

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PLUS AREAS

12TH Annual General Meeting (77th Annual National Conference)

AGENDA

Saturday 24th February 2018

Held at the Jacobean Hotel, Coventry

Assemble for a prompt 10.00 am start

Item	Description	Introduced by	Time Allocated
1	Chairman's Welcome to Delegates	NC	10.00 – 10.05
2	The Presidential Address by Vice Presidents	VP	10.05 – 10.15
3	Elections of Tellers	NC	10.15 – 10.20
3.1	Determining Voting Strength		
4	Election of Ballot Counters	NC	10.20 – 10.25
4.1	Nominations of 2 Volunteers from the Observers		
5	Apologies for Absence	HGS	10.25 – 10.30
6	Acceptance of the Minutes of the 11 th Annual General Meeting at the Jacobean Hotel, Coventry on 25 th Feb 17	NC	10.30 – 10.35
6.1	Points of Accuracy	NC	10.35 – 10.40
7	Matters Arising thereon	NC	10.40 – 10.55
7.1	Question to the NEC from Francis Wallington: <i>At the Midland Area Conference HLM Mark Hewson, stated that the web hosting company SUNMAIA has been dissolved as a business. Thus, the routing to the website that Mark Hewson operates, by www.plusgroups.org.uk does not work. This gives the impression that this website is not functioning and cannot be accessed. Please can we be advised of any actions taken concerning the web address and recovery of data held by this company?</i>	NIC	10.55 – 11.00
8	Presentation and Acceptance of the Federation's Reports for the Year 2017	NC	11.00 – 11.15
9	Presentation and Acceptance of the Federation's Accounts for the Year 2017	NFO	11.15 – 11.30
	<u>BREAK</u>		11.30 – 11.45
10	Election of National Chairman to serve from 1 st March 2018	DNC	11.45 – 11.55
11	Election of National Officers to serve from 1 st March 2018	NC	11.55 – 12.15
11.1	Honorary General Secretary		
11.2	National Finance Officer		
11.3	National Training Officer		

11.4	National Activities Officer		
11.5	National Public Relations Officer		
11.6	National Internet Officer		
11.7	National Publications Officer/Plus News Editor		
11.8	NEC Administrator		
12	Presentation – New Website / Marketing	NIC	12.15 – 12.45
	<u>LUNCH</u>		12.45 – 14.00
13.	Motions for Debate		
13.1	<p><u>Motion to set Area Levies Proportional to Membership</u></p> <p>That the compulsory element of the area levy be set at 25% of the total income due from membership fees for each area in the preceding year and that this arrangement continues until altered by a subsequent motion.</p> <p>Instead of all areas paying the same, areas would continue to pay a levy in proportion to their membership. The levy would be calculated at 25% of the standard membership fee multiplied by the number of Area members in the preceding year, excluding National HLMs.</p> <p>This motion will require a simple majority to pass.</p> <p>Proposed: NEC</p> <p><u>Preamble</u></p> <p><i>Each year from 2015 and onwards, a motion has been raised to enable the setting of the Area Membership Levy to National to change from a fixed £600 to 25% of the total income from membership fees due in the previous year, which would then form the basis of the Area membership levy for the current calendar year.</i></p> <p><i>As an example, assume an Area has 60 members (new or renewed) in 2017, and the membership fee for an ordinary member is £20. Excluding life members and the like:</i></p> <p><i>Under the current system the Area will owe £600 levy in 2018</i> <i>Under the proposed system the Area will owe £300 (25% of £20 multiplied by 60) levy in 2018</i></p> <p><i>The upshot of this is that an Area with 120 members would pay the same under the new system as it currently does under the existing system. An area with fewer than 120 members would pay proportionally less. (Naturally an Area with greater than 120 members would pay more).</i></p>	NTACAC	14.00 – 14.20

