**Upstart AGM, via Zoom**

**12th June 2021**

**Present**

Sue Palmer, Kate Johnston, David Ashford, Tam Baillie, Willie French, John Frank, Dawn Ewan, Sarah Latto, Pauline Scott, Cameron Sprague, Suzanne Zeedyk, Ali Laver, Emma-Louise Cole, Alison J Hawkins, Jeanette Murray, Alison Whelan, Antonia McGowan, Bryony Date, Debra Muir, Diane Delaney, Donna Adams, Gayle Robertson, Gerard Diamond, Heather Underwood, Ilene Neilson, Jane Houston, Kenny Forsyth, Loreen Pardoe, Natalie Nesbitt, Rachel Duckwoth, Rachel Duff, Sharlene Downs, Sharon Imray, Tracy Grieve, Christine Sadler, Jennifer Gall

**Apologies** from Carol Craig, Elizabeth Henderson, Fiona Hamilton, Terry Ross

**Minutes of Upstart Scotland AGM 2020**

Agreed. Proposed by Loreen Pardoe and seconded by Willie French.

**Chair’s Report**

This had been sent out prior to AGM and is available on the Upstart Scotland [website](https://www.upstart.scot/agm-2020-documents/). Sue Palmer highlighted what have been the main achievements, focusing on the success of *Play is the Way* and the subsequent Book Group sessions.

**Vice-chair’s Report**

Kate thanked everyone who has supported Upstart over the past year.

**Treasurer’s Report**

David Ashford shared that the annual accounts have been audited and are available via the OSCR and Upstart website.

**Election of Office-Bearers and Board of Trustees**

All board members who were prepared to stand again were proposed and seconded en masse.

Sue Palmer, Chair
Kate Johnston, Vice Chair/Secretary
David Ashford, Treasurer and Membership Secretary

Board Members
Willie French, Tam Baillie, Carol Craig, Dawn Ewan, Professor John Frank and Sarah Latto (proposed by Cameron Sprague and seconded by Loreen Pardoe)

**Presentations followed from Pauline Scott and Cameron Sprague**

**Discussion**

**What should Upstart be doing in the coming year?**

* Sue proposed that it would be a good idea for practitioners who are actually working with children on a daily basis, such as Pauline and Cameron, to share good practice whether it be via Zoom or in person (Covid restrictions permitting).
* Question about how can we put more pressure on Local Authorities to acknowledge the need for change in practice – Sue shared that copies of *Play is the Way* had been distributed to all the Heads of Education and that the new book of quotes would also be sent out.
* Further discussion on the importance of keeping the collective Upstart voice heard in order to bring about a cultural shift, with inspiring contributions from Cameron Sprague, Suzanne Zeedyk, Alison Whelan, Tam Baillie, Willie French and Christine Sadler. The point was made that Upstart should now be identifying and nurturing its allies/champions, some of whom may be in influential positions, in order to bring about the small changes that in turn become the big changes. Much agreement from those contributing to the Zoom discussion.

**Date of next AGM**

June 2022