

British Humanist Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on Saturday 14 July 2012, 14.30 – 16.00 at Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London

Present: Asad Abbas, Deborah Ainger, Hilary Ash, Robert Ashby, Zelda Bailey, Sean Barry, Andrew Bennett, Alan Blood, Andrew Boff, Sofia Branquinho, Rene Branton, David Brittain, Alistair Campbell-Dick, Nick Carter, John Catt, Amal Choudhuri, Steve Clapman, Les Collins, James Craig-Gray, Julie Crow, Clare Delderfield, Ian Dominey, Blaise Egan, Mike Flood, Stephen Giles Frankiss, Cathryn Fraser, Alice Fuller, James Grindrod, Mary Grove, Roy Heaps, James Heather, Alan Henness, Phil Holley, Willemien Hoogendoorn, Ann Hunter, Michael Imison, Steven Isle, George Jelliss, Diana Jones, Paul Kaufman, Connaire Kensit, Toby Keynes, Audrey King, Adam Knowles, Maureen Kvebekk, John Leeson, Fanny Lines, Mireille Lodoiska-Kennedy, Maria MacLachlan, Geraldine Maclaine, George Marchbank, Derek Marcus, Robert McFarland, David McKnight, Peter Morgan, Rosalind Morton, Lorna Mumford, Richard Norman, O'Kelly, Helen Palmer, Iain Paterson, Rafael Pepiol, Mike Pictor, Stuart Pilbrow, David Pollock, Mary Porter, Matthew Power, Reginald Pyne, John Rayner, Michael David Rickwood, Jeremy Rodell, Patricia Rogers, Seoirse Ropaigealach, David Savage, Christine Seymour, David Simmonds, Richard Stein, Chris Street, Alan Stuart, Ariadne Tampion, Darrell Thomas, R Tutton, Anthony Van der Elst, Jessica Vautier, Phil Walder, Ray Ward, Mark Wardrop, Raymond White, Kim Wilson, David Wright, Jane Wynne Willson, John Woolhouse.

Staff in attendance: Andrew Copson, Pavan Dhaliwal, Bernard Halter, Blakeley Nixon, Sara Passmore, Cynthia Scott-Clark, Richy Thompson, Tamsin Van Dyken, Andrew West.

Apologies for Absences: Abe Alpren, Robert Arridge, Robert Ashby, Peter Bagshaw, Ann Bailey, Brian Balmain, Hilda Bartle, Paul Blanchard, Cynthia Blezard, Frank Bonner, Chris Bourne, Christopher Bourne, Patti Broome, Brian Case, John Chadwick, Ned Clack, Sheila Clague, Denis Cobell, Rona Courtney, Richard Davies, Ruth Dennis, Alistair Dudman, Alun Wynne Evans, Anita Fair, Alison Farrow, Leslie Geach, David Goodes, John Grainger, Anna Gray, Anthony Grayling, James Guest, Michael Halls, David Harris, Lord Harrison, Graham Haverson, Allan Hayes, Stuart Hillman, Roger Hole, Chris Hooker, David Hooper, Martin Hooper, Kelvin Hopkins MP, Saiful Islam, Irene Jackson, Billy Jenkins, Graham Kemish, James Kindell, Gordon King, Paul Kitchener, Josh Kutchinsky, T Laidler, Colin Marriot, AJS Maxwell, David McBeth, Patricia McBeth, Fokkina McDonnell, Lynn McNaughton, Raymond Mellor, Hayward Lynne Millard, Kenneth Mobbs, Christopher Moore, Guy Otten, David Pack, Patsy Paine, Alan Palmer, Paula Palmer, Richard Penney, Elio Pennisi, Edward Presswood, Janet Price, Michael Rainey, Susan Rankin, Alison Redcastle, George Reid, Alex Robertson, Martin Rowson, K. Charles Rudd, Joan Ruddock MP, Mike Savage, Joseph Seery, Jonathan Simons, Chris Smith, Graham Smith, Michael Smith, Martin Stone, Isabella Tongue, Keith Vickerman, Geoff Wainwright, Patricia Watts, Steve West, Shirley Wilson, Caroline Wingate, Jake Wright.

Adoption of Standing Orders: On the proposal of Robert Ashby (Chair of the Board of Trustees and the AGM), the Standing Orders were adopted by the meeting.

Declarations of Interest: All BHA trustees declared an interest as a Trustee and withheld their vote on Resolution 5 regarding the payment of Trustees for their services. The chair reminded those present that members speaking should declare any potential conflict of interest.

Tellers: Tellers were not appointed as there were no motions and no one expressed a wish to speak against any of the proposed resolutions.

Minutes of the AGM of Saturday 23 July 2011: On the proposal of Blaise Egan seconded by John Catt, the minutes were approved *nem con* pending the the following corrections.

'Robert Ashby' was added to the list of Apologies for absence.
The date of the minutes approved was corrected to '17 July 2010'.

Matters arising from the previous minutes: There were no matters arising.

Chair's address: The chair reported on the past year's activities, highlighting the BHA's many successes and the hard work ahead.

Election to the Board of Trustees: An election of trustees was held. Three members stood unopposed for four vacancies. Paul Blanchard and Alan Palmer were elected to the board *nem con*. Guy Otten was elected to the board with 88 votes for and 2 against.

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2011: John Woolhouse (Treasurer) presented key figures from the annual accounts. The report and accounts for 2011 were accepted *nem con*.

Re-appointment of Auditor: Knox Cropper were reappointed as auditor.

Remuneration of Auditor: The trustees were authorised to determine the remuneration of the auditor.

Special Resolutions: A resolution (Resolution 4) to amend the Articles of Association as per below. The Resolution passed with 89 votes for and 1 vote against.

That the BHA's Articles of Association be amended as follows:

- (a) Delete Article 4.1.5;
- (b) Renumber Articles 4.2, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 respectively as Articles 4.3, 4.3.1 and 4.3.2; and
- (c) Insert the following new Article 4.2:

4.2 To do all such other lawful things as are conducive or incidental to furthering or advancing any of the above-mentioned Objects.

A resolution (Resolution 5) that the Trustees be permitted to receive payment for any services that they might provide to the BHA. The Resolution passed *nem con*.

Emergency Motions: No motions had been received.

Any other Business: There was none.