MINUTES OF THE 101st MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CHANNEL FOUR **TELEVISION CORPORATION**

HELD AT 124 HORSEFERRY ROAD, LONDON SW1P 2TX ON 13th September 2004

Luke Johnson Present: Chairman

> Barry Cox Deputy Chairman Andy Duncan Chief Executive Andy Barnes Sales Director

Kevin Lygo Director of Television Rob Woodward Commercial Director Andrew Graham Non-Executive Member Ian Ritchie Non-Executive Member Sue Ashtiany Non-Executive Member Robin Miller Non-Executive Member Karren Brady Non-Executive Member Andy Mollett Non-Executive Member

Paola Tedaldi In attendance: Secretary

> Director of Nations and Regions Stuart Cosgrove

Sue Ford **Finance Director**

John Newbigin **Head of Corporate Relations**

David Scott Apologies: **Deputy Chief Executive**

Please note that commercially sensitive information has been redacted.

Minutes of the **Hundredth Meeting** of the Board held on 19 July 2004

The Minutes were approved for signature by the Chairman.

Director's Reports -C4 Paper 619 (23/04)

The Chief Executive

Chief Executive reported that overall performance year to date continues to be strong. The Channel is doing well in terms of audience share. E4 (including E4+1) also continues to do

well.

The Chief Executive up-dated the board on performance.

In terms of programming, it was reported that the Channel has had a number of highlights over the past month with more to follow. Ratings have been good and the Channel has also received some critical acclaim.

The Chief Executive reported that the launch of More 4 is moving up the agenda. As well as being free to air, we are exploring how it could work as a full PSB channel. We are also looking at the editorial proposition for More 4 and the business plan.

On the subject of policy and corporate affairs, The Chief Executive reported that Ofcom is to publish its Phase Two report later this month.

The BBC charter review process is also picking up steam. The "Burns" seminars will be one of the main forums for debate, and the Channel will be represented at all of them. The Chief Executive reported that the "Burns" report is expected sometime during November.

The Chief Executive reported that, following a thorough selection process, it was proposed that KPMG be appointed as the Channel's new auditors. The Board unanimously approved the appointment of KPMG as the Channel's new auditors

On the subject of digital switchover the Chief Executive reported that the likely timings are now a 2009 start with a 2013 completion. Once switchover commences it will not be reversible. Some parts of the UK will switch over in 2009, but London is likely to be the last to switch in 2012.

The Chief Executive updated the Board on digital switchover.

The Finance Director updated the board on group finance and operations. There was also a discussion of the bonus structure, which had been approved by the remuneration committee.

The Deputy Chairman confirmed that the bonus structure had been approved by the remuneration committee.

The Director of Television

The Director of Television reported that there has been some wonderful programming with **Whickers War** and **Hamburg Cell**. **Green Wing** has also

made a very strong start and is the best reviewed new comedy.

The Director of Television reported that the Channel and, in particular Big Brother, featured strongly at Edinburgh Festival. In the MacTaggart lecture John Humphries was critical of Big Brother and reality television generally, and he questioned whether broadcasters think hard enough about what they broadcast.

The Chairman recommended that we communicate our PSB output more. We need to make it clear that the Channel is much more than Big Brother.

The Chief Executive said that when Big Brother first transmitted it was a big innovation. It now helps to fund PSB programming. He agreed that during the next few months we need to focus on communicating the value and quality of our PSB programming.

In terms of the Objectives Review, the Director of Television reported that Commissioning is meeting its targets as illustrated in his board paper. The Director of Television reported that all targets would be met by year end.

The Sales Director reported that we are currently in the process of putting together our presentations to the agencies which will form the basis of our negotiations for 2005.

The Sales Director reported that we are currently looking for a sponsor for **The Simpsons**, which broadcasts on 8 November.

The Commercial Director up-dated the Board on what was discussed and agreed at the last 4 Ventures Board meeting.

The Commercial Director reported that the SkyBet deal has now been signed which means that viewers can bet using the red button. The service was soft launched about a month ago.

The Online DVD rentals deal with LoveFilm and the deal with Popworld have both been concluded.

In terms of financial performance, the Commercial

Commercial Director

Director reported that the 4 Ventures businesses are performing very well, and numbers will continue to improve.

Other

The Head of Corporate Relations up-dated the Board on current Corporate Relations projects and the various conferences and seminars they would be attending (such as the party political conferences, arts seminars, Sex Traffic seminars etc).

Dates of Remaining Board Meetings 2004

The next meeting of the Board will be held from 3:00pm to 6:00pm on 11 October 2004 at Channel Four Television, 124 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2TX

Date