

## IBM RETIREES CLUB (MIDLANDS)

### AGM

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014**  
**The Royal British Legion Club**  
**Warwick Road, Knowle**

*Subject to approval*

Present: Alan Bridgman (Chair)  
Phil Dalton (Treasurer)  
Dave Compton (Membership)  
Peter Barnes  
Simon Barratt  
Dave Dagley  
Michael Fabianski  
Tony Mancell  
Carole Roberton  
Barry Wiggins  
Gary Wooding  
Janice Kirkwood

Apologies: Anne and Ken Hope

The Chairman welcomed members and guests to the 2014 AGM and referred attendees to the Agenda which had been distributed together with a copy of the Constitution to be covered as a separate item. Attempts had been made to have a representative from IBM Warwick or Human Resources present to no avail.

Minutes of previous AGM received approval and Fred Edgar proposed and Gary Wooding seconded the motion for them to be adopted.

#### **Constitution:**

In 2010 Ken Hope, Phil Dalton and Alan Bridgman produced a proposed Constitution for IBM Retirees Clubs which was sent to IBM's legal representative. Only one major change was made namely the removal of family members in Appendix A as we do not have that category of member. Points regarding Constitution:-

- The Club now has a Club Secretary and a Minutes Secretary.
- Previously a quorum of 20 members was needed at the AGM but a minimum number is no longer a requirement.
- The Trustee of the Club is nominated by the UK Director of Human Resources but as an IBM UK Oversight is yet to be appointed to fill the vacancy left by the departure of Fiona Clements, we do not at present have a nominated Trustee.
- Public Liability Insurance will now be required by all Retiree Clubs. IBM is financing Public Liability Insurance for 2014 but the Clubs (employee and retiree) will have to pay a proportion of the cost in future years.

Fred Edgar raised a question about the Trustee and John Howes questioned eligibility of members and after further discussion, Simon Barratt proposed and Tony Mancell seconded the motion to adopt the new Constitution.

**Chairman:**

AB thanked Mike Fabianski for taking over as Newsletter Editor when Brian Wilson stepped down last year after ten years in the job. Last year Gary and Sheila Wooding agreed to join the Committee on a trial basis. Sadly Sheila felt that she had to stand down for personal reasons but Gary is still with us. Last year Carole Robertson also announced she was standing down as Secretary after ten years' service so the decision was taken to appoint a Club Secretary and a Minutes Secretary. A copy of the Chairman's full report is filed with these Minutes.

**Treasurer:**

Phil Dalton apologised to the members for not having available the Annual Accounts due, unfortunately, to the Auditor being taken ill. A copy of these will be made available in due course and an Extra Ordinary General Meeting will be held in order to adopt the Accounts. PD reported that in 2013 The Retirees ran 13 events and at our annual planning meeting last year we put forward 14 events for this year. One of those events, Duxford Air Show, has now been cancelled. PD put up some figures from last year showing the percentage of attendees on the events we ran. The attendance on events has been declining over the past two years and the Committee would like to have from members any thoughts as to what the cause might be and would welcome more input for future events. The annual planning meeting is held in August. A form was issued at the beginning of the AGM for members to complete with any suggestions.

The reduction in the grant is a concern and it is to be expected that the grant will be cut again next year. PD has already asked the Committee to consider ways to reduce expenses and he asked the members for a view on whether we should run more or less events per year. Sandra Hassall said she would like more notice of events to which PD replied that the new way of handling subsidy cuts make it very difficult to plan a full year of events in advance. AB pointed out that The Midlands Retirees Club is one of the few clubs that plans events for the whole year. Events are announced in the monthly newsletter as soon as details are known.

**Membership:**

Dave Compton reported there are currently 477 retirees on the list (taken from the list issued monthly by IBM) of which 354 are on our mailing list and receive the Newsletter. A request was made for members to advise DC of any change in email address. The Chairman thanked Dave for his hard work every month in going through the list to identify any new people who could be eligible for membership. Dave Compton's full Membership Report is filed with these Minutes.

**Chairman's Report:**

AB reported that we had taken over the Rambling Section which the IBM Warwick Club no longer wanted to have as a subsection. The Theatre Plus subsection is likely to be the next casualty. AB reiterated the concern over the cut in the grant which is proving more difficult in the planning of future events. He outlined some of the events run in 2013 pointing out which were the most popular. He then asked Barry Wiggins to outline the activities of the Rambling Section who run around 12 events per year and the dates will appear in future

newsletters. There is a £5 subscription per member and first guest for this group, please contact Barry or Terry King for information. Brian Wilson enquired about the PC Group – this is still running and information appears in the Newsletter. A question from the floor asked about taking over the Theatre Plus Group to which The Chairman replied it is not feasible for the IBM Retirees to run another subsection.

Peter Barnes was welcomed as the New Club Secretary and he asked the attendees to show their appreciation for all the hard work carried out by The Chairman and the Committee members.

### **Election of Committee Members**

Officers:

Chairman, Alan Bridgman )  
Treasurer, Phil Dalton ) Proposed by Brian Chilver, seconded by Hugh Gallagher  
Dave Compton, Membership )

Committee Members

Simon Barratt )  
Dave Dagley )  
Mike Fabianski ) Proposed by Hugh Gallagher, seconded by Dick Hodges  
Tony Mancell )  
Carole Robertson )  
Barry Wiggins\* )  
Gary Wooding )

\*Committee Member and Rambling Section Representative

Club Secretary, Peter Barnes ) Proposed by Fred Noble and seconded by David  
Minutes Secretary, Janice Kirkwood ) Williams

As there was no other business the Chairman closed the meeting and handed over to Barry Wiggins and Gary Wooding who presented to the members the work they are involved in with the charity REMAP.

A list of club members present at the AGM is filed with these Minutes.