



The Morris Federation



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July 2018

To all members of the Morris Federation

I am formally inviting you to the Annual General Meeting of the Morris Federation, to be held from

**4pm on Saturday 22nd September 2018
(sign in for a 4.30 pm start)**

at

Cecil Sharp House, 1 Regents Park Road, London NW1 7AY

as guests of New Esperance Morris, preceded by a wonderful day of dance on London's South Bank as part of a planned 'Festival of Morris'. There will be various entertainments in the evening, including a concert, a costume exhibition, ceilidh, and song & tune session. There will also be a ceilidh on the Friday beforehand as part of the Knees Up Cecil Sharp series - <http://www.kneesupcecilsharp.co.uk/kucs.html>

Sides will need to:

- arrange their own transport to and from London
- get in touch with New Esperance if they want overnight, indoor camping on either night
- alternatively, arrange their own accommodation
- arrange their own meals.

Links and information can be found at

<https://newesperance.wordpress.com/diary-2/fed-agm-2018/#PoE>

Please bring this booklet with you as it contains all the documents you will need:

- The AGM agenda (Appendix 1, printed with **GREEN EDGE**)
- The minutes of the previous AGM (Appendix 2, printed on **WHITE PAPER**)
- Officers' annual reports (Appendix 3, printed on **WHITE PAPER**)
- The Motion (Appendix 4, printed with **ORANGE EDGE** – includes how the constitution will look if this Motion is passed)
- Vote conversion sheet (Appendix 5, printed with **GREEN EDGE**)
- Constitution (Appendix 6, *as currently exists for* reference printed with **GREEN EDGE**)
- Standing orders (Appendix 7, printed with **GREEN EDGE**)
- The AGM Resolutions (Appendix 8, printed with **GREEN EDGE**)
- Postal/proxy voting sheet (Appendix 9, printed with **PINK EDGE**. This should be sent back to me at 28 Fairstone Close, Hastings TN35 5EZ by Friday 7th September 2018)

Next year's AGM will be held in Perth, as guests of Kinfauns, on Saturday 28th September 2019; and in Wokingham in 2020 as guests of Customs & Exiles.

We are looking for hosts for 2021, so if you would like to know more about how to host an AGM, please get in touch!

Fee x
Secretary
The Morris Federation
www.morrisfed.org.uk

Enc

Appendix 1 - Agenda

THE MORRIS FEDERATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Annual Reports:-
 - a) President
 - b) Secretary
 - c) Treasurer
 - d) Archive Officer
 - e) Notation Officer
 - f) Newsletter Editor
5. Motions
6. Discussions
7. Election of Committee
8. Date(s) of Future Annual General Meeting(s)
9. Any Other Business
10. Presentations and Votes of Thanks

THE MORRIS FEDERATION
MINUTES OF THE 42nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Saturday 23rd September 2017 at Guildhall, Hull

Melanie Barber (President) opened the meeting at 4.32 pm, having declared the meeting quorate with 27 sides and welcomed Nicki Pickering, Chair of Open Morris.

Fee Lock (Secretary) read out those present:

Belfagan Women's Morris	Newburgh Morris
Beverley Garland	Persephone Bradford NW Women's Morris
Customs & Exiles	Pigsty
Green Ginger Garland	Rackaback Morris
Harlequin Women's Morris	Redbornstoke Morris
Jackstraws Morris	Ripley Green Garters
Jerusalem Jammers	Sheffield City Morris
Leek Morris	The Rumworth Morris of Bolton
Mad Jack's Morris	Three's a Crowd
Makara Morris	Wakefield Morris
Maltby Sword	Westrefelda
Minster Strays	Windsor Morris
Mockbeggar Morris	Yorkshire Chandelier
New Esperance Morris	

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Those not previously circulated:

Babylon	Medusa
Blue Anchor Morris	Milkmaid Mollies
Chalford Stick Company	Milltown Cloggies
Chinewrde Morris	Misfit Molly
Ditchling Morris	Pateley Longsword
Ebor Morris	Rainbow Morris
Hannah's Cat	Ripon City Morris Dancers
Hastings Jack in the Green	Shrewsbury Morris
Highside Longsword	Somerset Morris
Hips & Haws Clog	Somerstep
Kettle Bridge Clogs	Wight Bells
Mabel Gubbins Rapper	Winter Warmers
Maybe Morris	

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Taken as read, having been distributed beforehand. **Melanie Barber (President)** asked for all those speaking, to give their name and side. **Ian Osborne (Wakefield Morris)** proposed them as being correct; **Diane Moody (New Esperance)** seconded. Nem con.

3 MATTERS ARISING

Gina Siddons (Mockbeggar Morris) said that they had been present at the AGM last year but their apologies had not been noted.

4 ANNUAL REPORTS

(a) President

Previously circulated. No matters arising

(b) Secretary

Previously circulated. No matters arising.

(c) Treasurer

Previously circulated. Jenny Everett pointed out that the heading of expenditure was incorrect and should read 2016/2015, not 2015/2014.

(d) Archive Officer

Previously circulated. No matters arising.

(e) Notation Officer

Previously circulated. No matters arising

(f) Newsletter Editor

Previously circulated. No matters arising.

5 MOTIONS

Motion 1

Melanie Barber (President) announced a few minutes for **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)** to outline the proposal; the same amount of time for anyone to speak against, and then a short discussion.

MOTION 1

Proposal to change the committee structure, the better to reflect the workings of the committee today, and would involve the following changes to the Constitution:

4 COMMITTEE the Committee shall comprise a minimum of six officers. These shall include a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer [first sentence being replaced]

[rest of the committee structures & roles to remain, until]

Co-opted Members of the Committee [first sentence being replaced]

The committee may co-opt members or external experts to assist in running the Federation. Co-option will be for a specific projects and be for one year in the first instance. Co-opted members may be invited to continue on an annual basis.

[this replaces the first sentence; the rest of the paragraph to continue:] **Co-opted members of the Committee shall be invited to attend Committee meetings and to participate in discussions, but will have no voting rights. They will be invited to report their activities to the membership through the Newsletter or personal presentation at General Meetings. Co-opted members may include those who take on a post that falls vacant before the normal term of office expires.**

Rationale

This mandates the committee to review co-optees annually and consider whether the role of the co-opted has become an ongoing requirement, and thus a committee responsibility. This also gives co-optees a time frame to work to.

Proposed by Jenny Everett (Treasurer & Bishops Morris)
Seconded Jerry West (Notation Officer & Berkshire Bedlam)

Jenny Everett (Treasurer) read out the Motion. She said that this is to tidy things up: having six defined roles are quite restricting. Every time we have a change in personnel's commitment, we have to change the constitution. Also, co-opting restrictions means that we have a time-frame for projects.

Diane Moody (New Esperance) summarised that the first two sentences are being replaced. No one wished to speak against.

Nicki Pickering, Chair of Open, and Phil Gray (partner of Sam Ross, Newsletter Editor) acted as tellers:

170 postal for	0 postal against
240 actual for	0 actual against

No split votes

410 in favour, 0 against
Motion 1 was carried unanimously.

