



The Morris Federation



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July 2019

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 28th September 2019
(sign in for a 4.30 pm start)**

at

The Salutation Hotel, 30 – 34, South Street, Perth PH2 8PH

as guests of Kinfauns Step Dancers, preceded by a wonderful day of dance in Perth, within walking distance of the centrally-positioned Salutation Hotel. There will be a Scottish ceilidh in the evening with the Cragganmore Ceilidh Band and on Sunday, dance and music workshops.

Sides will need to:

- arrange their own transport to and from Perth
- arrange their own accommodation
- arrange their own meals.

Please contact Morag at morag.johnston762@gmail.com

Please bring this invitation with you for reference (we cannot guarantee to provide sufficient paper copies. Enclosed in this invitation are:

- The AGM agenda (Appendix 1, printed with GREEN EDGE)
- Officers' annual reports (Appendix 2, printed on WHITE PAPER)
- The Motion (Appendix 3, printed with ORANGE EDGE)
- The discussion point (Appendix 4, printed with BLUE EDGE)
- Nominations for the post of president (Appendix 5, printed with PURPLE EDGE)
- Vote conversion sheet (Appendix 6, printed with GREEN EDGE)
- Constitution (Appendix 7, *as currently exists for* reference printed with GREEN EDGE)
- Standing orders (Appendix 8, printed with GREEN EDGE)
- The AGM Resolutions (Appendix 9, printed with GREEN EDGE)
- Postal/proxy voting sheet (Appendix 10, printed with PINK EDGE)

This should be sent back to me at 28 Fairstone Close, Hastings TN35 5EZ by Friday 6th September 2019

NB The minutes of the previous AGM on 22nd September 2018 have already been circulated and are therefore not included in this document. Copies are available online at <https://www.morrisfed.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Draft-AGM-Mins-2018.pdf>
There will be one paper copy to be signed as accurate, or amended, at the AGM.

Next year's AGM will be held in Reading on Saturday 26th September 2020, as guests of Customs & Exiles, and in 2021 we will be in Darlington, guests of Black Diamond Morris. We are looking for hosts for 2022, 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

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Bradinch Millers Morris
Southern Lights
Ebor Morris
Fabulous Fezheads
Deorfrith
Boughton Monchelsea Morris
Westmorland Step & Garland Dancers
Green Dragon Morris

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Previously circulated; available on the website, currently in draft status, at www.morrisfed.org.uk. A paper copy will be brought to the AGM for any amendments/signing as an accurate record.

3 MATTERS ARISING

ANNUAL REPORTS

(a) President

This is my final report as President of The Morris Federation, and I would like to start by thanking everybody for their support and encouragement over the last six years.

As always, there are still things that I hope to achieve before the end of the year, and hopefully by the time we get to the AGM in Perth I'll have ticked a few more items off my list and, if not, then by the end of December when I hand over to my successor.

Many thanks to New Esperance for hosting our 2018 AGM in London. Despite the weather the streets were full of dancers, with many team representatives staying on for the AGM, at which John Bacon received his EFDSS Gold Badge. The evening proved successful, and it was great to see a good number of people attending the Sunday morning workshop, and that teams, both local and further afield, stayed for the Sunday lunchtime dancing.

Myself, Fee and Jenny attended the JMO annual meeting in February, which was hosted and chaired by The Morris Federation, and was very much business as usual.

30th March saw Medlock Rapper host the JMO National Day of Dance in Manchester on behalf of The Morris Federation, which received very positive feedback. I would like to re-iterate my thanks to Medlock for all the hard work that went into the day, and to Waters Green for representing The Morris Federation in the show dance.

We have continued to develop the new membership database and hope that teams have found their way around updating their own details. This is really important, especially as officers change, so that hard copies of FedExtra and email broadcasts find their way to the right person within the team. If you haven't as yet checked your details, then please do so asap as we will shortly be sending out 2020 membership renewals. We hope, but can't promise, that teams will in future be able to download their PLI certificates from the system.

By now you should also have noticed that we have a new Membership section on the website, which can be accessed from the same log in details as the membership system. We've currently moved the advice and guidance for members that was previously under Resources into the new section and will be adding sections from the Member's Manual as and when they are reviewed. This is an ongoing project, so please bear with us.

We continue to support projects through our Sponsorship, Grant & Bursary Policy, which this year has seen us helping with the cost of equipment for Ripon Spur Rapper and Black Gate Morris, and travel expenses to The Morris Federation teams that performed at Dancing England.

Our next AGM will be on Saturday 26th September 2020 hosted in Customs & Exiles in Reading, then in 2021 hosted by Black Diamond in Darlington. As always, we like to plan ahead, so if you fancy taking up the mantle of hosting the 2022 AGM then please get in touch.

