

Woodcraft Folk Annual General Meeting

(and Annual Policy Meeting)

Sunday 24 June 2018, 9am to 1pm

at Biblins Youth Campsite, as part of Woodcraft Folk Annual Gathering

Final Agenda

1. Welcome & Introduction of Candidates for Election
2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2017 and Matters Arising
3. Election of Scrutineers and Tellers
4. Consideration of the Annual Report & Accounts and the motion:
"That the annual report and financial statements of Woodcraft Folk for the year ended 31 December 2017 be received and accepted."
5. Re-appointment of Auditors
"That Buzzacott LLP be re-appointed auditors and that they be paid for their services a sum to be determined by General Council."
6. Report of Standing Orders Committee
[Company AGM to be adjourned for the consideration of non-company business]
 - A. Consideration of Motions 1-4 and Amendments
 - B. Consideration of Emergency Motions
 - C. Other Non-Company Business*[Company AGM to be reconvened]*
7. Declaration of Election Results and Appointment of General Council members
8. Other Business
9. Close of Meeting

Notes from Standing Orders Committee:

- Motions which alter the Governing Documents require two thirds of the votes held at the Conference in order to be carried
- General Motions (those which do not alter the Governing Documents) require a simple majority of votes cast in order to be carried
- Supporting Statements have been provided by movers of some motions for information, and to aid understanding and debate. For the sake of clarity they have been printed with the respective motions in this agenda, but do not form part of the motion to be amended or voted upon.
- The Company AGM shall comprise items 1-6 and 7-9. After the conclusion of item 6 (Report of the SOC), the AGM shall be adjourned to for items A-C (non-company business, to be conducted under Woodcraft Folk standing orders). After the conclusion of non-company business, the AGM will be re-convened for items 7-9.

A. Motions

Motion 1: Supporting participation by menstruating people

This Annual General Meeting recognises that menstruation is a normal part of life and that adequate arrangements should be made for this at Woodcraft Folk events to enable full participation for people menstruating.

We therefore ask General Council to ensure that guidelines are prepared for groups to:

1. make provision for this, which would include sanitary bins and menstrual products available for anyone in need;
2. guidance on how to facilitate open conversations about menstruation;
3. facilitate space and time for menstruating people to rest away from activities.

Proposed by: Tao Venturers, Lewisham & Greenwich District

Amendment 1 to Motion 1:

Delete all after "2. guidance on how to facilitate open conversations about menstruation"

Rationale:

We think this is a good motion but would like to amend the 3rd point in this motion. We worry that a separate space might make some people feel unintentionally excluded or embarrassed. Instead of having to have a separate space being made we think anyone on their period should be able to talk to their leader if they feel like they are not well enough to join in (if they can join in with activities they should because participating as a group is important).

Proposed by: Camden Venturers

Motion 2: Integration of isolated groups

This Annual General Meeting calls on General Council to develop and execute a specific strategy to encourage more isolated districts to become integrated with wider Woodcraft.

Proposed by: Venturer Committee

Amendment 1 to Motion 2:

After "Woodcraft" add:

"In the development of the strategy General Council is required to look for barriers to integration and what kind of activities groups want to join in on."

Rationale:

We would like a clarification on what this motion means by "encourage". We think this should mean a warm welcome for those who want to join in more, but make sure we are still open and kind to groups who prefer to be more separate.

Proposed by: Camden Venturers

Motion 3: Diversity in decision-making process

This Annual General Meeting demands greater social, racial and gender diversity at all levels of the Woodcraft decision-making process. We call on General Council to develop and execute a specific strategy to increase the diversity of members engaging with the Woodcraft Folk decision-making process.

Proposed by: Venturer Committee

Amendment 1 to Motion 3:

After the second "process" add "This strategy shall not put the burden of diversity onto currently underrepresented groups. Instead it should focus on what overrepresented groups can do to be more encouraging and open."

Rationale:

We would like to include guidance to General Council that any strategy developed should be encouraging, supportive and gentle. It can be hard to put yourself forward to make decisions and we don't want anyone to feel under pressure that they have to do that.

Proposed by: Camden Venturers

Motion 4: Establish a fund to support young people's attendance at AGM

This Annual General Meeting notes the barrier of cost to attendance at Annual Gathering.

This Annual General Meeting also notes that for the organisation to fulfil its objective of being youth-led, young people should be able to attend the AGM. To reduce this barrier General Council will set up a fund that any member of the movement aged 0 to 21 may apply to, funding their space at that year's Annual Gathering. The money within this fund shall be given by groups and districts who feel they are financially able to 'sponsor' a young person's attendance at AGM.

Rationale:

Woodcraft Folk events are often expensive, and particularly business events such as Annual Gathering, and reducing the cost would have a direct impact on the productivity of the event. However, many young people, particularly Venturers and DFs will be in the unfortunate overlap of needing to pay for events without help from parents but also not having the disposable income that full time employment can provide. This motion allows the AGM to welcome young people who have not been previously able to attend, especially from districts who are not themselves in a position to support the funding of young members' attendance at AGM.

Proposed by: DF Committee

Amendment 1 to Motion 4:

After "member of the movement" delete "aged 0-21"

Rationale:

We think that this is motion highlights a good point, but also realise that AGM has been poorly attended in previous years, not just by young people, but also by adult members – lots of districts don't come. We note that leaders are volunteers and many are also not in a financial position to be able to pay for these types of events. This could also be preventing young people from joining if they don't have a leader that can come with them.

Proposed by: Camden Venturers