Motion 2

MOTION 2

Proposal that Associate members be given the same voting rights as Full Group members. They currently have no voting rights and are not included in the insurance policy.

This would involve the following changes to the Constitution and Standing orders:

Constitution

2 MEMBERSHIP

Under (d) remove 'individuals and'

This would result in the point reading:

(d) Associate Membership – for practising Morris sides and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities.

Standing Orders

10 VOTING RIGHTS

Under (b) change 'Full Group Member' to 'Group or Associate Member' and remove 'Associate members shall have no vote.'

This would result in the point reading:

(b) Voting at a General Meeting on matters where prior notice has been given to members, which will include motions and the election of officers where nominations have been received prior to the deadline, shall be on the basis of ten votes per Group or Associate member, apportioned to reflect as closely as possible the views of their side.

Under (b) (i) change 'Full Group Member' to 'Group or Associate Member' and remove Associate member from the exclusion list.

This would result in the point reading:

(b) (i) Voting on administrative matters not detailed on the agenda, and voting for the election of officers to the committee where nominations have not been received prior to the deadline shall be on the basis of one vote per person present, to a maximum of ten votes per group or Associate Member present, excluding non-Members and the committee.

Rationale

This brings Associate members into line with Full Group members. There is no reason why they should not have voting rights.

Proposed by Jenny Everett (Treasurer and Bishops Morris)
Seconded by Sam Ross (Newsletter Editor & Pigsty Morris)

Jenny Everett (Treasurer) spoke on behalf of the Motion. There are people who don't need insurance but want to be associated. It seems a shame that they don't get voting rights.

Sue Storey (Beverley Garland) asked if Associate Members are individuals or groups; **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)** explained that they are groups; **Fee Lock (Secretary)** said that Individual Members have one vote each.

No comments were received from the floor.

Nicki Pickering and Phil Gray acted as tellers:

160 postal for
230 actual for

0 votes against
10 postal votes against

390 votes in favour
10 postal votes against

The Motion was carried 390:10

6 DISCUSSIONS

1 To seek views from the membership as to whether we should consider introducing a fixed tenure for committee members (committee-proposed discussion)

Melanie Barber (President) explained that the Joint Morris Organisations' Chair is three-yearly; this works for the president as she had been JMO Chair in her third year. She doesn't feel that this necessarily need apply to all the other committee posts, nor, for consistency, would you want the whole committee to change in the same year, especially not the three primary roles of President, Secretary and Treasurer. This doesn't mean that no one may stand against an incumbent at any time, but that a three-yearly tenure may encourage more people to stand.

Diane Moody (New Esperance) wanted clarification: if someone is elected for three years, why would someone stand against someone? **Jerry West (Windsor Morris)** said that anyone can stand against any committee member. In practice this never happened. Someone might feel that they can only stand against an incumbent every three years, this means that an officer MUST stand for re-election every three year. **Diane Moody (New Esperance)** understood that this is a good idea to refresh the committee, but if someone is doing a good job all is well, but making that person then stand down doesn't seem right. **Sue Storey (Beverley Garland)** wanted to know if six years the cut off; **Melanie Barber (President)** said that it would be multiples of three years, with Sally Wearing being the longest serving President at twelve years!

Ann Gillman (Leek Morris) understood the rationale with presidency. Some skills take time to build up, and contacts, some roles can't be easily filled. **Melanie Barber (President)** accepted this but said that should someone wish to stand again there potentially would be no problem.

Diane Moody (New Esperance) said that it would help to clarify the thinking behind this if there were new wording for the committee structure: if a job came to an end it could represent a closed role. **Melanie Barber (President)** undertook to discuss this further in committee.

2 From Emma Melville, First Class Stamp

That the Morris Federation has a list of 2 or 3 North West dances and 2 or 3 Border dances that they encourage every side to learn at least one of so that at JMOs days/festivals/days of dance a massed display can be put on which is more than just Cotswold. That the Morris Federation provide notation and music for thee dances to teams so that everyone is doing the same dance. (Received by email as First Class Stamp were not able to attend the AGM)

Jamie Sage (Rackaback Morris) is looking at some set dances that could be done by all. He references the Circassian Circle at the JMO day in York. He is very much in favour. **Alison Devlin (New Esperance)** asked if the idea is for the dances were Border, would they be done by all Border sides; then the North West dance being danced by North West dancers, etc. **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)** said that this discussion presumes that we have Cotswold dances in mind.

Karen Taylor (Belfagan) said that at the JMO Day of Dance in Sheffield there was only one massed Cotswold Dance that they could join in with, which was Bonny Green Garters. She favoured this idea. **Nori MacIntyre-Grey (New Esperance)** said she thought massed dances can look effective if done really well and together, but that if Cotswold dances were to be included she would like an instructional video.

Diane Moody (New Esperance) said that they never join in massed dances because whilst you might think that Cotswold dances look the same, the styles and speed are always different. She thinks that massed dances look awful and are not a good view for Morris. The only way of getting a semblance of similarity would be to get everyone to follow a style video. Border teams might find it easier to find a similar style. She thinks the whole idea of massed dances very difficult.

Fiona Eastmond (New Esperance) said that all teams in the Morris Federation work on individuality and doing something badly doesn't advertise us at all well.

Mike Adamson (Rumworth Morris of Bolton) said he didn't think massed dances look good. He doesn't know two North West teams who dance the same. He would vote against this, the thought the ethos of the Morris Federation was individuality -

Karen Taylor (Belfagan) said that the massed dances she has seen has been spot-on and thought them to more of participation rather than a three-line whip.

Jerry West (Notation officer) pointed out that he would have to produce any instructional video, and the logistics would include who would choose the team, the dance, the music? The Morris Ring the Squire publishes his dances, they are all Cotswold, and the standard notion rarely varies. How do you control the music at such an event? **Fiona Eastmond (New Esperance)** said that we tend to use similar tunes, **Diane Moody (New Esperance)** said the speeds vary drastically.

Melanie Barber (President) has seen this at the JMO Day of Dance in Bristol and saw different tempos, which she rather liked.

Peter Grind (Jerusalem Jammers) reminded the meeting that this was discussed in 1990 and Plymouth Reel came out of this, played to Soldier's Joy. He said it never really worked as well as had been envisaged although ribbon dancers still perform it. **Barry Goodman (Redbornstoke Morris)** has seen the same tune used to difference dances, most notably at Oxford Folk Weekend when it was disastrous. It's a great deal of fun to experiment but we're not showing what we do to the best: if we have different styles, which we do, it will not be our best.

Gina Seddons (Mockbeggar Morris) recalled seeing Plymouth Reel being danced in the Chester Day of Dance and the echoing of the clogs was really wonderful.

3 From Emma Melville (First Class Stamp)

You will note from the above background that several of us went to the JMO – but with other sides, not with First Class Stamp. We would like future JMO providers to consider the issue of Appalachian sides who find it impossible to move a stage continually around the dancing venues and could be catered for by a single spot with a stage / set of boards where they can stay in one place and other teams can join them. The day in Bristol a few years ago was brilliant and catered for us superbly; we would like to see other organisations managing this too.