Lastly, but by no means least, my thanks once again to the committee for their ongoing support, hard work and dedication in running The Morris Federation; I look forward to seeing the organisation continue to develop and improve under new leadership.

Happy Dancing!
Melanie

(b) Secretary

Sides joining us since we last met:

Black Gate
Broads Swords
East Hoathly
Galliard Folk Dancers
The Ghurkhas
Mehalah Morris
Midgley Pace Egg
Ripon Spur Rapper
Sheffield University Morris
The Barrel Border Morris (Bude)
Trentside Holmes

Sides leaving us in the last year:

Crooked Steeple Morris
Hexadaisy
Maybe Morris
Penny Plain
Point Devis
Redbornstoke Morris
Sergeant Musgrave's Dance
Weaver's Morris
Wicked Belly Morris
First Class Stamp

We wish them well.

I attended the Joint Morris Organisations' annual general meeting, hosted by the Morris Federation, in February of this year. As you know, this is an important mechanism to maintain good working relationships with the Morris Ring and Open Morris, as well as keeping up-to-date with issues which may affect our public liability insurance. There is a need for this to become a more formal entity in terms of governance of any (small) funds and to ensure a transparent line of responsibility. The chair alters annually, generally depending on which Organisation is hosting the National Day of Dance, however, Steven Archer (former Treasurer of the Morris Ring) has stood as its treasurer and I agreed to stand as its secretary.

I also attended the Annual Representatives' Meeting of the Morris Ring in Staffordshire, where in keeping with their decision to alter their constitution to remove the gender bar of member sides, the first Appalachian side, First Class Stamp (formerly members of the Morris Federation) joined the Morris Ring. . Emma Melville, who proposed a Discussion point at last year's AGM on massed dancing, is married to Jon, Bagman of the Morris Ring; and her brother Adam and father Mike are both former Squires of the Morris Ring, and it was heartening to see how at home she feels there.

Although I'd planned to represent the Morris Federation at the EFDSS' AGM in November, I went down with the cold from hell and decided against infecting all I encountered. All things being equal, I will try to get there this year.

Fee x
Hastings, June 2019

(c) Treasurer

Membership and renewals

Membership levels have dropped slightly this year.

To date (14/5/19) we have 529 members (536 in 2018):

- 508 group members
- 10 individuals
- 7 junior
- 4 overseas/associate

Some of the drop in numbers is due to those teams who had joined us from the Morris Ring now returning. Sadly 9 teams have folded - Crooked Steeple Morris, Hexadaisy, Maybe Morris, Penny Plain, Point Devis, Redbornstoke Morris, Sergeant Musgrave's Dance, Weaver's Morris, Wicked Belly Morris. We have 8 new teams, and Pengwyn Rapper have reformed.

Our new membership system was up and running in time for the renewal season. Teams were able to update their own details and about 60% of members paid their membership by direct bank transfer. This all makes my job a lot easier and cuts out the possibility of typing errors when entering membership data. Lloyds bank also introduced a new system for paying in cheques via mobile phone which saved me a lot of manual logging of cheques and repeated visits to the bank.

Sales and publications

Sales of bells and dance notation books remain steady. New stocks of bells were purchased which meant a hefty rise in prices as the manufacturer has had to raise its prices.

Banking

All accounts are now at Lloyds bank, we have a current account, an instant access savings account and a fixed term deposit account. Interest on the fixed term deposit will be due towards the end of April but is shown in this year's accounts. I no longer hold petty cash.

Accounting period

Attached is a copy of the annual accounts for 2018/2019. Comparison with 2017/2018 accounts are not obvious as that period covered 15 months.

Income exceeded expenditure by £3,326.94, this profit is largely due to the efforts of our insurance officer Michael Stimpson who negotiated a very favourable deal on our Public Liability insurance. Thank you, Michael!

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

Grants and Sponsorships

Grants and sponsorships have been made to:

- Lore and the Living Archive (Project with Doc Rowe)
- Morris Dance database (Project with Colin Andrews)
- Teams who represented The Morris Federation at Dancing England

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

PR

Preparations are underway to update and replace the 3 pop-up banners which are available to members to borrow.

Committee Expenses

A breakdown of the committee expenses for the period has been included. Should any member consider standing for a committee post, 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 Open Morris AGM and the JMO day of dance. Together with the Archive Officer, I hosted the JMO AGM.