	<p><i>This motion has either taken place at the February NAGM or at the May NEC meeting. In each case it has been carried.</i></p> <p><i>The NEC believes that it would be sensible to make this an ongoing amendment for the time being. It would therefore remove the need for it to be raised as a Group motion year after year.</i></p>		
13.2	<p><u>Proportional Motion to 2018 NAGM</u></p> <p>Democracy has always been at the heart of the way that Plus has been run. Sadly, the decline in the scale of the organisation has had a negative impact on the practicality of this democratic ethos.</p> <p>For example: One area may have a hundred members and these hundred members would have one vote to represent their views around the NEC table. Another area may only have a dozen members and they too would have the one vote.</p> <p>In an organisation that is funded at a national level per member, it seems only reasonable that the influence be similarly distributed. Not to do so would surely be taxation without representation.</p> <p>It is proposed to add the following clauses to the constitution to resolve this inequality:</p> <p>13.2.1 Each Area Chairman (or their representative) will be empowered to cast one vote for each member of the area that they represent. The membership headcount will be definitively defined as the number of members at the end of the previous calendar year, as reported by the Group's Area Membership Officer to the last National Annual General Meeting before the NEC meeting.</p> <p>13.2.2 Any resolution passed by a simple majority valid votes (as empowered in 13.2.1) concerning the running of the NEC, General Purposes sub-committee, National sub-committees or the Federation shall be incorporated into National Standing Orders.</p> <p>The existing 13.2.1 will be removed and replaced with the above version.</p> <p>This motion will require a 75% majority to pass.</p> <p>Proposed: Stevenage Seconded: Didcot</p>	Stevenage	14.20 – 14.40
13.3	<p><u>New Membership Fee for New Members</u></p>	Hillingdon	14.40 – 15.00

	<p>That the membership fee for new members be set at £10</p> <p>Proposed: Hillingdon Seconded: Stevenage</p> <p>This motion will require a simple majority to pass.</p> <p><i>Supporting Notes for 13.3 and 13.4</i></p> <p><i>Two proposals following on from the excellent speaker we had at the last National AGM and her idea that we should have some kind of incentives to encourage people which we could publicise on a national basis.</i></p> <p><i>The first proposal is that we adopt at a national level what some areas do and say new members can join for £10. This has proved very effective at getting new members to join up for the first time. It would only be for completely new members, not for people who have been a member in the past and come back.</i></p> <p><i>The second proposal is that we adopt at a national level what some groups do and say that members under 30 only pay £10. This has been proved successful at retaining younger members. Younger people are often finding things hard financially, many will still be studying and although for many of us £20 is not much, for them it can be a significant barrier to renewing. Of course our older members are still important, but if we do not take steps to build up our younger membership, inevitably the Federation has no future.</i></p> <p><i>The aim of both these proposals is that they are headline offers. It is not expected that either of them will have any significant financial impact. In fact if we find ourselves with loads of new members and loads of members under 30 only paying £10, that would be a really good problem to have!</i></p>		
13.4	<p><u>New Membership Fee for Under 30s</u></p> <p>That the membership fee for members under 30 be set at £10</p> <p>Proposed: Hillingdon Seconded: Slough</p> <p>This motion will require a simple majority to pass.</p>	Hillingdon	15.00 – 15.20
	<u>BREAK</u>		15.20 – 15.35
14	Facility for National Debate		
14.1	Social Media Survey	James Oliver	15.35 – 15.55

14.2	General Data Protection Register	James Oliver	15.55 – 16.15
15	Presentation – The National Guarantee Scheme	NFO	16.15 – 16.35
16	Announcement of Election Results of National Chairman to serve from 1 st March 18.	HGS	16.35 – 16.40
17	Announcement of Election Results of National Officers to service from 1 st March 18	NC	16.40 – 16.50
	Honorary General Secretary		
	National Finance Officer		
	National Activities Officer		
	National Public Relations Officer		
	National Internet Co-ordinator		
	National Publications Officer/Plus News Editor		
	NEC Administrator		
18	National Chairman's Address	NC	16.50 – 17.00
19	Election of Honorary Officers	NC	
19.1	Independent Examiner of the 2018 Accounts		17.00 – 17.05
19.2	Vice Presidents		17.05 – 17.10
20	Any Other Urgent Business (not Promotion of Events)	NC	17.10 – 17.20
21	Announcement of the Date of the Annual General Meeting 2019	NC	
22	Presidential Closing Address by Vice President	VP	17.20 – 17.30
23	Closure of the meeting by the National Chairman	NC	