Mike Adamson (Rumworth Morris of Bolton) said he would like Appalachian sides to consider where they site themselves so that other sides can join, ie in the middle of a dancing spot leaves no room for other sides to dance along with them. **Jamie Sage (Rackaback Morris)** was concerned that Appalachian sides would be limited to where they dance as they wouldn't get to see anyone else; although **Shirley Dixon (Jackstraws)** said she thought that this was Emma's point, that they have a central point. **Melanie (President)** said that having one spot during the day has much to offer as it can be difficult to find somewhere flat for the boards to go.

Melanie Barber (President) undertook to ensure future AGM and JMO DoD hosts were made aware.

7 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

Melanie Barber (President) suggested voting *en mass* and no objections were received. She handed the Chair to Nicki Pickering, Chair of Open Morris, who read out the current committee, all of whom are willing to stand again:

Melanie Barber (President)
Fee Lock (Secretary)
Jenny Everett (Treasurer)
Mike Everett (Archive Officer)
Jerry West (Notation Officer)
Sam Ross (Newsletter)

200 in favour
0 against

Nicki Pickering handed the Chair back to **Melanie Barber (President)**, who added that **Kevin Taylor** remains a co-opted member for his knowledge of the Morris Federation database.

8 DATE(S) OF FUTURE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The next AGM will Saturday 22nd September 2018 hosted by New Esperance in London. They are proposing to make it a whole weekend and an information sheet had been tabled by **Diane Moody (New Esperance)** - (shown as the final two pages). Please fill in/contact her.

This will be based around Cecil Sharp House: EFDSS do not permit black face paint in the House or grounds. This means that those wearing face paint during the day will have to remove it before entering the grounds. Furthermore, there are several places in London where wearing blackface paint is not recommended. Morris sides who wish to wear black face paint may wish to consider this carefully, and perhaps taking the advice of **Diane Moody (New Esperance)** and if using public transport to apply it when they arrive at the stands, although **Nori MacIntyre-Grey (New Esperance)** said that the full-face black face paint is the main issue here.

Diane Moody (New Esperance) will attempt to find wooden floored places for rapper & Appalachian sides.

2019 – courtesy of Kinfauns in Perth

2020 – courtesy of Customs & Exiles in Wokingham

2021 – Although it seems a long way away we are asking for any volunteers?

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

10 PRESENTATIONS & VOTES OF THANKS

Melanie Barber (President) thanked **Beverley Garland, Rackaback Morris, Green Ginger Garland & Makara Morris** for putting on such a fabulous day in Hull, City of Culture. She gave out Butterworth badges to a representative of all four sides.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.29 pm

ooOoo

Morris Federation AGM weekend, 21st – 23rd September 2018

New Esperance Morris has secured the use of Cecil Sharp House in Camden Town for the whole weekend. We would like to run a 'Festival of Morris', rather than holding a single day of dance.

The EFDSS has agreed to 'indoor camping' in Cecil Sharp House for a number of people. We would appreciate an early estimate of how many people will need to take advantage of this arrangement, as we are aware that some people have friends and family in London who they would prefer to visit.

We would advise against bringing cars into London. There is some free street parking over the weekend, but Parkopedia suggests that you might have a 20 to 30 minute walk. Saturday tours will use public transport, and will be within zones 1 – 3, for which the daily price cap is currently £7.70.

We would like your help to decide on which of our many ideas we should pursue. Here is an outline timetable for the weekend, with several alternatives. Which ones interest you and your side?

Friday

- As this will be the third Friday in the month, there will be the regular 'Knees Up' ceilidh on the Friday night. We don't yet know who the band and caller will be, but this is a popular public series with a vibrant atmosphere. We have negotiated reduced-price admission of £8.00.
- Music session in the bar.

Saturday

- Daytime dancing. Each tour will visit an area of London, (e.g. Hampstead, Marylebone, London Bridge, Docklands), include one or more popular tourist venues, some proper local pubs, and possibly a food market for buy-your-own lunch. Tours which include sword dance teams or other 'indoor dancers' will include some pubs with wooden floors.
- AGM in Cecil Sharp House
- Food (centrally arranged or self-sourced?)
- Some or many of the following -
 - Another ceilidh
 - A 'Library lecture' on some aspect of Morris history
 - A presentation on e.g. costume
 - A discussion on a contemporary topic, e.g. the public image of Morris
 - A workshop on e.g. writing new dances into existing traditions
 - Music session
 - Song session
 - Cards and Board games

Sunday

- Breakfast
- Some or many of the following -
 - Taster session – e.g. rapper for those who want to try it
 - Experienced workshop – e.g. a specific Cotswold tradition, or a "swap shop" of techniques
 - Musician's workshop, e.g. tips on playing for dancing
 - Fools and Animals – ideas exchange
 - Dancing at a local pub

Please use the form below to help us plan or contact Diane directly.
We're not asking for definite numbers, but a vague idea would be good!

We would also be interested in any other suggestions or (helpful!) comments.
Could you volunteer a workshop leader?

Name of side:

.....

Email address of bag:

.....

Number likely to attend

On Saturday only (approx): for whole weekend (approx):

Number interested in indoor camping at C#H

On Friday 21st: on Saturday 22nd:

We like the sound of:

.....

.....

.....

.....

More ideas / comments / suggestions:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Contact - diane.moody@blueyonder.co.uk

Diane Moody
124, Streatham Road
Mitcham
Surrey
CR4 2AE (It's in Greater London, honest!)

ANNUAL REPORTS

(a) President

President's Report 2018

I know I'm in danger of sounding like a broken record, but 2017 really has been another busy year!

Firstly, thank you again to Green Ginger Garland, Beverley Garland, Makara Morris and Rackaback Morris for hosting our 2017 AGM in Hull as part of the City of Culture. It was great to have the Mayor and Town Crier open the day, and the City of Culture ambassadors really helped it flow smoothly. Thanks also to Fee for steering me through the AGM agenda in record time!

As well as our quarterly committee meetings, I have also attended The Open Morris AGM, the JMOs annual meeting, and The Morris Ring ARM.

In addition, I met with Katie Spicer of EFDSS and Diane Moody of New Esperance at Cecil Sharp House to discuss arrangements for our 2018 AGM. I managed to combine the trip to London with attending the launch of the Digital Folk Project report. I had been interviewed by the project last year, which was set up to look at ways in which we use digital technology e.g. to capture, promote, or teach Morris dancing, or using it as a communication medium to help manage teams. The project is required to put their findings to good use, and as such have offered to support The Morris Federation as and when we are ready to digitise our archive. This is something we have on our future agenda though we would also welcome input from members with relevant experience.

The Mastering Performance Workshop Weekend was something I instigated as I have felt for some time that The Morris Federation should be running events to support our organisational aim to promote high standards. Despite having to curtail the programme the presentation, discussions and workshops went extremely well, and were well received by both attendees and leaders. Special thanks to Jenny & Mike for their support in running the weekend.

I attended the Joint Morris Organisations National Day of Dance in Peterborough, which was extremely well hosted by Crosskey Clog on behalf of The Open Morris. Next year's event will be hosted in Manchester by Medlock Rapper, on behalf of The Morris Federation, on Saturday 30th March 2019.