Accounts inspection

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

Thank you for all your messages of support and thanks over the year.
Jenny Everett

MORRIS FEDERATION ACCOUNTS 01/01/2018 to 01/04/2019

INCOME	2018/2019	2017/2018
GENERAL		
Subscriptions (including extra Newsletters)	£18,882.50	£38,441.50
Newsletter adverts	£0.00	£429.00
PRS contribution Morris Ring and Open Morris	£0.00	£166.01
Insurance refund (reduction of sum insured)		£103.38
TOTAL GENERAL	£18,882.50	£39,139.89
Mastering Performance workshop		
Ticket sales	£920.00	
TOTAL MPW	£920.00	
AGM and Day of Dance		
AGM 2018 accommodation deposit refund		£100.00
TOTAL AGM and DAY of DANCE	£0.00	£100.00
JMO		
JMO income		
TOTAL JMO	£0.00	£0.00
DONATIONS & GRANTS		
CD sales and donations to designated education account	£10.00	£86.20
TOTAL DONATIONS & GRANTS	£10.00	£86.20
PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS		
Sale of publications and PR goods (inc p&p)	£132.50	£464.35
TOTAL PR & PUBS	£132.50	£464.35
BELLS		
Sale of bells (inc p&p)	£6,240.48	£4,147.55
TOTAL BELLS	£6,240.48	£4,147.55
BANKING		
Interest on instant access deposit account	£2.11	
Interest on Deposit Account	£224.00	£131.30
TOTAL BANKING	£226.11	£131.30
TOTAL INCOME	£26,411.59	£44,069.29

EXPENDITURE	2018/2019	2017/2018
GENERAL		
Subscription refund	£115.00	£235.00
Printing and postage (newsletter, AGM notices)	£4,625.90	£6,557.61
Printing (inc. renewals)	£0.00	£2.40
Stationery & postage (inc postage of goods/bells)	£438.38	£455.94
Travel expenses	£1,698.35	£1,971.65
PRS charge	£0.00	£474.30
EFDSS membership	£76.00	£148.00
AFO subs/conference	£90.00	£727.69
OM/Ring meetings accommodation	£38.00	
JMO meeting refreshments	£34.15	
Other conferences		£90.50
Committee meetings room hire	£320.00	£400.00
Insurance	£4,872.79	£13,166.14
IT expenses	£655.72	£142.25
H&S premium	£213.00	£210.00
Preparation of accounts	£74.90	£39.10
Tim Radford notation conversion project		£96.71
TOTAL GENERAL	£13,252.19	£24,717.29
Mastering Performance workshop		
Catering	£60.15	
Hall hire	£350.00	£50.00
Leaders' expenses	£343.32	
Ticket refunds/cancellation fees	£314.50	
TOTAL MPW	£1,067.97	£50.00
AGM and Day of Dance		
AGM committee accommodation	£733.48	£979.03
AGM badges	£55.20	£123.00
AGM 2019 deposit		£200.00
AGM printing/postage		£634.00
AGM room hire		£150.00
TOTAL AGM and DAY of DANCE	£788.68	£2,086.03
JMO		
JMO day accommodation and admin	£76.50	
TOTAL JMO	£76.50	£0.00
DONATIONS & GRANTS		
Lore and the Living Archive	£450.00	
Morris Dance database project	£80.00	
Dancing England (MF team travel expenses)	£1,308.35	
TOTAL DONATIONS & GRANTS	£1,838.35	£1,600.00
PROMOTIONS & PUBLICATIONS		
'I didn't know women were allowed' exhibition		£115.20
Publications & PR printing		£147.89
Digital photo frame		£65.18
Display stands		£139.98
TOTAL PR & PUBS	£0.00	£468.25
BELLS		
Purchase of bells	£6,060.96	
Bell refunds		£15.65
TOTAL BELLS	£6,060.96	£15.65
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£23,084.65	£28,937.22

COMMITTEE EXPENSES 1/4/18 – 1/4/19

PERSONAL EXPENSES

	Travel	Accommodation
Secretary	£490.00	
President	£525.35	£76.50
Notation officer	£127.95	
Treasurer	£60.00	£38.00
Archive officer	£434.30	
Newsletter editor	£26.10	
Co-opted IT support	£34.65	

ORGANISATIONAL EXPENSES

	Stationery	Postage	Conf fees	IT	Mtg rooms	AGM	JMO	Accts pres
Secretary	£15.95	£38.96			£320.00	£55.20		
President			£121.82					
Treasurer		£378.37	£60.15			£348.00	£34.15	£74.90
Archive officer				£4.76				
Newsletter editor		£5.10						

CASH AND BANKING DETAILS

BANKING AND CASH 02/04/2019				
	general account	designated education account	designated research account	TOTAL
Current Account - Lloyds	£22,313.28	£373.50	£350.00	£23,036.78
Deposit Account				£28,224.00
Savings Account				£3,376.94
Total				£54,637.72

BANKING AND CASH 01/04/2018				
	general account	designate d education account	designate d 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

STOCK VALUES at 1/4/19	
	03/01/2017
Stationery	£336.70
Value of bells	£10,997.80
Value of publications	£583.60
Value of promotions	£443.14
Stock held sale or return by Morris Shop	£383.25
Total	£12,744.49

(d) Archive Officer

I represented The Morris Federation at the Open Morris AGM and the JMO National Day of Dance and co-hosted the JMO AGM.

