year. Paul Mines reflected that we are not handling the question of potential contamination of plastics recycling by bioplastics well enough and we should think more about our responses here. He also sent around an article from Nature journal on the reduction of the GHG impact of plastics in which evidence is given on bioplastics too.



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David Newman thought that within the Usable Packaging project we could develop focus groups to understand better how to mark, brand and label compostable packaging. He will investigate.

We need to involve OPRL more and the Gary Tee will try to talk to them before our meeting June 19th.

Jens Hamprecht called upon the BBIA to help develop stronger links with national associations. The weakness of lobbying organisations in countries such as Germany needs to be overcome by showing how policies elsewhere are developing and to get best practices across. David will invite national associations to attend June 19th. Jens will develop a discussion paper on what to do next.

3. The Treasurer reported that the BBIA financial situation was stable with income from member fees exceeding expenses in 2018 by £6,444. Income exceeded the budgeted amount for 2018 due to the exceptional expenditure members financed for the work of Sancroft International on the DEFRA consultations.
Income from the Res Urbis project showed a small loss because we have to spend money before we get reimbursed the expenses. The AGM approved the account for the year 2018 as attached to these minutes.
4. The Treasurer presented the budget for 2019 which is similar to 2018 with the exception of new income from the EU Grant Usable Packaging project, giving €300,000 income over 3 years. This will involve BBIA hiring a part-time employee to assist the MD. The AGM approved the budget for 2019 as attached.
5. Regarding the annual fees the Board proposes to membership to leave fees unchanged for the forthcoming financial year of 2020. The AGM approved.
6. Finally, continuing from the discussion regarding the Chair's report, the AGM discussed briefly additional comments from the MD regarding ongoing consultation process and what to expect over the course of 2019.
All agreed that the association and the sector is in a position that none thought achievable just a few years ago and that the activities around bio-based and biodegradable materials was growing rapidly.

Nothing more to discuss the AGM closed at 1pm

Signed this day of.....

Andy Sweetman
Chairman

David Newman
Director