



## GRAND NATIONAL ARCHERY SOCIETY (THE)

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Grand National Archery Society (The) Held on 23 April 2022 at 10.30am online via Teams.

Attendance: 79 - see attached schedule

Apologies: Pete Hill  
Lizzy Rees  
Merrea Shah

#### 1. Welcome and house-keeping

Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is now just after 10:30 am and I should like to call this virtual meeting to order. I am Mark Briegal and I have the honour and privilege to be Chair of Archery GB. Welcome to the 2022 Grand National Archery Society AGM. Thank you for logging in today and I would like to welcome you all.

We will be recording this AGM for our records; so, if you don't wish to be seen, please turn off your camera. Can I please also ask you to type your names into the chat box, so we have a record of who has joined us today. If you click on the icon at the top right of your screen it will open the chat box. Please keep muted and use the chat box for comments.

#### 2. 2022 Annual General Meeting

Before we start the formal part of the meeting, may I now take a moment to reflect on and remember those members who have passed away in the last year and be silent for one minute as a mark of respect. Whilst I would not usually mention any one person by name, and it is certainly not to minimise the loss of others, I do want to mention specifically the sad loss of one of my predecessors as Chair, and all-round lovely man, Dave Harrison. And just this week we've heard of the passing of another stalwart of AGB, Bob Tonkin. Those who are able to stand would usually do so at this time, but please just bow your heads for a minute.

Thank you, and without identifying anyone in particular, may I also offer sincere condolences to friends and family for their losses.

I have now been Chair for three years and have still not conducted an AGM in person. But this is the first one we are not conducting in person by choice. For the last two years we could not hold meetings in person, but we had three or four times as many people attend on-line as we used to get in person and it saves us a considerable amount of money that we can spend instead on helping more people shoot, better, and in more places.

We are now able to hold our meetings online because of the changes to our Articles of Association, the document that governs how AGB is run, that you kindly approved last year.

We had planned to hold some roadshows around the UK instead of an AGM both in 2020 and in 2021 but were thwarted on both occasions by the pandemic. I am delighted that we now have dates in May and June to visit all four home countries and the regions in England to meet members in person, tell you what we have been doing and what we are planning - and crucially to get your feedback. Details will be announced in the coming weeks.

You will have received this year's voting papers from our colleagues at Civica Electoral Reform Services, and - as this is a virtual AGM - I am proposing that we take all votes as poll votes based on the responses to the electronic voting and so, with the exception of approving last year's minutes, you will not have to vote.

Please put questions in the Chat Box and we answer them either in the meeting or afterwards by email. Alternatively, you can email any questions to us, and we will answer them afterwards.

The formal part of the AGM is quite short this year - we have one election for a new elected director. Otherwise, we will present the accounts to you and approve the reappointment of our auditors.

So, we will, as in the past, devote most of this session to reviewing what we have been doing, celebrating archery and archers, sharing our vision for archery moving forward, and specifically what we are doing to help clubs continue to recover and grow.

The past year has continued to be challenging for everybody and I want to thank all our staff, volunteers and members for their hard work and support in keeping AGB going.

Our sponsors have kindly stood by us, thank you; and both UK Sport and Sport England have helped with guidance and finance when needed.

As an organisation we celebrate both the grass roots of our sport and our elite athletes.

This past year has seen a return to archery across the country and we are delighted that our membership is getting back towards our pre-pandemic numbers. The return of shooting and competitions has been a highlight of the past year. On the international stage, we have been so proud of all those who have done so well at the Olympic, Paralympic, World, European, Vegas and Dubai shoots - and currently at the World Cup in Antalya.

One of my personal highlights of the year was being able to attend the Club and Volunteer Awards at Lilleshall and meeting so many of our volunteers in person to thank them for the amazing work they do for our sport.

Neil Armitage, our CEO, will later talk you through a review of the year and our exciting strategy developments where we are continuing with our vision of “enriching lives through archery”.

Last year I ended my opening remarks by saying that the next year would not be easy, but by working together we could ensure that archery comes out the other side of this crisis in a position to continue “Enriching lives through archery”. That is still the case and, as we are entering a world where we can shoot and compete again, I wish you all well and thank you for your continued support.

### **3. Confirmation of quorum**

To start the formal proceedings, I will now ask Company Secretary, Wendy Stead, to confirm that a quorum is present. To confirm, the number of voting members online is 79 members.

### **4. Agenda for the Annual General Meeting**

The formal agenda is very brief today.

We will:

1. Receive apologies for absence;
2. Approve the minutes from last year’s AGM;
3. Have a few words from our President, Richard Custance
4. Receive and consider the Accounts (there is no vote on this);
5. Confirm the auditors; and
6. Elect a new Elected Director.

I will then hand over to Neil to talk us through the strategy and review.

### Agenda Item 1: Apologies for Absence

I would like to ask the Company Secretary to confirm that apologies for absence have been received and these will be appended to the minutes. Wendy Stead confirmed that apologies for absence had been received from 3 members as listed above.

### Agenda Item 2: Minutes of AGM 2022 and Matters Arising

The next item on the agenda is to approve the minutes for the Annual General Meeting in 2022. The draft minutes have been available in full on our website.

One member has pointed out that his name had been spelled incorrectly in the minutes and we will amend that.