There have been a few donations to the archive and an occasional request to borrow materials this year as well as a handful of queries. More of any and all of these activities are most welcome.

In the pre-digital age, most member sides provided a paper copy of an annual update their side history. I receive very few now, so I hope sides are keeping their own archives and histories. If not, please provide me with details of your kit, your dances, officers and other relevant information whenever things change.

New acquisitions for the archive are always welcome. If you have something that you think would be useful for current researchers and future generations, please consider donating it or providing a copy for the archive.

I am willing to continue to stand as The Morris Federation's Archive Officer – but don't let me stop anyone else from taking over if they would like to! If you'd like to know what's involved, just ask...

Mike Everett
1 July 2019

(e) Notation Officer

Once again, this has been a quiet year. I was pleased to receive copies of dance notation from Colin Andrews and Judith Proctor (many thanks!) and to be able to provide indirect assistance to a new team looking for somewhere to start.

The integration of the notation site (currently hosted via combination of Google Docs and Google Sites) with the official Federation WordPress site is going ahead slowly. I still have a number of large boxes of material to sort - much of it duplicates material already available but each needs to be checked since I am following a policy of keeping all variants (i.e. "versions") to allow future researchers to see how both the practice of dance, and the process of notating it, changes over time.

Once everything is on the new site, we will be able to count views and downloads much more accurately so as to get a better understanding of how these resources are used. It is my impression that the original purpose of the notation library - to provide easily accessible notation for anyone wishing to learn or teach the dances - has been fulfilled and, now, largely superseded. YouTube and social media have changed the way information is distributed within and between special interest groups. It may be that we should now be looking to capture current practice so as to provide a record not just for those who want to dance today, but also for those who come after us.

Colin Andrews has started this process by constructing a database of dance "traditions" and names (but not, yet, notation) to be found at <https://morrisdancedatabase.org.uk/> This is an ongoing project that we have helped fund and are watching with interest. Whilst still at an early stage, teams can already contribute to the database - contact Colin Andrews, at bonnygreencolin@gmail.com

As well as dance records, there is always interest in the choices teams make over their kit. The Federation has for a long time asked member teams to complete a "Side History Record" that includes details of costume worn, etc. This paper-based recording system is looking somewhat dated now! The committee is discussing how to provide teams with a mechanism to upload photographs or (short) video clips as a way to capture this unique aspect of our shared social history. There is no reason why we could not also augment paper dance notation with illustrative examples of dance performance.

By the way, did you know that you can upload a logo and perhaps a profile picture for your team (using our self-service membership system) which will be displayed when the team's entry is viewed from the TeamFinder (etc).

Finally, a reminder that JKL Video (of Sidmouth) have started to digitise all their old festival videos. If your team performed at the festival in the 80s and 90s you may be interested in approaching Bill Lankester (jklfilm@aol.com or <https://www.jklvideofilmsservice.com/>) to see what he has. Bill's intention is to copy everything onto DVD eventually but if your team video is not yet available, he has agreed, for a limited time, to produce a priority copy for only £7.50.

Jerry West
July 2019

(f) Newsletter Editor

I can only apologise for the lack of newsletters this year, family health issues have continued to create pressure on my spare time, which has not only affected the newsletter, but also my ability to participate in many things Morris.

However, things are improving. After requesting assistance last year, I now have one person helping to edit the articles, and two more potentially offering their help. This will ease the pressure on producing the newsletter and I am now more confident that the newsletter can return to being published four times per year in February, May, August and November.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued patience and particularly to those who submitted articles that had to be amended or which unfortunately had to be dropped due to time-dependant information.

We have also had some issues with people not receiving their newsletters, most of which appear to be related to the new membership database and the way in which the addresses are exported. Most of these bugs have now been fixed; however, some post has gone awry due to changes in address. It is worth noting that team secretaries/bag people now have the responsibility to keep address details up-to-date by logging into the members' area on our website. This function is available at any time, and I would encourage all teams to make sure that these details are checked at least once a year, and especially when team officers change. We can assist if you are experiencing issues accessing the system, just ask.

I am proud of the diverse membership that The Morris Federation encompasses and am keen to see the newsletter feature a range of articles from all sections of our Morris community, as well as challenge views that may be outdated or simply to provide an alternative point-of-view. If you feel a topic, team or tradition doesn't seem to get much coverage, then please send your submissions - illustrations, photos, poems, articles, research, etc. Guidelines for submissions are included in every issue of FedExtra.

I would like to thank all the contributors to the newsletter over the past year and I look forward to featuring more of your activities etc. in the coming year.

Sam Ross
29 June 2019

MOTIONS

To amend the Terms of Reference of the Constitution, Section 4, Committee

The officers shall be elected to their posts at the Annual General Meeting, except in the case of a post becoming vacant between AGMs, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement. 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. In the event of a post becoming vacant before the full three-year period has expired, the term of office of any elected replacement shall run for a maximum of the period remaining of the term of office of the outgoing officer.

