

Principle 5
Reviving Co-operative Culture

Directors Report to the 2016 AGM
11th October 2016

The Resource Centre has been open for over three years now, and has been formally constituted since May 2014. Steady progress has been made towards reviving co-operative culture. The strength of this co-operative lies in the members, without a strong membership there can be no Principle 5 resource centre. That is why the Board take this opportunity to thank Principle 5 members for their loyalty to the cause. The future of our co-operative resource centre is dependent on increasing the membership. The only source of income has been from membership subscriptions. The Directors on behalf of Principle 5 members also extend thanks and appreciation to Sheffield Co-operative Development Group and Co-operatives Yorkshire and the Humber for their continuing support.

Since the last AGM Principle 5 has recruited four Supporter Members. This category of membership pay a minimum subscription of thirty pounds per year. If our co-operative can attract the two categories of members, User Members and Supporter Members, our future will be more secure.

We are very pleased to welcome our Supporter Members;

Independent Labour Publications
Yorkshire Co-operative Party
The Phone Co-op
The Co-operative College

In addition to the income from membership, in the short term at least, grant funding will have to be secured. This is a call out for anyone who has fund-raising skills and knowledge to help.

Principle 5 is an exciting and innovative project and has the potential to start a network of local co-operative resource centres. Now is the time to bring more life into Principle 5 and so it is hoped that as many members who feel able will stand for election to the Board to bring new skills and insights into the co-operative. Members are asked to make themselves familiar with the Principle 5 website and to share the hyperlink with others as ever they think appropriate. Membership forms and flyers can be downloaded.

Activity in 2016

- A monthly Study Group has met at the Centre including a special event for Fairtrade Fortnight with Paul Birch from Revolver Coffee. (Study Group notes are published on the website).
- Co-operative resources have been used by a community project in Westfield.
- Principle 5 had a presence at the Sheffield Anarchist Book Fair.
- The website is now active.
- P5 is working to develop links with other organisations e.g. Workers Education Association, The Co-operative College (let us know who else we could seek to work with).
- Books have been added to the Library.
- Visitors and members have borrowed books.
- Co-opsMap has been developed (See separate paper).