Through our Sponsorship, Grant & Bursary Policy we've supported several projects, not least Lore and the Living Archive, which showcases some of Doc Rowe's extensive archive, TradMad, Sussex Schools Festival and the Morris Database.

Another project, which The Morris Federation have agreed to support, though is still in its very early stages, is a digital heritage project, Safeguarding the Cultural Heritage of Dance through Augmented Reality (SCHEDAR). The aim of the project is to develop a process, through inexpensive technology, of capturing and preserving traditional dance. There will be more news in FedExtra as and when the project develops.

We've also had several publicity enquiries this year, which has led to me being quoted in various national newspapers and being interviewed both on radio and TV. Some teams may have been approached by TV producers, most of which require someone 'tomorrow', which I'm constantly explaining isn't always doable!

One of the big 'behind the scenes' changes that we've introduced this year has been to move to using a commercial membership database. This not only means that we are now compliant with the new GDPR, but that any future system security requirements and upgrades are covered independently. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Kevin Taylor for his hard work and dedication in supporting The Morris Federation as co-opted Webmaster since the inception of our original website. I would also like to thank Sam for sourcing our new system, and Mike Adamson, who we co-opted to set it up and produce system documentation to enable future handovers.

Thanks also go to Jerry, who compiled some notes on GDPR, which are available on our website, and which, if you haven't already done so, I would encourage all teams to read and consider if there is any action you need to take.

As I type I know I have outstanding actions in driving the JMOs Foreperson/ Leaders Handbook forward, supporting a revised Warm-Up Booklet, and in bringing The Morris Federation Members Manual online, but I hope that by the AGM I will be able to report progress on each of these.

It will come as no surprise that I intend to resign as President in 2019. I will have completed six years by then, most of which I have thoroughly enjoyed, though in all honesty has taken up more of my time than I had originally envisaged, but in the main that has been of my own making. We will therefore be looking for a new President, and I am more than happy to discuss the role with potential candidates, so please get in touch if you would like to take up the challenge and help shape the future of The Morris Federation.

Our next AGM (and my final as Chair!) is on Saturday 28th September 2019 and is being hosted in Perth by Kinfauns, then in 2020 Customs & Exiles in Wokingham, and we're still looking for a host for 2021!

Finally, and not at all least, my thanks go once again to the committee for their ongoing support, hard work and dedication in running The Morris Federation.

Happy Dancing!
Melanie

(b) Secretary

Sides joining us since we last met:

Sides

Amble Sword
Baldock Early Evening Rapper
Boudicca Border Morris
Cononley
Dancing Spires Rapper
Ditchling Mummers
Flowers of Ilmington
Froxfield Pelicans
Golden Hare
Lymm Morris
Morris Minors (Brady's Bees)

Natty Jack
Polonez Dance
TeesHyde Steel
Tiger Feet
TradMad Rapper
Vale Islanders
Forest of Dean Morris
Hexham Morris Men
Malkin Morris
Orchard Morris Project
Winterbourne Morris

We welcome them all.

I attended the EFDSS AGM in November (my report was circulated in the newsletter) at Cecil Sharp House, an easy trip for me, comparatively speaking. Although living only seventy miles or so away, it still takes the better part of three hours to get there by dear old train!

With Melanie Barber I attended the Morris Ring's ARM (Annual Ring Meet), where the main focus of discussion was that of amending their constitution to remove the bar on women belonging to Ring sides. Again, this has been reported elsewhere so I won't take up your attention by repeating it, but suffices to say that we were collectively relieved that the Organisation has been able to continue, and friendships maintained, despite this seismic change.

Sides departing since we met:

Blackawton Morris, Chalford Stick Company, Cock & Magpie Morris, Heage Windmillers, Oojah Kappivvy, Over Wyre Cloggers

We wish them well.

Fee x
July 2018

(c) Treasurer

Membership and renewals

Membership levels remained fairly static this year.

To date (12/6/18) we have 536 members (538 in 2017):

- 514 group members
- 12 individuals
- 6 junior
- 4 overseas/associate

11 members have not renewed membership this year and sadly 6 teams have folded - Blackawton Morris, Chalford Stick Company, Cock & Magpie Morris, Heage Windmillers, Oojah Kappivvy, Over Wyre Cloggers. We have 17 new teams.

Renewals were slightly different this year in preparation for our new membership system. Nearly 400 members used the new online form and just over half of members paid their membership by direct bank transfer. This all makes my job a lot easier as it reduces the amount of paper shuffling that the secretary and I have to do. It also cuts out the possibility of typing errors when entering membership data. With banks increasingly reducing the handling of cheques, direct payments and standing orders reduce a lot of the hassle.

Sales and publications

Sales of bells and dance notation books remain steady. However, I will be reviewing the prices of bells in the new future as the manufacturers have greatly increased their prices (due probably to the increased price of raw materials).

Banking

The Deposit account has been moved to Lloyds bank, due to threatened account closure by Santander. A substantial amount of the savings have been moved to a higher interest fixed rate account. Having the accounts with the same bank makes movement of money between accounts much easier to manage.

Accounting period

Attached is a copy of the annual accounts for 2017/2018. The accounting period has been changed to end on 31st March each year, to avoid having to produce accounts mid renewals season. This means that the accounts presented this year cover a 15-month period. However, in future years it should be easier to compare annual accounts on a year by year basis.

Whilst income exceeded expenditure by £15,132.07 this reflects the fact that the period covers 2 years' worth of subscriptions and only 15 months of expenditure. However, I believe that the normal running costs will lie roughly in line with the previous years and expect to make a small loss. Restocking of bells will result in a raised expenditure but will reflect in the value of stock held.

I see no need to increase membership subscriptions for the coming year.

Grants and Sponsorships

Grants and sponsorships have been made to:

Step Back for their Sussex children's dance festival (2018),
Leather for Folkies (2017) – to help equip a new clog making enterprise,
The TradMad Rapper project (2018) – for rapper teaching in schools (from the designated education account).

No applications for grants were received for the designated fund for research into the history of women in morris.

PR

We have invested in 2 display stands and a digital photo frame to display information and photographs at events. These, and the 3 pop-up banners are available to members to borrow, subject to arrangements for delivery and collection.

Committee Expenses

I have, this year, included a breakdown of the committee expenses for the period. Just to reassure members that should they consider standing for a committee post, they can see that we have an expenses policy which pays for accommodation and travel costs incurred.

Other activities

Apart from attending the quarterly committee meetings, handling renewals and dealing with sales, this year I attended the Digital Folk Project Launch at Cecil Sharp House. I ran a trade stand at the Association of Festival Organisers annual conference weekend in order to try to raise the profile of Morris at Festivals. I also was involved in several meetings regarding the planning of the first Mastering Performance weekend and hosted it together with the President and the Archive Officer.

Accounts inspection

These accounts have been independently verified by Eddie Worrall, whom I should like to thank for all his help and advice.

