

**Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 7 October 2021 by video conference**

Apologies had been received from:

David Collins
Jenny Gee
Malcolm Gee
Cliff Harvey
Rolf Kraehenbuehl
Simon Maddison
Gavril Morariu
Nicholas Reuss
Lionel Squire
John Stephenson
Alastair Taylor
Ian Wright

Registered to attend were:

Ken Clarke	Allan Leonard
Tracey Ainsley	Nick Linnett
Francis Annett	Mike Longhurst
Keith Bamber	Simon Maddison
David Barnes	Simon Maddison
David Baxter	Katherine Maguire
Andrv©	Rosemary Mann
Bergmans	John Marris
Irene Berry	Christopher
Elizabeth Boden	Martinka
Wojtek Boden	Valerie Mather
Jonathan Bolgar	Valerie McManus
Michel Claverie	Mark Moore
Avijit Datta	Carmel Morris
Wendy G Davies	Carolyn Newton
Jan Davis	Carol Olerud
Peter Degnan	Anthony Ovens
Janey Devine	Jeff Owen
Peter Dixon	Mark Phillips
Malcolm English	Gerald Phillipson
Ron W Evans	Godfrey Pitt
Edward Forster	Brian Quavar
Harry Hall	Wayne Richards
Alan Horn	David Rutter
Carol Hudson	David Sage
Chris Jennings	Lionel Squire
Simon Lawrence	Derek Trendell
David Leibowitz	

1.	Welcome and Minutes of the 2020 AGM The Chair asked if there were any apologies for absence other than those who had previously indicated such. There were none.
----	--

**Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 7 October 2021 by video conference**

	The minutes of the previous AGM had been distributed with the meeting notice, were agreed without change by those present and signed by the Secretary on behalf of the Chair.
2.	Report from the Chair and Plans for 2022/2024 The Chair read his report. A copy of the text is appended to these minutes at page 3. A Zoom poll was taken. The report was carried <i>nem con</i> . The Doc Secretary was asked to provide a list of As and Fs.
3.	DG Finances The Finance Report had been distributed before the meeting. A copy of the text is attached at page 4. A Zoom poll was taken. The report was carried <i>nem con</i> . The Chair undertook to fund Zoom and to contribute towards Regional events. A volunteer is needed to coordinate funding requests and manage the distribution of funds.
4.	Membership A brief report on membership numbers had been distributed before the meeting. The report is attached at page 5.
5.	Decisive Moment update The report presented can be found at page 6.
6.	Election of the 2021/2022 Committee The Chair thanked committee members and volunteers for their support. There were no recorded nominations for any of the committee roles. The Chair said that members of 2020/2021 committee were prepared to continue with the exception of the Secretary who had decided to retire. There were no objections to those prepared to continue in post. A short time before the AGM Nick Linnett had offered himself as secretary. He was supported in this by Stewart Wall and Ron Evans. The Committee was elected as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mark Phillips – Chair b) Andrew Ripley – Treasurer c) Nick Linnett – Secretary d) David Thorp – Editor, Decisive Moment Other volunteers and committee members were co-opted and not up for election.
7.	DPotY Volunteers Wayne Richards was co-opted on to the Committee. Patricia Hilbert has offered to assist and support as her other commitments allow.
8.	Any Other Business Simon Maddison asked if the work of Doc Group Fs and As could be published. The Chairman undertook to put this request to the Committee.

The formal meeting closed at 18:29 and was followed by an Engagement Talk given by Mimi Mollica.

Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 7 October 2021 by video conference

Chair's report – October 2021 - AGM

Welcome. The events of 2020 and early 2021 have caused us all to change our habits and activities. But despite that, we have managed to maintain and, in many instances, expand our Documentary Group activities. Whilst we hope to start putting on 'in person' events soon, on-line is here to stay and provides a means for those living further away to participate.

In 2020 and 2021 we have:

- Had our first crop of Documentary distinctions
- Created and developed our in-depth online 'Telling Stories' Workshop series (in 3 parts). Working with professional photographer Jon Cunningham (Creative Escapes), we ran 12 of these in 2020 and a further 6 so far in 2021.
- We also ran an Engagement Talks series from September 2020 until May 2021, and are restarting again, but probably at lower frequency.
- We continued to develop Decisive Moment, in terms of content and quality, although had a few production challenges and resource constraints to overcome.
- We helped regional sub-groups to go online and support the start of new sub-groups, including some jointly with Contemporary. This will become more important as we 'open up'
- Last, but by no means least, we are running DPOTY 2021.