For clarity, the changes are shown below, courtesy of **Val Parker (Honorary Member)**, who pointed this out at last year's AGM. The ~~strikethroughs~~ illustrate the removal of text; the *italics* illustrate the proposed changes.

“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~~ *between AGMs*, 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.

In the event of a post becoming vacant before the full three-year period has expired, the term of office of any elected replacement shall run for a maximum of the period remaining of the term of office of the outgoing officer.”

Proposed by **Sam Ross (Newsletter Editor)**, seconded by **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)**.

Rationale

This clarifies both the circumstances when an EGM can be called in the context of within the new, three-yearly cycle of tenure, and the situation concerning the completion or otherwise of a three-year term.

NB The constitution as it would look, should this Motion be passed, is shown immediately overleaf, *and the relevant paragraph is colour-coded orange and in a different font.*

This is to differentiate it from the existing constitution, which is reproduced towards the end of the document, *and is colour-coded green.*

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 between AGMs, when an Extraordinary General Meeting may be called to elect a replacement. 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. In the event of a post becoming vacant before the full three-year period has expired, the term of office of any elected replacement shall run for a maximum of the period remaining of the term of office of the outgoing officer.

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

6 DISCUSSIONS

Discussions do not form part of any voting process as such; however, they may form part of a Motion for future general meetings.

SHOULD OUR MEMBERS ALL BE MORRIS DANCERS?

Over the years, our membership has expanded from what we all understand as Morris dancing, in its widest sense, to include teams who don't strictly dance Morris. The first to be included was Appalachian which we happily accepted as an allied tradition often danced by people we knew in the Morris.

However, in the past few years, some other groups have been accepted for membership. Often the only link is that they appear at folk festivals alongside Morris dancers. These include historical and social dance groups, and foreign dance teams. They tend to join so that they can enjoy the benefit of our public liability insurance.

Is the membership content that we should include such groups and where should the boundary lie?

Led by **Jenny Everett (Treasurer)**

7 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

(a) President

Melanie Barber is standing down as president this year, and there have been a number of nominations (see following pages – PURPLE EDGE).

(b) Secretary

Fee Lock is willing to stand again. There have been no other nominations received.

(c) Treasurer

Jenny Everett is willing to stand again. There have been no other nominations received.

(d) Archive Officer

Mike Everett is willing to stand again. There have been no other nominations received.

(e) Notation Officer

Jerry West is willing to stand again. There have been no other nominations received.

(f) Newsletter Editor

This post, under the new, three-year tenure, will come to an end at this AGM and the post needs to be filled. **Sam Ross**, the existing newsletter editor, is willing to stand again and is proposed by **Fee Lock (Secretary)** and seconded by **Mike Everett (Archive Officer)**. There have been no other nominations received.

We will require tellers who should not be members of the Morris Federation.

8 DATE(S) OF FUTURE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING(S)

Next year's AGM will be held in Reading on Saturday 26th September 2020, as guests of Customs & Exiles

In 2021 we will be in Darlington, guests of Black Diamond Morris.

We are looking for hosts for 2022, so if you would like to know more about how to host an AGM, please get in touch.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None notified; by leave of the Chair.

10 PRESENTATIONS AND VOTES OF THANKS

(1/5)

LINDA POUND

Proposed by Persephone Women's NW Morris, seconded by Chinewrde Morris



I am a founder member of Chinewrde Morris Dancers and our current Squire.

I have danced North West for 36 years and I have played melodeon for Earlsdon Morris Men, a ring team, for a number of years. I've danced rapper in the past and have family members who dance and play for Cotswold and Rapper, as well as friends who dance Molly, Border and Longsword - so I appreciate folk dance in all its forms. I met my husband through Chinewrde so it's in our family blood now!

Loving dancing, I try to get to as many morris weekends and events as I can, as well as spending time with friends and family, walking my border collie, my work as a gardener and a spot of beekeeping.

Supporting Chinewrde in achieving a high standard of dance and organisation as well as bringing new people to the world of folk and dance is a proud achievement.

As President of the Morris Federation I will look to maintain the links forged between the different Morris organisations. I

will attend events regularly to listen to the voices of all members because I believe passionately in inclusivity for all.

I appreciate the role of the Federation in bringing together organisations, teams and individuals to protect and strengthen morris dance for future generations and I hope, with the guidance of the committee to do justice to the position of President.

Linda x

(2/5)

HEATHER LEECH

Proposed by Hannah's Cat Morris, seconded by Mad Jack's Morris



Official bid to stand

I would like to stand as a candidate for the election of morris federation president. To support my nomination, I have been proposed by Hannah's Cat morris and Mad Jack's morris, both from Hastings East Sussex.

