#### The Future of 18 Plus

A perspective of the current situation and the need for change



# **Topics**

- Where are we today
  - Organisational Structure
  - Membership
  - Finances
- What's wrong
- NEC Motions
- Alternatives ?



#### Current Organisational Structure

- Constitution
- 44 Groups (inc 3 2nd Tier), 6 Areas
- NEC of 6 Areas, HGS & NFO + NC
- NEC Supported by NEO's, PO's, VP's
- GPC of NC, NFO & HGS
- Vacant positions (NAO, NPO, NDO)
- Annual National Conference (ANC)
- One (fte) Admin staff & office



#### Membership situation

- Declining membership levels
  - -7000(1985)
  - **944 (2000)**
  - -726(2002)
  - -680(2003)
  - ??? (2004)
- Retention rate 78% (2002/3)
- 39 Life Members
- Annual Fee £28 (2004)



#### **Current Financial Position**

- Balance Sheet £89k (Dec 03)
- Potential Liabilities £20k
  - Staff, legal fees, residual bills
- P&L (Budget 2004)
  - Annual Income £22k
  - Expenditure £32k
- Potential Loss £10k per year (2004)



## What's wrong (1)

- Structure and constitution
  - Outdated concept and structure (60 + yrs old)
  - Constitution too complex
  - Too many levels in the organisation?
  - Decision making process too slow
  - NEC not empowered
  - Them and us attitude



# What's wrong (2)

- Membership
  - Declining membership
  - Small groups
  - Wide geographic spread
- Financially
  - Declining income (membership)
  - Overheads too high for small organisation
  - Finances give limited lifespan (3 years)
  - No (viable) business plan for the future



## What's wrong (3)

- Bureaucracy
  - Committees and meetings
  - Not attractive to potential/new members
- Identity and purpose
  - Social and Activities Group(s)
  - Target audience no longer 18-30
  - Not focussed on providing enough quality events



# Can we change our fortunes ???



# Can we change our fortunes ???

Yes but.....



Can we change our fortunes ???

# It requires your vote to secure the future of 18 Plus



#### What do you need to vote for ???

- Empowerment of the NEC
  - Make decisions
  - Implement decisions
- New aims of the Federation
- A Business plan
- Open to a wider membership



#### NEC motions (1)

- Voting on constitutional change by a simple majority for this conference
- Endorse new Aims of the Federation
- Endorse Business Plan for the Federation
- NEC empowerment to implement new management structure



## NEC Motions (2)

- Abolish upper age joining limit
- NEC empowerment to set membership Fee
- Closure



#### What are the alternatives ???

- Change
- Do nothing or minor changes only
  - Closure within 3 years
  - The end of 60+ years of history
  - Fragmented social groups possibly
- Sale to another organisation
- New NEC



If you want a future, for a Federation of 18 Plus Groups.

Vote for the motions proposed by this NEC.