All of this is outlined in our updated 2021-2024 Plan. An update of which will be posted on the website, after the AGM. Comments are welcome.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank a few people ... all the current committee, all our regional volunteers who have helped grow the Group and the regional sub-groups. Without you, there would be nothing.

Special thanks this year go to David Barnes (our long-standing and retiring Secretary) and Patricia Hilbert (web and social media) who despite work pressures designed our DPOTY website and kick started some of our social media campaigns, she will continue to support in an advisory capacity.

Documentary Photographer of the Year (DPOTY) went global this year. As well as a Member category we had Student and Open categories. We have a panel of international judges, that would be credible in any major global competition or salon. We attracted hundreds of entries, from across the globe, and in total had over 3500 images to judge. We are part way through that process and on track to complete in November. The plan then is to announce the winners and take an exhibition on tour in 2022. Harry Hall, working with the Regions, has already lined up venues in Oxford, Newcastle, and Chippenham, with one or two more possibilities in planning and hopefully the event at Fujifilm House of Photography in London.

Separate updates will be provided on finances, membership and Decisive Moment.

Final, thank you all for your support. Looking forward to 'getting out more' in 2022.

Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 7 October 2021 by video conference

RPS - Documentary Group

Hon. Treasurer's Report, FYE 31st December 2020

We started 2020 with a bank balance of £23,272.18, and ended it, after our various activities, with £28,296.59 – an increase of £5,024.41 over the course of the year.

As can be seen, our underlying source of funding comes from Members Subscriptions (£5,499.39) which, according to the Committee's long-stated objective, is to be used for the benefit of the Documentary Group membership.

This means subsidising our various events and the activities (including our DPotY competition) required to run the Group, to the following extent:

	2020	2019
Members Subs	£5,499.39	£5,496.45
HO Financing / VAT Refund	£434.60	£43.29
In Year Events	£4,250.00	(£2,475.00)
Sub Group Income	£52.70	£0.00
<i>less</i>		
DPotY	(£1,026.00)	(£2,347.11)
Decisive Moment	(£358.84)	(£744.34)
Conference	£0.00	(£615.24)
Prior Year	(£305.80)	£0.00
Bi-monthly Competition	£0.00	(£52.50)
Events in Current Year	(£3,040.00)	
Regional Meetings	(£350.51)	(£567.87)
Admin, Travel etc	(£131.33)	(£787.10)
Increase in bank balance	£5,024.41	(£2,049.42)

So, a successful year financially and we remain comfortably funded.

Andrew Ripley
Hon Treasurer
Documentary Group

**Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 7 October 2021 by video conference**

Documentary Group Membership

Membership has increased in the last year from approximately 500 to nearly 600.
Distinctions in the Group are:

	2020	2021
FRPS	4%	5%
ARPS	24%	26%
LRPS	26%	26%
None	46%	43%

Comparisons with other Groups are not available.

Documentary Group
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at
18:00 on 7 October 2021 by video conference

2021 AGM – The Decisive Moment Overview

The Decisive Moment (DM) aims to showcase a diverse range of Documentary Photography and publish work and features that support the Documentary Group's Plan and Objectives. Each edition of DM contains 8-10 features, runs to over 100 pages and is freely available to everyone through the Issuu platform. Individual features appear on our social media, website and can be reproduced as individual pdfs. <https://rps.org/groups/documentary/the-decisive-moment-the-quarterly-journal-of-the-documentary-group/>

Full credit goes to the editorial team: Ian Wright, Gerry Phillipson, Ray Hobbs, Graham Wilson and Lyn Newton who regularly produce interesting and high-quality content. Publishing the magazine would not be possible without them and all those that have contributed articles or images for features. I would encourage all members to consider contributing either project of their own or pitching an idea for an article.

Edition 20, published in September 2020 focused on Photojournalism and registered around 1500 reads on the Issuu publication statistics. Edition 21 featured articles on Mik Critchlow, Larry Fink, Distinction successes and members projects has recorded over 1800 reads to date. Edition 22 promoted DPOTY 2021 and recorded over 1000 reads. Edition 23 will be live this week.

'Circulation' is a little lower this year despite developing a close partnership with Issuu and being selected for their Elite Program <https://issuu.com/customersuccess/elite>. We will continue to try and make the most of the content produced, publishing it to the RPS Website, Issuu and social media. I would encourage members to follow and share the content we produce to help it reach the widest audience and promote visibility of the RPS and Documentary Group to an external audience.