COMMITTEE EXPENSES 1/1/2017- 1/4/18

TOTALS	newsletter editor	web coopted	archive officer	treasurer	notation officer	president	secretary	PERSONAL		ORGANISATIONAL								TOTAL	
£1,971.65	£49.20	£105.30	£99.50	£779.05	£106.60	£437.50	£394.50		travel										
£410.50	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£276.50	£0.00	£134.00	£0.00		accom										
£212.18	£0.00	£0.00	£20.87	£82.24	£0.00	£0.00	£109.07		stationery										
£243.76	£0.00	£0.00	£1.58	£230.45	£0.00	£0.00	£11.73		postage										
£2.40	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2.40	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		printing										
£147.89	£0.00	£0.00	£147.89	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		publications printing										
£317.69	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£317.69	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		conf fees										
£400.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£400.00		mtg rooms										
£1,102.03	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£979.03	£0.00	£0.00	£123.00		AGM										
£205.16	£0.00	£0.00	£205.16	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		exhib										
£39.10	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£39.10	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00		accts pres										
£5,052.36	£49.20	£105.30	£475.00	£2,706.46	£106.60	£571.50	£1,038.30												

MORRIS FEDERATION ACCOUNTS 01/01/2017 to 01/04/2018

INCOME	2017/2018	2016
GENERAL		
Subscriptions (including extra Newsletters)	£38,441.50	£18,677.50
Newsletter adverts	£429.00	£707.80
PRS contribution Morris Ring and Open Morris	£166.01	£103.30
Committee travel expense overpayment refund		£80.20
FRESH room hire share		£10.63
Insurance refund (reduction of sum insured)	£103.38	
Insurance refund (documentation overcharge)		£40.00
TOTAL GENERAL	£39,139.89	£19,579.43
AGM and Day of Dance		
AGM accommodation deposit refund	£100.00	
TOTAL AGM and DAY of DANCE	£100.00	£0.00
JMO		
JMO income	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL JMO	£0.00	£0.00
DONATIONS & GRANTS		
General donations (including matched funding)		£166.00
Refund of payment for Dommatt drive (2015 expense)		£36.89
CD sales and donations to designated education account	£86.20	£150.30
TOTAL DONATIONS & GRANTS	£86.20	£353.19
PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS		
Sale of publications and PR goods (inc p&p)	£464.35	£279.40
TOTAL PR & PUBS	£464.35	£279.40
BELLS		
Sale of bells (inc p&p)	£4,147.55	£4,208.96
TOTAL BELLS	£4,147.55	£4,208.96
BANKING		
Interest on Deposit Account	£131.30	£154.90
TOTAL BANKING	£131.30	£154.90
TOTAL INCOME	£44,069.29	£24,575.88

EXPENDITURE	2017/2018	2016
GENERAL		
Subscription refund	£235.00	£45.00
Printing and postage (newsletter, AGM notices)	£6,557.61	£3,514.80
Printing (inc. renewals)	£2.40	£15.75
Stationery & postage (inc postage of goods/bells)	£455.94	£772.11
Travel expenses	£1,971.65	£1,951.90
PRS charge	£474.30	£229.50
EFDSS membership	£148.00	£72.00
AFO subs/conference	£727.69	£246.75
Other conferences	£90.50	£65.00
Committee meetings room hire	£400.00	£180.00
Black face advice/FRESH meeting		£585.38
Insurance	£13,166.14	£5,735.28
Web expenses	£142.25	£71.25
H&S premium	£210.00	£209.25
Archive acquisitions		£60.00
Preparation of accounts	£39.10	£20.00
Mastering Performance workshop	£50.00	
Tim Radford notation conversion project	£96.71	
TOTAL GENERAL	£24,767.29	£13,773.97
AGM and Day of Dance		
AGM committee accommodation	£979.03	£496.00
AGM badges	£123.00	£52.85
AGM 2019 deposit	£200.00	
AGM printing/postage	£634.00	
AGM room hire	£150.00	
TOTAL AGM and DAY of DANCE	£2,086.03	£548.85
JMO		
JMO day accommodation, admin and website		£139.55
TOTAL JMO	£0.00	£139.55
DONATIONS & GRANTS		
Step Back children's project	£200.00	£500.00
Family folk day, Chobham Morris youth, Dancing England		£1050.00
Leather for Folkies	£1,000.00	
TradMad Rapper project £200 from designated education account)	£400.00	
TOTAL DONATIONS & GRANTS	£1,600.00	£1,550.00
PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS		
Exhibition bags		£81.70
I didn't know women were allowed' exhibition	£115.20	£528.27
Comb binder		£59.99
Publications & PR printing	£147.89	£59.00
Digital photo frame	£65.18	
Display stands	£139.98	
TOTAL PR & PUBS	£468.25	£728.96

BELLS		
Purchase of bells		£8,694.00
Bell refunds	£15.65	£71.00
TOTAL BELLS	£15.65	£8,765.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£28,937.22	£25,506.33

BANKING AND CASH 01/04/2018				
	general account	designated education account	designated research account	TOTAL
Current Account - Lloyds	£20,143.99	£363.50	£350.00	£20,857.49
Deposit Account				£31,278.50
Petty cash				£0.00
Total				£52,135.99

BANKING AND CASH 31/12/2017				
	general account	designated education account	designated research account	TOTAL
Current Account - Lloyds	£8,364.84	£477.30	£350.00	£9,192.14
Deposit Account				£31,147.20
Petty cash				£18.62
Total				£40,357.96

STOCK VALUES		
	1/3/2018	03/01/2017
Stationery	£850.16	£397.99
Value of bells	£7,313.75	£11,004.70
Value of publications	£718.00	£718.00
Value of promotions	£604.10	£574.52
Stock held sale or return by Morris Shop	£383.25	£383.25
Total	£9,869.26	£13,078.46

(d) Archive Officer

Archive Officer Report 2017/18

I represented the Morris Federation at the AFO (Association of Festival Organisers) Conference, where we hosted a trade stall, and the Mastering Performance Weekend, where I made a lot of soups, and the launch of the Digital Folk Project at Cecil Sharp House.

This year has seen a pleasing increase in the use of the archive and library by members borrowing items. New acquisitions for the archive are always welcome. If you have something that you think would be useful for future generations, please consider donating it or providing a copy for the archive.

As a committee member, I have continued to spend some time looking at publicity, producing new leaflets and making the occasional post on social media.

The pull-up display banners, which are held with the archive, are available for member sides and individuals to borrow, and are currently on loan to Malkin Morris for schools' work. Ideas for new displays are welcome and, given enough notice, could be custom made for your side or event.

I am willing to continue to stand as the Federation's Archive Officer – but don't let me stop anyone else from taking over if they would like to!

Mike Everett
16 July 2018

(e) Notation Officer

Things remain quiet in the Notation 'library'. I am grateful to Tony Forster for donating notation for the Cotswold-style dances from *Duns Tew*; and to Juliette Pegram for notating some of her Border- and Cotswold-style dances as currently performed by *Minster Strays*.

Thanks to a lot of hard work by Beth Neil, we are also making available copies of *Morris Matters*, originally an in-house discussion magazine for the Women's Morris Federation, but run as an independent entity, by Beth, since the 1980s. The latest edition is always available to subscribers first - contact Beth via me: notation@morrisfed.org.uk.

