

# **Kinning Park Complex**

## **Annual General Meeting 2021**

The KPC AGM 2021 is a Trustee election year. As a Member of the Kinning Park Complex, we invite you to read the biographies of the Members who have nominated themselves for a Trustee position. They have been selected by our most recent Board of Trustees and Leadership team, who we feel have the appropriate skills and experiences to support the organisation's vision for the next two years.

### **Gill Duffelen - Chairperson**

I am a Programme and Change Manager of many years' experience. I have worked mostly in the public sector and often involved in programmes where construction and/or relocation provide a catalyst for change; I have seen first-hand the impact and rewards achieved through transforming spaces and workplaces.

I live on the southside of Glasgow and first came across KPC in 2015 when the building's future was under threat. Despite the many challenges they faced I witnessed the amazing work that the KPC Team were doing in and with the local community and I wanted to help achieve their vision to secure KPC's future. As a member of KPC's Board I have been fortunate to be able to do this and to finally see the renovation of the building completed. Through the renovation we have had the opportunity to create more collaborative and inclusive spaces, and I know that when we reopen the building KPC will quickly return to being the vibrant and well-loved community it has always been. I bring to the KPC Board strong organisational, logic and problem-solving skills, and a fondness for saying "Yes, but what if...?"

### **Sara Johnstone - Vice Chair**

I have been working in the performing arts sector for 6 years, advocating for independent dance in Scotland and empowering freelance dance artists and

choreographers to lead in their practice.

I was interested to join the KPC board as their values of inclusivity, empowerment, collaboration and participation mirrored the values we were fostering in dance and I was keen to witness and support how this was being applied within the community that I call home.

I bring experience of working with a member-led decision-making culture and have a keen interest in non-hierarchical, non-competitive working models. I relish in always looking at how we can learn from others to do things differently. I think KPC has demonstrated this brilliantly and I look forward to being part of their future.

## **Margaret Gibb - Treasurer**

Driven by a strong belief in social justice, I have been fortunate to spend the last 25 years working and volunteering in third sector organisations. I am passionate about the sector's values and its value to society, communities and to individuals.

I became aware of KPC some years ago, especially the arts and cultural activities it established in the early days. I greatly enjoy the arts, so I was excited to read about a new facility at a time when Glasgow really needed local community and arts spaces.

After some moving around the UK then resettling in Glasgow, I later reconnected with the journey of KPC and its growth in community led services and activities. It was clear to me then that KPC had a strong sense of its place in the community but also a vision that still had a place for supporting creativity and artistic expression. This blend of community led development, activities and creativity is still an exciting and interesting proposition to me.

In my professional life I have been able to see how much local centres such as KPC contribute to the health, wellbeing, and cohesion of the communities they serve. Often, they are a lifeline for many people, and I want to be able to play a small part in helping the KPC community to thrive in order that more people can connect with others, learn,

express their creativity, and be supported when they need a hand, or at times a safety net, whilst having a chance to give support to others.

I've been very fortunate to have spent time working at senior and chief executive levels in a range of organisations and have benefited enormously from the experience, and most especially from working with a wide range of great people. I now run my own consultancy/interim executive business supporting third sector organisations, often at short notice and in challenging circumstances.

Recent work includes CEO roles at Refugee Survival Trust and Scotland's International Development Alliance. I hope I can bring to KPC strong financial management skills at

strategic and operational levels, lots of organisation management experience, an awareness of the wider operating environment and funding landscape alongside a willingness to roll my sleeves up and muck in with whatever priority or emergency might need my help.

Outside of work I've been busy being a single parent of three now young adult sons, a music lover, intermittent hiker and a hoarder of far too many books.

## **Alison McCandlish - Additional Member**

I'm a lecturer in city planning and run my own creative heritage business. I have lived in the KPC area for over 15 years and feel very much at home here. When I am not at work you may spot me walking my friend's dog in Plantation Park, lounging in the library or hanging out at the Coffee Cartel. I love KPC, and have had the pleasure of attending many events like yoga, community meals, BBQ and bike repair classes..

KPC is such a great community hub and I am so excited it is opening again! I'd like to be an ordinary member of the board; in the last few years I have been involved with the renovation and governance subcommittees on the board and I would like to bring my professional experience of project management, funding application writing and creative community work together with my local knowledge to make a useful contribution to the projects and membership subcommittee.