Morris dancing experience

I have been a Cotswold morris dancer since 1984. My first team was Daisy Roots, now gone. I am an honorary member of Mad Jacks Morris and have been for approximately twenty-five years. My current side, of which I am a founding member: Hannah's Cat, has been in existence for about sixteen having been formed from the previously mentioned Daisy Roots.

I co-started a street dancing side called Fishbone Ash for the express purpose of dancing during the Sussex Bonfire Season and have danced border for a side which is formed each year for the

Christmas Wassail season called Winter Warmers. In the formative years of Hannah's Cat I have set up and led a children's side. In addition, the side also had an associated giant- Hannah, the Hastings giant.

I have been foreman for about twenty years to firstly Daisy Roots and since then Hannah's Cat. I have also been sometime squire and bagman over this time.

Outlook

I am humbly grateful for what the morris has done for me.

In 1984 it saved me from becoming a boring workaholic teacher. Subsequently it pointed the way into the richest and most vibrant of cultural worlds- English folk tradition. I am a trustee of Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green, chair of Hastings Borough Bonfire Society, a committee member of Hastings Old Town Carnival (and ex-secretary) and the Hastings Week committee and I direct an annual Good Friday Witness of Procession. I have studied and written about community street events (focussing on those named above) and have come to recognise the wider vital importance of maintaining our heritage. That said our heritage can only be saved if it is accepted and given relevance by the community from which it has sprung.

There is much that threatens our cultural expression- perceived views on black face paint, health and safety, the cost of road closures, council cuts. All these factors coupled with the homogenisation effect of global commercialisation make it a harder environment for us to sustain our traditions. I am a passionate advocate for maintaining our cultural heritage. It is vitally important that we provide opportunities for young people to gain access to and have a quality experience of our indigenous dance traditions that includes the music and song that accompany the dances. There is a fine balance and a sensitive dialogue that goes with this.

Ideally, we would hope that every family across the country joins their local morris side and dances their local dances in their local places of interest! The truth is that some have brought up our children in the morris family endeavoured to share both the joy, privilege and the guardianship that comes with holding tradition. Others have found their way to this point and some have fallen by the wayside. Those who no longer participate still have that knowledge within them.

And here's that fine balance and sensitive dialogue, if you've been brought up with it- how can you now own it for your generation? Are you destroying what went before if you bring in change or should you do something

completely new to avoid stagnation from past practice? How far can the morris be taken and still be a morris dance? If we have leap frogging can we have cartwheels? If we're wearing ribbons and face-paint can we wear masks and synthetic materials? Do we keep acoustic instruments, or should we be automatically be using amplification? My experience over the years has shown me that even within something so seemingly set I have seen fashions come and go. Some people and sides have an attitude towards preservation while others lend themselves towards innovation; to me both views are valid, if that attitude is one of sincerity not mockery.

There are too many people in our pubs, town centres or even in positions of authority e.g. Seb Coe with his comments about the Olympics, who take a patronising and dismissive line. The troubles ahead do not lie so much from within but from these external issues, some of which I've mentioned above. The people who were part of the revival in the seventies and eighties; they in turn built upon the emergence of the thirties and before that is obviously the work of Cecil Sharp and Maude Karpeles and the like who were trying to preserve what they witnessed. We all form part of the same cycle and are merely the current custodians who must hand on a legacy that has been cherished and nurtured but not ossified. Those before us dealt with the issues of their times and faced their specific challenges, we have now and those after us will too. We need to recognise when a battle needs to be faced and what our red lines are, and we also need to be clear when and how a new direction is not only inevitable, but it is also expedient. Change is always handled best when it is managed in a structured way.

The Morris Federation does not exist in a vacuum; it is important to forge links with and work with other agencies that are operating in the same or similar fields such as Open Morris and the Morris Ring. Together these organisations can present a united front, but they are not the only institutions with which to have purposeful dialogue.

Intention

If I were elected as president of The Morris Federation, I would actively promote a wider education of our rich heritage. That education comes in the form of inspiring and supporting the younger generation, promoting the Morris partly by challenging negative assumptions but also celebrating our cultural dance and its music. The sides dancing now need supporting as they are the current ambassadors of the Morris in their area in 2019 and beyond. This cannot be done in isolation but within the wider context of other traditions so that we are able to work positively with the organisations which oversee associated customs. That way we can seek to promote all that we do and challenge a cultural landscape which is fed a commercial diet.

Thank you.

(3/5)

SEL ADAMU

Proposed by Ebor Morris, seconded by Belle d'Vain



11 years ago, a chance conversation at a folk festival led to me venturing to my first Morris practice. Traditional British folk music had always been part of my life and I loved to dance so looking back it seems it was inevitable.