In addition, the [American] Country Dance and Song Society have made a facsimile copy of all five volumes of Roy Dommett's *Morris Notes* (the Tony Barrand edition) available online.

I have made links available to all these items as part of the Committee's recent revamp of its website.

Finally, as part of the ongoing Committee discussions around the nature of the Notation Officer role, I have been adopting a more 'project-based' approach, which I expect to continue. As an example, I took the lead in writing the Committee's published advice on GDPR and our Privacy Policy, which doesn't really have anything to do with dance notation!

Jerry West
July 2018

(f) Newsletter Editor

Family health issues escalated this year, and the winter 2017 and spring 2018 needed to be combined into a bumper issue once again. I would like to thank everyone for their continued patience in this regard and particularly those who submitted articles that had to be amended (several times) to remain relevant.

Various mechanisms are being put in place to prevent this from becoming an ongoing issue, including standardising the length of the magazine to 28 pages, and drawing up a workable production schedule to allow adequate time for submission of articles, copyediting, design, layout and proofreading, prior to printing and distribution. Anyone who would like to volunteer to join the copy-editing and/or proofreading team should get in touch.

The Morris Federation continues to support a diverse membership and it has been a pleasure to receive and include a number of articles supporting the LGBTQ+ community as well as the usual submissions from across the range of dance traditions. If you feel a topic, team or tradition doesn't seem to get much coverage, then you know what to do - illustrations, photos, poems, articles, research, etc. Guidelines for submissions are included in every issue of FedExtra.

Finally, I would like to thank all the contributors to the newsletter over the year.

Sam Ross
27 June 2018

MOTIONS

MOTION 1

Motion – To introduce a flexible tenure for elected committee members.

That from the 2019 AGM a flexible three-year tenure be introduced for committee roles.

To maintain continuity, it is proposed that the introduction of this would be staggered so that no more than one third of the committee each year would up for election, and that the President, Secretary and Treasurer be elected/ re-elected in consecutive rather simultaneous years.

This would also require an amendment to the constitution, section 4, to read:

“The officers shall be elected to their posts at the Annual General Meeting, except in the case of a post becoming vacant before the term of office expires, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement to complete the original term of office. Their terms of office shall run for up to three years, beginning on 1st January of the year after that in which they were elected until 31st December of the third year inclusive.”

Proposer: Melanie Barber, Three's a Crowd

Seconder: Jenny Everett, Bishops Morris

Rationale

Constitutionally all committee posts are up for election annually; in practice this doesn't happen.

By introducing an expectation of a three year term of appointment to the committee, members would not only know when would be the best time to stand for election, but also what is expected of them if they stand. It would also hopefully encourage more members to consider standing.

After three years each incumbent could seek election for another three years. It would be sensible for the three-yearly terms to be at variance with each other so that the committee maintains continuity. There is no constitutional reason why people may not stand against incumbents, at any AGM, for the remainder of a term.

Proposed change to the Constitution:

THE MORRIS FEDERATION CONSTITUTION

- 1 **NAME** The organisation shall be known as the Morris Federation.
- 2 **MEMBERSHIP** Acceptance of the aims of the Federation shall be a condition of membership. Membership of the Federation shall be of four classes:
 - a) *Full Group Membership* - for practising morris sides and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities, residing in the United Kingdom.
 - b) *Junior Group Membership* – for practising morris sides of compulsory education age and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities, residing in the United Kingdom.
 - c) *Full Individual Membership* - for individuals residing in the United Kingdom.
 - d) *Associate Membership* - for practising Morris sides and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities
 - e) *Honorary Life Membership* - for individuals properly voted into that category.
- 3 **SUBSCRIPTIONS** Yearly subscriptions shall be payable on 1st December of each year, membership running from 25th January each year until 24th January the following year inclusive.

The annual rate shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting. New members will pay a full year's subscription regardless of when they join.
- 4 **COMMITTEE** The Committee shall comprise a minimum of six officers. These shall include a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Their terms of reference shall be as follows:
 - a) *President*
 - (i) To be responsible for the overall liaison between other officers
 - (ii) To act as Public Relations Officer
 - b) *Secretary*
 - (i) To provide a central address for first-line enquiries
 - (ii) To maintain a list of relevant contact addresses for circulation at regular intervals
 - (iii) To act as meetings convenor and minutes secretary
 - c) *Treasurer*
 - (i) To have overall responsibility for all financial transactions
 - (ii) To administer the receipt of membership subscriptions
 - (iii) To maintain adequate insurance cover
 - d) *Notation Officer*
 - (i) To maintain the stock of dance and music notations available for members
 - (ii) To handle technical enquiries in conjunction with the Archive Officer
 - (iii) To co-ordinate the activities of the MF Notation Group
 - e) *Archive Officer*
 - (i) To be responsible for maintaining and indexing the MF archive

- (ii) To assist with and encourage research activities
 - (iii) To handle technical enquiries in conjunction with the Notation Officer
 - (iv) To co-ordinate the activities of the MF Archive Group
- f) *Newsletter Editor*
- (i) To be responsible for the compilation, editing and circulation of a quarterly Newsletter

The officers shall be elected to their posts at the Annual General Meeting, except in the case of a post becoming vacant before the term of office has expired, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement to complete the original term of office. Their terms of office shall run for ~~one year~~, UP TO THREE YEARS, beginning on 1st January of the year after that in which they were elected until the following 31st December OF THE THIRD YEAR inclusive.

Co-opted Members of the Committee

The committee may co-opt members or external experts to assist in running the Federation. Co-option will be for a specific projects and be for one year in the first instance. Co-opted members may be invited to continue on an annual basis. Co-opted members of the Committee shall be invited to attend Committee meetings and to participate in discussions, but will have no voting rights. They will be invited to report their activities to the membership through the Newsletter or personal presentation at General Meetings. Co-opted members may include those who take on a post that falls vacant before the normal term of office expires.

- 5 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be decided at a previous General Meeting.
- 6 **INSURANCE** It shall be a function of the Federation to maintain valid and adequate insurance cover for all FULL member sides residing in the United Kingdom. Public Liability cover shall be automatic for all such Members on receipt of their annual subscription and valid registration papers. Any other policies offered by the Federation shall require extra payment from those wishing to take part.
- 6 **AIMS** The aims of the Federation shall be:
- a) To encourage and maintain interest in the practice of Morris dancing
 - b) To provide a channel of communication between member sides
 - c) To encourage the improvements of standards of dancing among its members

THE MORRIS FEDERATION

VOTES CONVERSION TABLE

To convert actual votes to equivalent number of votes out of ten:

Look down the vertical axis overleaf for the number of voters you are representing (the total number of people in your side). That is the line you use from now on. The horizontal axis refers to the actual number of votes cast on an issue. Where the column above the appropriate number crosses the line found as above, you will find the equivalent number of votes out of ten.

EXAMPLE

If you have 17 people in your side and 9 of them vote in favour of a proposal, by tracing across from 17 and up from 9, you will find that this is equivalent to $5\frac{1}{2}$ votes out of 10.