I would now like to ask Julie Ryan from the Board to propose that the minutes, as amended, are approved, and signed as a true record of the meeting and I shall ask for a seconder from members on-line.

**Julie Ryan:** I have much pleasure in proposing the resolution.

**Helen Sharpe:** I have much pleasure in seconding the proposal.

I will now put the proposal to the meeting for a simple show of hands. Can you please your hands online. I declare the resolution carried, subject to checking on duplication of members present.

### Agenda Item 3: President's Address

I would now like to hand over to our President, Richard Custance.

Richard Custance shared what an honour and privilege it has been holding the position as President of AGB. He thanked the members and Board for their continued support over the years while in office.

Thank you, Richard. And thank you for all you have done during your term as President, especially during a particularly challenging period. I have appreciated being able to call on your extensive experience of archery and general good sense.

The eagle-eyed amongst you may have spotted that we don't have an election for President this year, even though Richard's term is ending. We are in the process of rewriting the role description for our President and will be seeking nominations later this year, as required by the Articles. In the meantime, we are fortunate to have a number of experienced and respected members who we can call upon for ceremonial duties as required.

#### Agenda Item 4: The Accounts

The next item on the Notice of Meeting is to receive and consider the Directors' Report for the year ended 30th September 2021 and to receive and consider the Independent Auditors' Report, the Profit and Loss Account and the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 September 2021 and the Balance Sheet at that date.

These also have been made available on our website. With your approval, I should like to take the Reports and the Statutory Accounts as read.

At this point, I will hand over to Scott Smith, Senior Independent Director, and Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Scott Smith noted:

Good morning, everyone, as a brief overview of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2021, we achieved a Turnover of £2.9 million which represents a very slight decrease of £36,000 pounds when compared to the prior year. During our last financial year, the pandemic continued to impact our finances with reductions in: membership affiliation fees, events, coaching and instructor programs when compared to pre-pandemic levels.

Thankfully through ongoing cost reductions, and additional grant funding from UK Sport we have been able to mitigate the exposure from these revenue reductions, allowing us to post a modest operating profit of £109,000 pounds, which in turn has improved our overall equity reserves position of £695 thousand at year end.

From a going concern perspective, the Directors of Archery GB have reviewed the organisation's financial position for the forthcoming membership year, concluding that although we may see another small reduction in income, we are confident that with strong financial reserves, the organization is well placed to face further financial challenges posed either by the pandemic or growing inflationary pressure.

Thanks very much Mark, I will now hand back to you.

#### Agenda Item 5: Confirmation of Auditors

I should like ask Scott Smith to say a few words about our Auditors. Then, I will ask Scott to propose to the meeting that we appoint Azets Audit Services and that the Directors be authorised to determine the remuneration of the auditors and I should like to ask for a seconder from members in the room.

Scott Smith noted:

Azets Audit Services have been our appointed auditors since 2014. As I reported last year, the audit partner is rotated every few years with 2019 being the last year when this was carried out along with changes to the Audit Manager and Audit Team staff. Myself, along with the Audit Committee, Chief Exec and Finance Director met with the Auditors in January at the conclusion of the audit.

And I am pleased to confirm that the 2021 audit ran smoothly, with no material errors or omissions noted and we have again received a clean audit report.

On that basis, I have much pleasure in proposing the resolution.

**Scott Smith:** I have much pleasure in proposing the resolution.

**Eric Rowbotham:** I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

I have called for a poll vote and the results are as follows:

For:	671	(96.1%)
Against:	32	(3.9%)
Abstain:	140	

That is 96.1% for the resolution to reappoint the Auditors, and I declare the resolution Carried.

#### Agenda Item 6: Election of New Director

The next item on the Notice of Meeting is Announcements of election results.

But before we move on to that, I want to acknowledge Julie Ryan who is stepping down after nine years on the Board. Julie has, as part of her Board responsibilities, been our safeguarding lead and on our Audit and Risk Committee and I want to thank her for her time and dedication to AGB, and especially her safeguarding role, which is so vital - and all whilst living in a village with possibly the slowest internet connection in the country! So, thank you Julie and please do stay in touch!

Moving on to the replacement Board member, we had two excellent candidates apply to join the Board and it would have been good to take them both as they each have so much to offer. Sadly, in order to maintain our balance of elected and independent directors, that was not possible. I would like to thank both candidates for their applications.

I would like to call Lis Bellamy of the Nominations Committee to announce the results of the elections.

#### **Lis Bellamy:**

The result of Board Elections:

The votes were as follows:

Dave Leader	505
Kienda Hoji	430

Dave Leader is therefore duly elected to the Board. We welcome Dave to the Board and look forward to working with him. Thanks to Kienda; it was a close vote!

5. Close

I want to thank the team who has made this possible - special thanks to Rob Potts who's made the IT work, to Emma Kasprzak for ensuring all the communications occurred and to Wendy Stead, our Company Secretary (and Director of Finance) who has overseen the process.

When we held AGMs in person, at this point in the AGM we handed out awards to those who have made an exceptional contribution to archery. Last year's awards ceremony at Lilleshall was a great success and we will be building on that later in the year and continuing to celebrate those who give so much to make our sport the success that it is.

The 2023 AGM has been provisionally set for Saturday 22 April 2023. We will continue to hold it on-line.

Finally; thank you for your continued support and for joining us on-line today.

I declare this meeting closed at 11:30am.



Chair