I started dancing with Borderline, an Open border side from Berkshire. At first, it was just a dance form to me and I loved the aggression and passion of border - it was the best stress relief possible for while I was studying my Accountancy exams - but I didn't really know much about other traditions. I just knew that I loved to dance the dances.

At my first Sidmouth Folk Week, I saw Alton Morris and while they were another Border side, I loved the difference in how they danced. Through them, I learned about the Officer roles (Borderline didn't have Officers) and became Bag and then Foreman of Alton. Through Alton, also began to learn about the Morris Federation, attending my first Fed AGM representing them.

I joined Customs & Exiles to try something different and found the passion and dedication they had to their precise and energetic form of North West made me want to work as hard as they did. I practiced the first dance they taught me (Clitheroe) everywhere I went, to the

amusement (and sometimes embarrassment) of my friends! I'm immensely proud to have been Squire of C&E for the past three years. I'll be standing down at the end of this season and look forward to continuing to dance with them with someone else at the helm!

For the past five years, I've danced with Windsor Morris. As well as being a brilliant women's Cotswold side, their close links to the Morris Fed from its earliest stages, and their interest in tradition and the history of Morris dancing have made me appreciate the past and present roles of the three Morris organisations, separately and as the JMO.

My most recent side is Gog Magog Molly, who I joined last year. I currently dance with Gogs, C&E and Windsor and consider myself very lucky to be part of sides who combine the qualities I admire most in Morris sides - brilliant music, high quality performing and a huge amount of fun!

As you probably have gathered from the above, Morris for me is a combination of tradition, enjoyment and entertainment. I believe strongly in the traditional nature of much of what is danced but am equally excited to see them develop as living traditions should. I've followed my own particular path in the Morris world and completely appreciate that others have different priorities. I don't believe anything is gained by being exclusionary or prescriptive about what is Morris but equally every Morris dancer represents the whole in the eyes of the public, particularly given the British (especially English) public attitude to traditional dance.

I know that I'm a familiar face and name to a lot of people, and as a sociable and avid festival/workshop attendee, there are a lot of people who will know the excitable, energetic and passionate Sel who loves every second of dancing. Hopefully you'll also know that I'm a dedicated and (mostly) eloquent supporter of every aspect of Morris and it would be an honour if I'm elected as President. I hope I can bring the same calm authority to the role as Mel.

PAULINE WOODS-WILSON

Proposed by Downes-on-Tour, seconded by Rivington Morris



Photo by Marian Ballhatchet

Hello fellow Morris, Molly, Sword, Clog, Mumming and other people! My name is Pauline and I have been part of our amazing extended morris community for 39 years. Joining my first morris side at the age of 19 as a student in Manchester, as I got older and moved around the country, the lure of morris always beckoned and pulled me in to its social life. And sometimes it is just so hard to leave a team that I am frequently prepared to travel miles to be an 'away' member. It is almost unbelievable to have had the same hobby for almost 40 years, and long may it continue.

I feel so privileged to have been a member of a fine array of teams, starting with Cotswold, moving on to North West, with a dash of Rapper and Border thrown in. In roughly chronological order I have been a member of: Medlock Morris (*Manchester*), Downes Morris (*"probably the finest side in Penge", South London*), Red Stags (*Southampton Uni*), Jackstraws (*Surrey, with the old style Surrey smocks*), Downes-on-Tour (*of no fixed abode*), Briggate (*Leeds*), Wakefield (*with the old style dresses & pinafores*), Windsor Morris (*Berkshire*), Chiltern Hundreds (*Watford*), Rivington Morris (*Bolton*), Sisters in Arms Rapper (*Preston*), Crook (*Kendal, Tommy for winning rapper team of DERT Open in 2014*) and Stone the Crows Border (*Leyland*). Almost all these teams have been members of the Morris Federation.

In Windsor Morris I was Foreman (or "keeper of the detail") for 5 years, maintaining standards and introducing dances in new formations, and have been on-and-off Foreman for Downes/Downes on Tour women. In other teams, I have had roles as Treasurer, Publicity Officer, and am currently Web and Social Media officer for Rivington Morris.

Having retired early from working in Information Technology, most recently as Head of IT Project Management at Lancaster Uni, there is now time to dedicate to the Morris Fed. I have done a lot of project management, so am used to managing teams, managing events and generally getting things done. I love working in a team environment, making a positive difference, and am very much a team player.

I am supported by my very patient partner, Dennis Taylor, a morris musician, ceilidh band musician and caller, ex-dancer and foreman.

It would make me extremely proud to represent the Morris Federation and uphold its three aims of encouraging interest in morris; helping teams connect with each other; encouraging improvement of standards. Thanks are due to Melanie Barber and the committee for modernising the web site, and my personal aims are (i) to continue expanding the web site with relevant information for member teams, (ii) to assist younger/new teams with whatever they need (even if it's just the admin of setting up a new team) and (iii) to communicate directly with individual dancers/musicians/performers via different media to involve them more in the work of the Morris Federation.

