

## Appendices

Motions which were proposed at the 2015 National AGM –

### **Motion H1**

The outcome of Motion H1 below is disputed.

**Motion H1** - That groups may keep up to 50% of the membership fee.

This is to enable groups to have direct access to funds for marketing, development and events, and so assist them to grow.

The proposal is that paying 50% of membership fee income to Area will be a minimum. Some groups have very healthy bank accounts and have other ways of raising money too, and so have no need of the membership income. They will be free to continue to contribute as much of membership fee income as they wish to their Area and can carry on contributing 100% if they elect to do so.

It is asserted that this motion requires a simple majority and does not require an amendment to the constitution.

Article 9.1.5 of the Model Area Constitution currently reads –

Each Member Group shall submit an annual membership fee for each enrolled member to the Area Treasurer (or their representative) within seven days of receipt and in accordance with the internal procedures of the Area Committee.

It does not say “**the** annual membership fee” which would imply it meant the full fee. As it is, the amount of the fee to be submitted to the Area Treasurer is not specified.

This motion is that the following be incorporated into the Standing Orders –

Each Member Group shall submit at least one half of the annual membership fee for each enrolled member to the Area Treasurer (or their representative). Groups may elect to submit more than half. The remainder of the annual membership fee shall be retained by the group.

If the meeting should take the view that “an annual membership fee” means “the full annual membership fee”, then this motion is that the Model Area Constitution be amended as follows:

Article 9.1.5 to read:

Each Member Group shall submit at least one half of the annual membership fee for each enrolled member to the Area Treasurer (or their representative) within seven days of receipt and in accordance with the internal procedures of the Area Committee. Groups may elect to submit more than half. The remainder of the annual membership fee shall be retained by the group.

### **Motion H3**

Motion H3 below was passed at the 2015 National AGM.

**Motion H3** - That the requirement for committees to hold a specific number of meetings per year be removed from the constitution and that only such meetings as are necessary and practical within available budget should be held. Also, that wherever possible matters should be agreed by email or other electronic discussion to avoid the cost of a meeting.

Our constitution is written for an organisation of thousands of members, but we now have only a few hundred. The number and the cost of meetings being held are excessive for the size and income of the organisation now. The money being spent on meetings means that funds are not available for marketing, development and events, which is contributing to the further decline of the organisation

This motion amends the constitution so as to reduce and control costs, as well as enabling the federation to move forward to more modern and effective methods of discussion. However, the amendments are worded so as not to preclude the possibility that we might recover and go back to a full programme of meetings in the future.

The main focus of this motion is the cost of national meetings; however similar amendments regarding area meetings are also included, mainly because the member groups of the NGA (Non-Geographic Area)<sup>i</sup> will be all over the country and it may not be practical to hold more than one

area meeting or conference per year. But the amendments also allow the other areas to reduce the number of meetings and therefore cost if necessary.

This requires that the National Constitution be amended as follows:

Article 3.3.6 to read:

Each Area shall hold at least one conference per year which shall be the Annual Conference of the Area. Areas may hold such other conferences as are necessary and practical within available budget. Electronic discussion and electronic voting using an agreed system shall be recognised as having the same status as meetings or conferences held in person.

Article 3.3.7 to be deleted

Article 8.1 to be amended to read:

The NEC shall hold such other meetings as are necessary and practical within available budget (hereinafter called "NEC Meetings"). Electronic discussion and electronic voting using an agreed system shall be recognised as having the same status as meetings held in person.

And that the Model Area Constitution be amended as follows:

Article 4.4 to be amended to read:

Meetings of the Area Committee shall be held at such times as the Area Chairman in their discretion may direct. Electronic discussion and electronic voting using an agreed system shall be recognised as having the same status as meetings held in person.

Article 5.1 to be amended to read:

The Area Chairman shall be a full member of one of the Member Groups within the Area (hereinafter called "the Member Groups"). The term of office for the Area Chairman will be one year in duration, elections to take place at the *Annual Conference of the Area* and the term of office will start on the 1st day of the month following the National AGM.

Article 13.1 to be amended to read:

Each Area shall hold at least one conference per year which shall be the Annual Conference of the Area. Areas may hold such other conferences as are necessary and practical within available budget. Electronic discussion and electronic voting using an agreed system shall be recognised as having the same status as meetings or conferences held in person.

Articles 13.1.1 to 13.1.2 inclusive to be deleted

<sup>1</sup> Motion H2 passed at the 2015 National AGM allowed the creation of a National or Non-Geographic Area.

Proposed by Hillindon Plus

Seconded by (T.B.A\)

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