



Extra-ordinary meeting of the BBC Board

MINUTES

15 April 2020
Held by Video Conference

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Apologies and Conflicts of Interest
2. Coronavirus and Budget Update
3. AOB

ATTENDANCE

Present

- David Clementi Chairman
- Tony Hall Director-General
- Tim Davie Chief Executive Officer, BBC Studios
- Shirley Garrood Non-executive director
- Tanni Grey-Thompson Non-executive director
- Ian Hargreaves Non-executive director
- Tom Ilube Non-executive director (by phone)
- Ken MacQuarrie Director, Nations and Regions
- Steve Morrison Non-executive director
- Nicholas Serota Non-executive director
- Elan Closs Stephens Non-executive director
- Ashley Steel Non-executive director
- Fran Unsworth Director, News and Current Affairs

Apologies:

- There were no apologies

With

- Phil Harrold Company Secretary
- Jo Clarke Secretary
- Bob Shennan BBC Managing Director
- Glyn Isherwood Group Finance and Operations Director
- Gautam Rangarajan Director, Strategy
- Wendy Aslett Group HR Director

1. Apologies and Conflicts of Interest

1.1 There were no apologies for the meeting and no conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Coronavirus and Budget Update

2.1 Since the original 2020/21 Budget was presented in March 2020, there had been significant changes driven by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The impact on the media industry and wider economy had been unprecedented, and the financial challenges facing the BBC would also be substantial. In addition to the delay in the implementation of the over 75s licence fee policy, which the Board had approved at its meeting in March (Paper B(20) 41A), it was likely that licence fee collection and sales would also be affected, along with a number of other financial impacts. In the light of these changed circumstances the Board had requested that an updated financial forecast for the year should be developed.

2.2 The Board discussed the updated forecast which set out the impact of COVID-19, as far as was currently understood, on the BBC’s income and expenditure over the coming year. The paper also outlined a number of possible mitigations the Executive proposed in order to mitigate the impact of the changed financial outlook. More work would be undertaken between now and the Board meeting on 30th April on the evolving financial position and the possible mitigations.

2.3 The Board noted the changed financial position as set out in the updated forecast and the mitigations under consideration. A full forecast would return with the original Budget to the April Board meeting.

3. AOB

3.1 There was no other business.

Approved by the Board: _____ (Chairman)

_____ (Date)