

Minutes of the 56th Annual General Meeting of The Inland Waterways Association, held at 11.30am on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at Salwarpe Village Hall, Salwarpe, Droitwich, WR9 0AH.

#### PRESENT

Approximately 70 members were present, along with 4 members of staff.

#### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Les Etheridge, National Chairman, welcomed those present to the meeting.

#### MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014 were approved as a true record of that meeting.

#### ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Les Etheridge introduced the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2014 and the Auditors report thereon. Neil Edwards, chief executive, gave a short presentation that highlighted key outcomes from the financial statements. There were no questions.

The Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 and the Report of the Auditors thereon were approved with no votes cast against.

#### AUDITORS

The meeting approved a resolution to reappoint Saffery Champness as auditors to the Association and trustees were authorised to fix their remuneration.

#### ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Three nationally elected trustees: Les Etheridge, Clive Henderson and Gillian Smith, were due to retire on completion of their three-year terms of office. Thus there were three vacancies for nationally elected trustees. Three candidates had put themselves forward: Paul Birkett, Les Etheridge and Gillian Smith, therefore no ballot was required and they were appointed as trustees each to serve a three-year term of office. Les Etheridge expressed his appreciation for Clive Henderson's work as a trustee, including a period as national chairman.

#### ELECTION OF REGION CHAIRMEN

Nominations had been sought for the posts of region chairman for West Midlands Region, South West Region, North West Region and Eastern Region. Vaughan Welch had retired as chairman of West Midlands Region and was not eligible to stand for re-election. Alan Platt had retired as chairman of North West Region and did not wish to stand again. Les Etheridge expressed his appreciation for the work of Alan Platt and Vaughan Welch during their periods as trustees.

There had been one nomination each for (a) South West, being for Roger Holmes, and (b) North West Region, being for Mike Carter, so therefore no ballot was required and they were both appointed as trustees, each to serve a three year term. There was a vacancy for chairman of Eastern Region. There were no candidates for either Eastern or West Midlands regions, thus both posts were unfilled and nominations would be sought again in the November edition of Waterways magazine.

#### NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Les Etheridge gave a slide presentation covering his third year as national chairman and addressed various topical issues. There were no questions.

The meeting closed at approximately 12.55 a.m.