If the remaining 8 voted against, by tracing across from 17 and up to 8, this is equivalent to $4\frac{1}{2}$ out of 10:

$$5\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{2} = 10$$

NB When the vote is split two ways as shown, the total will always be 10. However, if there are abstentions, there may be rounding errors which will cause discrepancies. In this event, the abstentions should be adjusted so that the total is 10, e.g.

17 members
8 for = $4\frac{1}{2}$
8 against = $4\frac{1}{2}$
1 abstention = $\frac{1}{2}$
Total = $9\frac{1}{2}$

Abstentions should be submitted as 1 so that the total is 10

For the conversion table, see overleaf

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- 2 **MEMBERSHIP** Acceptance of the aims of the Federation shall be a condition of membership. Membership of the Federation shall be of four classes:
 - a) *Full Group Membership* - for practising morris sides and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities, residing in the United Kingdom.
 - b) *Junior Group Membership* – for practising morris sides of compulsory education age and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities, residing in the United Kingdom.
 - c) *Full Individual Membership* - for individuals residing in the United Kingdom.
 - d) *Associate Membership* - for individuals and practising Morris sides and, at the discretion of the Committee, clubs performing related activities
 - e) *Honorary Life Membership* - for individuals properly voted into that category.
- 3 **SUBSCRIPTIONS** Yearly subscriptions shall be payable on 1st December of each year, membership running from 25th January each year until 24th January the following year inclusive.

The annual rate shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting. New members will pay a full year's subscription regardless of when they join.
- 4 **COMMITTEE** The Committee shall comprise six officers. These shall be a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Notation Officer, an Archive Officer, and a Newsletter Editor. Their terms of reference shall be as follows:
 - a) *President*
 - (i) To be responsible for the overall liaison between other officers
 - (ii) To act as Public Relations Officer
 - b) *Secretary*
 - (i) To provide a central address for first-line enquiries
 - (ii) To maintain a list of relevant contact addresses for circulation at regular intervals
 - (iii) To act as meetings convenor and minutes secretary
 - c) *Treasurer*
 - (i) To have overall responsibility for all financial transactions
 - (ii) To administer the receipt of membership subscriptions
 - (iii) To maintain adequate insurance cover
 - d) *Notation Officer*
 - (i) To maintain the stock of dance and music notations available for members
 - (ii) To handle technical enquiries in conjunction with the Archive Officer
 - (iii) To co-ordinate the activities of the MF Notation Group
 - e) *Archive Officer*
 - (i) To be responsible for maintaining and indexing the MF archive
 - (ii) To assist with and encourage research activities
 - (iii) To handle technical enquiries in conjunction with the Notation Officer
 - (iv) To co-ordinate the activities of the MF Archive Group

- f) *Newsletter Editor*
- (i) To be responsible for the compilation, editing and circulation of a quarterly Newsletter

The officers shall be elected to their posts at the Annual General Meeting, except in the case of a post becoming vacant before the term of office has expired, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement to complete the original term of office. Their terms of office shall run for one year, beginning on 1st January of the year after that in which they were elected until the following 31st December inclusive.

Co-opted Members of the Committee

The committee may co-opt members to assist running the Federation. Co-opted members of the Committee shall be invited to attend Committee meetings and to participate in discussions, but will have no voting rights. They will be invited to report their activities to the membership through the Newsletter or personal presentation at General Meetings. Co-opted members may include those who take on a post that falls vacant before the normal term of office expires.

- 5 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be decided at a previous General Meeting.
- 6 **INSURANCE** It shall be a function of the Federation to maintain valid and adequate insurance cover for all FULL member sides residing in the United Kingdom. Public Liability cover shall be automatic for all such Members on receipt of their annual subscription and valid registration papers. Any other policies offered by the Federation shall require extra payment from those wishing to take part.
- 7 **AIMS** The aims of the Federation shall be:
 - a) To encourage and maintain interest in the practice of Morris dancing
 - b) To provide a channel of communication between member sides
 - c) To encourage the improvements of standards of dancing among its members

Constitution, issued November 2014

THE MORRIS FEDERATION STANDING ORDERS

- 1 THE CHAIR The Chair shall be taken by whosoever is appointed by the Committee. Any member may challenge the Chair at any time, a majority 4/5 being required for a challenge to succeed. Should such a challenge succeed, the Chair shall be taken by whosoever is voted in by those present at the meeting. If no acceptable Chairman can be found, the meeting shall be adjourned. Should a challenge fail, a further challenge may not be made until at least 15 minutes have elapsed.
- 2 QUORUM
 - (a) A General Meeting shall be considered quorate if at least 15, or 10%, whichever is the lower, of the Group Members of the Federation are represented in person at the meeting. The representative must belong to the Group Member concerned and may represent no more than one Group Member. If after one half of an hour from the time appointed for the meeting to start, a quorum is not present; then the meeting shall be declared inquorate. Once a quorate meeting has been opened, any member may challenge the quorum at any time. Should such a challenge not result in the meeting being declared inquorate, a further challenge may not be made until at least 15 minutes have elapsed.
 - (b) If the meeting is declared inquorate, the meeting shall proceed as an Open Committee Meeting, and will follow the AGM agenda as closely as possible, differing in that no binding voting may be made with respect to any motion and no voting can take place for committee posts. Instead, proposals will be put forward for ratification by a postal ballot. The committee in post immediately before the abortive AGM will remain in post until elections can be held. The committee will organise an election and voting on proposals by postal ballot. It will strive to complete this within 2 months of the AGM.
 - (c) Once the meeting has been declared inquorate, the whole of the business of the meeting shall be regarded as if the meeting was never quorate, and it cannot later be declared quorate.
 - (d) No member shall be admitted to the meeting after one half of an hour has elapsed since the opening of the meeting without the permission of the Chair. No member shall leave the meeting before its conclusion without permission from the Chair.
- 3 NOTICE OF THE MEETING Notice of a General Meeting shall reach all members eligible to attend, not less than 8 weeks before the date of the meeting. Items for the agenda and any nominations should reach the Secretary not less than 6 weeks before the AGM. Nominations for Committee posts must reach the Secretary not less than 6 weeks before the meeting. Should any nomination for a post be received by that date then no further nominations will be accepted after that date. An agenda shall reach all members not less than 2 weeks before the meeting. Items shall be dealt with in the order they appear on the agenda, which shall be the order in which they were received by the Secretary, unless an application to change the order is approved by the majority of those present.
- 4 MINUTES If the minutes of the previous meeting shall not have been circulated, the Secretary shall read them, but no motion or discussion shall be allowed on the minutes except in regard to their accuracy. After confirmation of the minutes, they shall be signed by the Chairman. Members shall then be at liberty to ask questions on matters arising out of them.
- 5 MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS The first proposition on any subject shall be known as the Original Motion and all succeeding propositions on that subject shall be called amendments. Every motion and amendment must be moved and seconded by members actually present at the meeting and, unless impossible, all motions shall be notified in advance and included on the agenda.