## **David Lees - New Board Member**

David currently works as part of the self managing team at The GalGael Trust in Ibrox. He started volunteering in 2017 when he moved back to Glasgow after a decade in London. In 2018 he joined the staff team, with a primary focus on keeping GalGael Enterprises operational, initially through renting workshop space to furniture makers and other craftspeople. He has contributed to all Trust and Enterprise Board meetings and AGMs in this time. His most recent project has been co-convening the Govan Free State; an exploration of power and legitimacy in the face of the climate crisis. This came into being at Samhain and the start of COP26 in November 2021.

In London, David worked as a Project Manager for Luke Hughes and Company; a furniture designer and maker based in Covent Garden. He oversaw major furnishing projects primarily at Oxbridge colleges; notably a total refit of the Dyson Centre for Engineering Design in Cambridge. Prior to this he managed a reproduction antiques showroom on the Kings Road in Chelsea, and had a brief stint at Harrods. David studied Theatre at the University of Glasgow, and maintains an active interest in contemporary art and performance. In 2019 he took a one man show called 'Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer' to the Bergen Kunsthall in Norway.

David flirted with the Labour Party via Momentum at a moment of seeming hope in 2015, but now focuses his energy on local grassroots movements for social justice and has a particular passion for land rights and Scottish independence. He is involved with a small group in the south side called Camp Commons, which fosters an area of neglected ground by Queen's Park. The group has a long term aim of taking the land into community ownership. David grew up in Rutherglen and went to Stonelaw High School. He now lives with his partner and his dog in Shawlands.

## **David Weaver - New Board Member**

I'm David Weaver, and I currently work for the independent concert promoters 432 Presents. I'm also a DJ, podcaster, music journalist, and creative director of the event and video collective, Detour Scotland.

I've always been passionate about events, and community engagement. My career has been mainly music-based, but I've always been keenly interested in the power of spaces, and the ability for communities to engage and develop around shared venues and buildings.

As well as experience of organising and producing events, I also have history working throughout the private, public and voluntary sectors, experience with funding applications, and knowledge of marketing, communications and social media projects.

### **Farrukh Azeem - Additional Member**

I have been living in the G51 postcode in the same flat since 2004. I have done 2 Masters and have been working in the financial services industry for the last 12 Years. I currently do Consultancy work based on projects and hence it has given me good exposure to management of business issues and then working towards resolution. I can potentially bring this to the table for different roles. (Farrukh's statement from 2019, due to family commitments he was unable to provide one for this evening).

### **Franziska Paul - New Board Member**

Hello, my name is Franziska Paul and I am looking forward to joining the KPC Board as a Full Board Member. I currently work for the University of Glasgow where I am a postdoctoral researcher on a project that explores public and collective ownership of (public) services and infrastructures across the world. Outside of work I enjoy gardening, am a keen beekeeper (though currently without bees!) and can't wait for live music, ceilidhs and dances to properly return.

Originally from Germany I have lived in Scotland for 11 years. I am still relatively new to the Kinning Park area but have really enjoyed living here for the past year and getting more involved with the community through the Because We Say So team and the KPC community meals. For me, KPC provides a valuable resource for both the local and wider Glaswegian community as it offers a space for different people to come together to learn, eat, or just be, in an area that lacks alternative venues. I am hoping that by joining the KPC Board, I can contribute not just to an organisation I believe in, but my wider neighbourhood and community as well, and connect with more like minded people here.

Through my training as a social scientist I have developed good organisational, communication and listening skills which will be useful to the Board. I am also bringing curiosity and openness as I am learning to navigate this new role, and am building on my existing experiences with student representation, in school and university, and workplace unionism.

## **Harriet Simms - New Board Member**

Hi there! I'm Hattie (Harriet) Simms and I've been living in Glasgow for the last 5 years. My first 2 years in Glasgow were spent in Cessnock, where I was introduced to Kinning Park Complex and the fantastic work that you do. I am originally from the Peak District and originally moved up to Glasgow to study. I have a background in design, started in

furniture and have moved to participatory design and design research. I'm interested in bringing people affected by a system or design into the design process through participation and co-production, with the aim of creating more effective, responsive and democratic outcomes.

I want to join the board as I really admire the work of Kinning Park Complex and am keen to be a more active part of the organisation. Over 2020 I volunteered as part of KPC's 'Acts of Organised Kindness' project and it was inspiring to see how effectively KPC adapted and responded to the impacts of the pandemic. It shows the importance of

community led organisations as they are able to respond to local needs quickly through a strong understanding of their neighbourhood and gather resources locally through their networks. It was wonderful to see how many people were supported by and contributed to the project. Over the past few years KPC has gone through major development both structurally and physically with the building renovations, and is now approaching an exciting moment in the organisation's history. It would be a privilege to be a part of this moment and be able to contribute my skills, experience and passion for community empowerment.