(5/5)

DIANE MOODY

Proposed by New Esperance Morris, seconded by Thrales Rapper



I've been a dancer, a musician, Squire, Bag, and for 30 years Foreman of New Esperance Morris.

I was working for the English Folk Dance and Song Society at Cecil Sharp House in April 1977 when New Esperance ran a workshop for women as part of a St George's Day festival, and I was immediately hooked. I was working in the ideal place to find out more about the original Esperance Club and Mary Neal, and in 1984 I wrote an essay on the subject, which was published in 'Morris Matters', the magazine of the Women's Morris Federation (WMF). (It's still available to read on Esps' website!)

I remember the early days of WMF, when there were many battles to fight in order to establish our place in the morris community. There were landmark debates, such as "Should we allow male and mixed sides to join?", "Should we introduce standards criteria?", "Which forms of traditional performance should we include?", and the prolonged discussions about our change of name to the Morris Federation and the design of our logo.

There has always been a tension between the 'traditionalists' and the 'progressives' in whatever the discussion. I agree whole-heartedly with Mary Neal's philosophy that tradition is a living entity which relies on

progression. We should seek for ways to move our traditions forward such that they are still relevant in a modern world. History can and should be recorded in books and film, but the practice of traditional arts must move with the times.

Some personal examples: - In the early 1980s, when New Esperance experienced a drop in numbers, I helped to invent our own modular 'tradition' which uses groups of four dancers. It's a style which is akin to Border morris, but with Cotswold influences. I've written many new dances into this and into existing traditions. A more recent innovation, however, involved reinventing an older Ilmington style which incorporates galleys.

We should recognise the different pressures experienced by sides in rural and urban areas, in different geographical regions, and in University towns. Some sides have a healthy bank balance; many don't. I would like to promote more sharing of ideas in how to run a successful side – attracting members, finding a practice venue, getting funding, organising dance-outs, making useful contacts, designing an effective website etc. As of 6th July 2019, New Esperance will have taken part in London's 'Pride' parade for three consecutive years, winning an award in the first year. This has cemented our position as a truly inclusive, forward-thinking, approachable side.

My morris career has been in a Cotswold side. I'm now retired from full-time work, and would love the opportunity to travel and meet more sides, and to learn about the obstacles and special circumstances faced by sides performing other morris styles.

In summary, I want to give back something to the organisation which has had such a positive impact on my life for 42 years.

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 5½ votes out of 10.

If the remaining 8 voted against, by tracing across from 17 and up to 8, this is equivalent to 4½ out of 10:

5½ + 4½ = 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 ½
8 against = 4 ½
1 abstention = ½
Total = 9 ½

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

For the conversion table, see overleaf

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 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 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.

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

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.
 - (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

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 6th September 2019**, or by scanning and emailing it to feelock@bopenworld.com

NAME OF FULL MEMBER SIDE

1) MOTION:

To amend the Terms of Reference of the Constitution, Section 4, Committee

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. 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 6th September 2019**, or by scanning and emailing it to feelock@btopenworld.com

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

1) MOTION:

To amend the Terms of Reference of the Constitution, Section 4, Committee

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)

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 6th September 2019**, or by scanning and emailing it to feelock@bopenworld.com

NAME OF FULL MEMBER SIDE

2) Nomination for the post of President of the Morris Federation

- 1 Linda Pound** (Proposed by Persephone Women's NW Morris, seconded by Chinewrde Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

- 2 Heather Leech** (Proposed by Hannah's Cat Morris, seconded by Mad Jack's Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

- 3 Sel Adamu** (Proposed by Ebor Morris, seconded by Belle d'Vain)

Votes for

Votes against

- 4 Pauline Woods-Wilson** (Proposed by Downes-on-Tour, seconded by Rivington Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

- 5 Diane Moody** (Proposed by New Esperance Morris, seconded by Thrales Rapper)

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. Please send this to me, Fee, the Secretary, at **28 Fairstone Close, Hastings TN35 5EZ** by **Friday 6th September 2019**, or by scanning and emailing it to feelock@btopenworld.com

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

2) Nomination for the post of President of the Morris Federation

- 1 **Linda Pound** (Proposed by Persephone Women's NW Morris, seconded by Chinewrde Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

- 2 **Heather Leech** (Proposed by Hannah's Cat Morris, seconded by Mad Jack's Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

- 3 **Sel Adamu** (Proposed by Ebor Morris, seconded by Belle d'Vain)

Votes for

Votes against

- 4 **Pauline Woods-Wilson** (Proposed by Downes-on-Tour, seconded by Rivington Morris)

Votes for

Votes against

- 5 **Diane Moody** (Proposed by New Esperance Morris, seconded by Thrales Rapper)

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)