

THE INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION AGM SEPTEMBER 2016 MINUTES

Island House, Moor Road, Chesham, HP5 1WA

Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting of The Inland Waterways Association, held at 10.30am on Saturday 24th September 2016 at South Wolverhampton and Bilston Academy, Prosser Street, Bilston, Wolverhampton WV14 0LN

PRESENT

Approximately 80 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 56th Annual General Meeting held on 26th September 2015 were approved as a true record of that meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Les Etheridge introduced the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2015 and the Auditors report thereon. Gordon Harrower, Treasurer, gave a short presentation that highlighted key outcomes from the financial statements. There was one question about the investment portfolio and the source of related income.

The Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2015 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.

Thanks were recorded for the work of Helen Elliot-Adams for her ten years work as Company Secretary and Finance Manager.

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Three nationally elected trustees: Gren Messham, Ivor Caplan and Jim Shead, were due to retire on completion of their three-year terms of office and a fourth trustee: Paul Birkett, resigned for health reasons in July. Thus there were four vacancies for nationally elected trustees. Four candidates had put themselves forward: Rick Barnes, Gren Messham, Ivor Caplan and Jonathan Smith. 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 Jim Shead and Paul Birkett's work as trustees.

ELECTION OF REGION CHAIRMEN

Nominations had been sought for the posts of region chairman for East Midlands Region and North East Region (each for three year terms), West Midlands Region (two year term) and Eastern Region (one year term).

There had been one nomination each for (a) East Midlands Region, being for David Pullen, and (b) North East Region, being for Peter Scott, so therefore no ballot was required and they were both appointed as trustees, each to serve a three year term. There had been one nomination for West Midlands Region, being for Helen Whitehouse, so therefore no ballot was required and she was appointed as trustee to serve a two year term. There had been one nomination for Eastern Region, being for John Pomfret, so again therefore no ballot was required and he was appointed as trustee to serve a one year term.

There are now no vacancies on the Trustee Board.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

A special resolution to amend IWA's Articles of Association to take effect from the close of the meeting so that they should read as set out to all members on IWA's website and via Waterways magazine was presented to the AGM. Questions were sought and answered, a ballot was taken and votes counted.

The amendments to the Articles were adopted with votes as follows:

Total votes cast (including votes by proxy) 227

Total in favour 219

Total against 8

Amended Articles would be lodged with The Charities Commission and Companies House.

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Les Etheridge gave a slide presentation covering his fourth year as national chairman and addressed various topical issues and answered questions.

The meeting closed at approximately 11.30a.m.