

Convening Notice for Woodcraft Folk Annual General Meeting (Annual Gathering) 2017

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (Annual Gathering) of Woodcraft Folk will take place at the Birmingham & Midland Institute, 9 Margaret St, Birmingham B3 3BS on Saturday 23 September 2017

Representation and Voting rights

- **Each registered Group** is entitled to be represented by:
 - **one voting delegate**
- **Each registered District Association** is entitled to be represented by:
 - **one voting delegate**
- **Each District Fellows region** is entitled to be represented by:
 - **one voting delegate.**

Registered groups and District Associations are those that have paid their 2017 registration fee by the date of the circulation of the final agenda. Delegates must be fully paid up members by the same deadline.

Motions and amendments to motions may be submitted by General Council, District Associations, Groups, Commissions, District Fellows Althing and Committee, Regional and National Conferences.

Dates and Deadlines

Bookings Open		Sat 24 June
Motions	Received in writing by	12 noon, Thurs 29 June
Preliminary Agenda	Issued by	Thurs 13 July
Amendments to Motions	Received in writing by	12 noon, Thurs 17 August
Nominations for elections	Received in writing by	12 noon, Thurs 17 August
Booking Deadline		Thurs 7 September
Final Agenda	Issued by	Fri 8 September

Motions, amendments must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary or by email to motions@woodcraft.org.uk. If you need help submitting or composing a motion, please contact standing orders committee via head office (or by email soc@woodcraft.org.uk). All motions should commence "This Annual Conference..." and should include action to be taken. Motions may also be accompanied by a brief rationale which will be published in the final agenda. Under current standing orders, motions to amend the constitution are taken every three years – 2019 is the next Rules Revision year.

Nominations for General Council or Standing Orders Committee must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary or by email to nominations@woodcraft.org.uk.

Elections

Nominations are invited for

- **Five** lay members of **General Council** of any age to serve for a period of two years
- **Two** lay members of **General Council aged between 16 and 24 inclusive** to serve for a period of two years and **one** to serve of a period of one year
- **Three** members of **Standing Orders Committee** to serve for a period of two years
- **Two** members of **Folk Supply Committee** to serve for a period of two years

Nominations may be submitted by District Associations, Groups, and by District Fellows Althing and Committee.

Voting will take place during the day of the Annual General Meeting.

Woodcraft Folk AGM (Annual Gathering) 2017

General Information

Please find below some important information relating to the Annual General Meeting 2017. A full programme will be circulated with the final agenda.

Retiring members of General Council

Lay members

(all eligible for re-election)

Tom Gower
Laura Hallsworth
Josh Hope-Collins
Ralph Sleigh
Stuart Walker

18-24 members

Millie Burgh
Naomi Wilkins

Retiring members of Standing Orders Committee (all eligible for re-election)

Ellen Robertson
Isabel Stewart
Paul Ticher

Voting processes

Following the resolution at Annual Conference 2007, elections for General Council and Standing Orders Committee vacancies will be by Single Transferable Vote (STV) as defined by the Electoral Reform Society. Information about this system will be issued in the final agenda with candidate statements and at the Conference before voting begins. There will also be opportunities to ask members of the Standing Orders Committee for further details.

Voting will take place during the day of the Annual Conference, before which all delegates will have an opportunity to meet the nominees.

Debate

This year we have two events – Folk Assembly and the AGM. Folk Assembly is ideal for skill-sharing and informal discussions. The AGM is the place for formal decision-making. The timetable has been set so that informal discussions at the Folk Assembly can lead to formal motions to the AGM if that is the best way to take an issue forward.

If you or your group have something to raise, please contact the General Secretary (jon.nott@woodcraft.org.uk) to discuss which method would work best for your issue.
