

Got to Read AGM – Monday 12 September 2016

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

At this time of great national uncertainty, it has been very consoling to see Got to Read continue to flourish quietly; I believe that now, despite being in a 'holding pattern' for a while, we have more trained volunteers and active reading partnerships than ever before. I would like to thank Tracy for her continuing hard work and enthusiasm which has enabled this happy state of affairs and I would also like to extend our thanks to St. Mary-le-Tower for their provision of such a welcoming 'home' for us.

But the political and economic situation could have major financial implications for us, as well as other consequences; for example, we cannot be certain about the future of EU-funded projects and partners who have referred potential students to us, and this uncertainty may continue for some time. This means that we may have to allocate extra time and effort to contact the people who need us, as usually the only way they hear about us is word-of-mouth. Tracy, the Trustees and I will continue to formulate strategies that we hope will enable Got to Read to continue quietly flourishing in its own inimitable way.

Kay McElhinney (Chair)

#### CEO's report 2016

Moving in to the premises at Tower House in July 2015 provided a settled and appropriate space for one to one learning. Our learners and volunteers have been feeding back how much they appreciate the environment. We are grateful to Suffolk Community Foundation for helping us to obtain the initial funding to secure the new space.

As always, admiration is due to the learners who achieve so much through their hard work and determination, and heartfelt thanks are due to our dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers who support them and those volunteers who work in the background to keep us going.

We'd like to acknowledge the substantial support from local firms Marks and Spencer, Willis Group and London Victoria (LV) – their generosity has meant that we continue to provide space and excellent resources to help more learners with their learning journeys. The impact of this type of flexible funding is that we are able to support any adult learner who asks for help with reading, regardless of demographic or circumstances, which is so important to the Got to Read ethos.

Tracy Bose (CEO - Voluntary)