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## **CMA AGM**

### **Held at Ambleside Youth Hostel – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

Meeting Chaired by Linda Nunn, CMA Chairperson

Assisted by Mark Baker, CMA Secretary

*AGM Notes taken by Steve Peach, CMA Board Member*

#### **Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Apologies**

The AGM started with a welcome and introduction from Linda Nunn, CMA Chairman.

Linda introduced Board and National Committee Members.

Mark Baker read out the list of apologies which included Phil Bolton, Alan Reece, George Mist and Rachel Limb.

#### **Agenda Item 2 – Appointment of Directors**

Mark Baker explained that the Articles of Association (constitution) required there to be a rotation of the term of office Directors served. This was to ensure that not all Directors finished their term of office at the same time.

This meant that both Linda Nunn and Mark Baker have now come to the end of their term of office.

The Articles did allow for both to stand again for office and both had indicated that they wanted to stand.

No other nominations had been received so the reelection of Linda and Mark was put to a simple vote of the members.

Linda Nunn's reelection was proposed by Dave Solly and seconded by Richard Westwood.

There was a unanimous vote in favour of Linda's reelection.

Mark Baker's reelection was proposed by Roger Cole and seconded by Ian Brooker.

There was a unanimous vote in favour of Mark's reelection.

Mark Baker explained the rules regarding the reappointment of Directors which under the current Articles was time limited. Mark requested that a vote take place confirm that in the event of the CMA becoming a CIC Dave Solly would be reappointed as a Director of CMA.

The motion to reappoint Dave Solly was proposed by Ian Brooker and seconded by Michelle Tyrtonia.

The motion was unanimously supported by the members.

#### **Agenda Item 3 – Appointment of Chair**

Mark Baker explained that the AGM was now required to vote on the appointment of Chair of CMA.

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Linda Nunn had agreed to continue as Chair and there were no other nominations for Chair so again this was put to a simple vote.

Linda Nunn's appointment as Chair was nominated by Derek Evans and seconded by Nick Stanley. There was a unanimous vote in favour of Linda's appointment as chair.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Brief Updates on membership, finance, training and international matters**

Mark Baker introduced the CMA Annual Report. Linda Nunn asked for any comments or questions, there were none.

Linda asked for her thanks to Mark and all those who had contributed to the Annual Report to be recorded.

Linda Nunn introduced the minutes of last year's CMA AGM. Again, there were no comments.

Linda asked for her thanks to Rachel Limb in preparing the minutes to be recorded.

Linda Nunn read out a report from the treasurer. Key points being income was down on the previous accounts because of a tax payment. This year purchases had been made that would reduce any tax burden. This included flipcharts and other equipment that would be useful at study days, training events and conference.

Also, the CMA had made some bursary payments to support attendance at IRF events. This included support for a CMA member to attend the forthcoming IRF World Congress.

The Reserve account remained static.

Membership was around 502, there was some concern over some nonpayment of membership fees. This was being chased up by Rachel Limb.

Roger Cole asked a question about organisations paying individual membership fees and that it might be that some people did not know that the membership had not been paid.

Rachel would be asked to investigate this.

Training events were discussed with Linda Nunn reporting that there had been 16 training events planned for the period since April, although three of these had been cancelled.

Training organisers were reminded that Rachel Limb needed a lead in time of at least 6 weeks in order to get events on Eventbrite and advertised.

Michelle Tyrntania clarified the position surrounding Risk Assessments and Safe System of Work relating to running training events. The key point being that SSW and RAs should be sent to Rachel Limb who will then forward them on to Michelle.

Each Regional Committee Member gave a short report about their region.

Claire Rogers from Yorkshire and Humberside introduced herself and explained she was new to the post and would be working hard to increase networking and membership numbers.

Claire talked about making better connections with some of the colleges and also about some of her ideas for study days.

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Richard Westwood from the South East thanked Phil Bolton for his efforts in leading efforts in running training events. Some of this training included great crested newt training and bat licence training. 12 members attended the regional AGM at which they looked at veteran tree management.

Joe Williams from the North West also talked about trying to make connections with schools and colleges. They had also run a couple of very good study events and were enjoying support especially from the National Trust.

Toby Edwards from Northern Ireland said they were building links with other organisations, including the Ulster Wildlife Trust and Ranger Association of Ireland. Toby had attended a regional ranger event in Monaghan.

Tom Heenan from the East of England talked about the regional newsletter, and the success of their study days. Tim also Thanked Phil Bolton for his help with training events. Tom reported that they now had reps for most counties and were in the process of planning next year's regional AGM.

Ian Brooker reported on international activities, including the IRF World Ranger Congress which had 10 people from the UK attending.

The AGM was informed that CMA Chair, Linda Nunn was standing as Vice-President of the IRF.

Ian also talked about the bursaries being offered by the CMA, one of which had been granted to Will Stewart and another to a Ranger from Georgia to support their attendance at the World Ranger Congress.

Ian also reported on the European Ranger Federation including the close cooperation between national associations with Rangers from different countries, including CMA members attending national AGMs.

Ian also mentioned there was an invitation for someone from CMA to attend the Portuguese Ranger Association AGM.

It was announced that there would be an ERF Ranger Conference next May and CMA were keen to encourage people to attend this, with the possibility that a bursary would be offered.

Ian was hoping to coordinate those going and perhaps finding an eco-friendly way of travelling to and from the conference.

Those interested were asked to get in touch with Ian. The date would be 11–16 May.

A website with information would be available soon.

### **Agenda Item 5 - Resolutions relating to proposal for CMA to become a Community Interest Company (CIC)**

Mark Baker outlined the reasons for the proposal for CMA to become a Community Interest Company.

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Copies of the new Articles of Association had already been made available to the membership but in summary the new CIC would be a better organisational fit for CMA and enable the Association to adopt some changes to their mode of operating which were long overdue.

So the CMA board was now asking the membership to support the motions for CMA to become a CIC. Before a vote was taken Mark asked if anyone had any questions, there were no questions so the motion was put to the vote.

There were 31 votes in favour of the motions and none against, so it was confirmed that the CMA would seek to become a CIC.

### **Agenda Item 6 – Update on Accreditation Review**

Linda outlined the progress to date. The Board and National Committee had met several times to discuss this and comment on proposals. The Accreditation Review Group had also had input and this all meant that a new draft was close to being agreed.

Linda apologised for the time the review was taking but explained the importance for getting this right.

She asked for those attending the accreditation workshop at the Conference to pass their comments back to her or any Board member.

### **Agenda Item 7 – Any Other Business**

Promoting regional study/training events – Mark Baker explained that the Board had agreed to assign £1,000 towards supporting the development of events in regions that were currently struggling to organise anything.

Mark asked regional reps contact him for details of what the funding would be for and how to access it.

Roger Cole asked if the current regional structure was fit for purpose. Linda Nunn replied that the Board would be looking at this issue with a view to seeing if changes could or should be made.

Linda would be working with Rachel Limb to analyse numbers and locations of members.

Steve Peach asked question of Phil Bolton about the use of the membership database by regional reps so that they could better target their efforts. Several members present talked about better use of cloud-based systems and other ideas for sharing information.

Linda explained that there were some issues around data protection, but she would be talking to Rachel and Board members about how regions could make better use of membership information. There were also discussions about the use of Web Collect and other systems used by CMA. Linda said that Rachel and the Board were always monitoring things and looking at ways in which we could improve our admin systems.

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Finally, Linda Nunn announced that Tim Russell was being made an Honorary Fellow of the CMA in recognition of his long service and support to the CMA, especially as South West Region Coordinator.

There being no other business the 2019 AGM was closed.