- 6 **SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS** If the amendment be carried, it displaces or alters the Original Motion and becomes the Substantive Motion, which shall be put to the vote and, if carried, shall become a Resolution of the meeting.
- 7 **RIGHT OF REPLY** The mover of the Original Motion shall, if no amendment be moved, have the right to reply at the close of the debate upon such motion. When an amendment is moved, they shall be entitled to speak thereon, and at the close of the debate on such an amendment, shall reply to the discussion, but shall introduce no new matter. The question shall then be put to the vote immediately, and in no circumstances shall any further discussion be allowed once the question has been put from the Chair. The mover of and amendment shall not be entitled to reply.
- 8 **WITHDRAWALS AND ADDITIONS** No motion or amendment on which a Proposal to Put to the Vote has been carried (which proposal may be moved by any member present) shall be withdrawn without the unanimous consent of the meeting. Once the Proposal to put to the Vote has been carried, no further discussion shall take place on the motion or amendment to which it refers.
- 9 **ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSURE** Motions of Adjournment of the Meeting or of the Question under Discussion or for the Postponement of Voting on a particular proposal or to move to the Next Business may be moved by any member present. Should any of the se proposals be defeated, that proposal may not be put again until at least 15 minutes have elapsed. A Motion of Closure of the Meeting may be moved by any member present and, in the event of defeat, may not be moved again until 30 minutes have elapsed.
- 10 **VOTING RIGHTS**
- (a) General Meetings may be attended by all persons covered by membership of the Federation
 - (b) Voting at a General Meeting on matters where prior notice has been given to members, which will include motions and the election of officers where nominations have been received prior to the given deadline, shall be on the basis of ten votes per Full Group Member, apportioned to reflect as closely as possible the views of the side. Full Individual Members and Honorary Life Members shall have one vote. Associate Members shall have no vote. An Individual Member who also belongs to a member side may vote in one capacity only. A voter who cannot be present at a meeting may give written, signed authorisation to any other valid attendance, preferably the Secretary, to cast votes on their behalf as directed by them on specific proposals, provided an apology for absence accompanies the authorisation.
 - (i) Voting on administrative matters, not detailed on the agenda, and voting for the election of officers to the committee where nominations have not been receive prior to the deadline shall be on the basis of one vote per person present, to a maximum of ten votes per Full Group Member present, excluding non-Members, Associate Members, and the committee
 - (ii) In the event of a dead heat, a second vote will be held. If this fails to resolve the issue, the President will have the casting vote.
 - (iii)
 - (c) Tellers shall be appointed for the meeting by the Chairman, for the duration of that meeting. In the event of an objection being raised against any one teller, which is supported by the majority of those present, the Chairman shall appoint another in their place. In the event of an objection failing with respect to any one teller, no further objection may be raised until at least 15 minutes have elapsed.
 - (d) In the event of a Proposal of Postponement to put to the Vote being carried at a meeting, the matter may be decided upon by a postal ballot if approved by the meeting. The voting rights shall be the same as those at the meeting from which it was postponed.
 - (e) An individual from outside the Federation may attend meetings at the invitation of or by permission of the President. The individual shall have no speaking rights except when invited to speak by the Chairman.

- 11 RESCINDING A RESOLUTION No resolution shall be rescinded or amended at the same meeting at which it was passed.
- 12 SELECTION OF SPEAKERS A member shall raise a hand when wishing to speak and shall rise when called upon toe Chairman to do so. When called upon to address the meeting, the member shall first give their name and, where applicable, shall also give the name of the side to which they belong.
- 13 INTERRUPTION If any member interrupts the speaker or uses abusive language, or causes a disturbance, or refuses to obey the Chairman when called to order, they shall be named by the Chairman. The member shall thereupon be expelled from the meeting and shall not be allowed to enter again until an apology satisfactory to the meeting has been given.
- 14 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS On a matter of great urgency, the Chairman may accept a motion for the suspension of Standing Orders. The member moving such suspension must clearly state the nature and urgency of the business, the numbers of the Standing Orders affected, and the length of time (not exceeding 30 minutes) the member desires the suspension to last. No suspension shall take place except by a 7/8 majority of the members present.
- 15 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES, ETC Changes to the Constitution, Standing Orders of General Policies of the Federation shall require a majority of 2/3 from a vote taken at a General Meeting or a postal ballot taken among all members following a Proposal of Postponement to Put to the Vote passed at a General Meeting (see Standing Order 10d).
- 16 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP Honorary Life Membership may be bestowed on an individual who is an existing member, by a majority vote taken at an Annual General Meeting, provided the nomination for such membership reaches the Secretary not later than 5 weeks before the meeting, for inclusion on the final agenda. A nomination may be made by any Group, Individual or Honorary Life Member (other than the nominee) and must be seconded by at least 5 other such members prior to its submission.
- 17 FRIENDSHIP OF THE FEDERATION Friendship of the Federation may be bestowed on any individual or organisation by a majority vote taken at an Annual General Meeting, provided the nomination for such status reaches the Secretary not later than 5 weeks before the meeting, for inclusion on the final agenda. A nomination may be made by any Group, Individual or Honorary Life Member and must be seconded by at least 5 other such members prior to its submission.

Standing Orders, issued October 2010

THE MORRIS FEDERATION

RESOLUTIONS

Over the years, various resolutions have been made at Morris Federation Annual General Meetings. Some of these, unlike constitutional changes for example, cannot be dealt with immediately and then just filed away. By their very nature, they need to be brought to the attention of and continually kept in mind by the members of the Federation.

The list of such resolutions, given below, will be added to when necessary, each fresh list being circulated to all members.

1978

An objective of the Federation shall be to improve the standards of dancing by its members and the Committee should investigate ways and means of encouraging this objective.

1980

The Federation shall not allow 'combination' sets to perform in any public displays that may form part of the AGM Weekend. 'Combination sets shall mean those in which one dancer is wearing a kit different to that worn by at least one other dancer in the same set.

1980

Sides attending the AGM Weekend shall be required to ensure in advance that they have a musician to play for them in any public display they wish to participate during the course of that weekend. Also, no musician is to play for a side unless invited to do so by that particular side.

Resolutions, issued October 1980



Appendix 9 – Postal and proxy voting

POSTAL AND PROXY VOTING INFORMATION

Teams

You are entitled up to 10 votes. Please send the number of votes your side is entitled to cast to me, Fee, the Secretary, at **28 Fairstone Close, Hastings TN35 5EZ** by **Friday 7th September 2018**.

NAME OF FULL MEMBER SIDE

1) PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A FLEXIBLE TENURE FOR ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Proposed by Melanie Barber (Three's A Crowd), seconded by Jenny Everett (Bishop's Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

Proxy voting

If you are nominating someone attending the meeting on your behalf, please write the name below.

.....

of (side or Individual Member, or Committee officer)

Individual Members

You are entitled to one vote each. Please make sure I receive this at **28 Fairstone Close, Hastings TN35 5EZ** by **Friday 7th September 2018**.

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

1) PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A FLEXIBLE TENURE FOR ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Proposed by Melanie Barber (Three's A Crowd), seconded by Jenny Everett (Bishop's Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

Proxy voting

If you are nominating someone attending the meeting on your behalf, please write the name below.

.....

of (side or Individual Member, or Committee officer)