I work as Community Engagement Officer at The Glasgow School of Art which focuses on developing partnerships and relationships with the local neighbourhood of Garnethill.

The role is geographically based and the priorities of the programme are driven by local stakeholders. As well as improving communication and relationships between GSA and Garnethill, over the past 3 years I have also planned and delivered a range of creative projects including artist residencies, children holiday programmes and community events, always working in partnership and collaboration with local community groups. Alongside this, I work on a range of design research projects exploring participatory and collaborative tools, asset-based approaches, democratic practices and place.

I will bring to the board my experience in partnership work, community development and creative engagement. I am excited at this opportunity to contribute to KPC's next stage as a member-led organisation and support the organisation to continue growing inclusively and collaboratively.

## **Jekaterina Ancane - New Board Member**

I am a recent graduate from Masters in Architectural Studies - Urban Design pathway, with a background in Urban Planning and Art History. My current interests lean towards re-use and regeneration of existing urban fabric and community focused design. Hence, I am finding myself keen to be involved in projects that appreciate these values and consider community aspects and work with public and common spaces. I believe that establishing solid bonds through communication with residents and communities is crucial for understanding what drivers have to be implemented in development

processes and address them in a way tailored for a particular location. KPC is a project that sits right within these interests of mine, hence I am very keen to contribute to its development as well as use it as an opportunity to learn more about ways such community led spaces function. In addition to that, as a recent local resident, I am interested in understanding the area better and becoming engaged with local development processes.

I will bring with me strong interest in community run spaces, knowledge of development planning, and dedication to wellbeing in the area.

## **Leah Lockhart - Additional Member**

I'm Leah Lockhart and I am currently a Board Trustee and a member of the Marketing and Communications sub-committee. I live in Shawlands with my dog and my partner. I work as a freelance researcher and group facilitator, mainly with public services.

I would like to remain a KPC Board Trustee because I want to help KPC develop its new organisational structures. I would also like to keep supporting KPC's Marketing and Communications team to realise their new plans, and to represent the team at Board meetings. In my role as Trustee, I bring skills and experience in convening groups for collaboration and knowledge sharing, digital engagement and communication, workshop design, and community engagement.

I also bring a focus on inclusivity and accessibility for the development of KPC's new or expanding services. In the next year, I hope my skills and interests will support the KPC team as they develop relationships with tenants and with new and returning visitors to the building. KPC is a beloved and vital community space that I am honoured to be a part of.

## **Naomi Alexander Naidoo - New Board Member**

Naomi Alexander Naidoo is Head of Movement and Partnerships at Chayn, a global non-profit supporting survivors of abuse across borders. Chayn creates open, online resources and services for survivors that are trauma-informed, intersectional, multi-lingual and feminist. Naomi leads Chayn's collaboration with and contribution to the global movement to end gender-based violence.

An experienced community builder for systems change, Naomi specialises in building networks and movements on social and environmental justice issues such as gender equality, climate justice, anti-racism and transforming finance. She is an advisor to the Make My Money Matter campaign and Own It, a joint initiative of Friends of the Earth and Enrol Yourself supporting women to take climate action with their personal finances. Naomi is also an organiser with POCIMPACT - a community connecting, recognising and supporting people of colour working in social impact. In 2020, Naomi was recognised

as one of the leading BAME voices in the UK environmental movement by Climate Reframe, and was highlighted as a standout star in Innovate Finance's Women in Fintech powerlist. She has an academic background in moral philosophy and applied ethics, with a First Class Honours degree from King's College London and a Master's Cum Laude from Utrecht University.

Naomi wanted to join KPC's boards as she believes vibrant community spaces are vital to building an equitable and sustainable future. She believes that creating spaces where people can come together, learn, plan and take action and, of course, have fun, is a necessary component of the movement building needed to create systemic change, and is especially important at the local, community level. Given the challenges for physical community spaces posed by covid-19, and the opportunities for rethinking spaces, communities and society that are emerging as we open up again, Naomi was particularly excited to get involved with KPC at this time. Naomi brings a wealth of experience in network building and communications, as well as events, facilitation, anti-oppression and strategy co-creation.