



WILTSHIRE

AGE CONCERN WILTSHIRE  
13 Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1HT

Charity Number: 800912

Company Number: 2121174

**MINUTES** of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 30 September 2003 at the Corn Exchange, Devizes at 2.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** The meeting was attended by 119 individuals including the Deputy Mayors of Chippenham and Wilton. Trustees and members of the staff of Age Concern Wiltshire were in attendance.

The 27 members present enabled the meeting to be quorate and those present were reminded that only holders of pink notice sheets were entitled to vote.

1. **WELCOME:** David Evans, Chair of Trustees, welcomed everyone from a wide range of organisations.
2. **APOLOGIES:** There were 25 apologies from members and 74 from non-members.
3. **MINUTES** of Annual General Meeting held on 24 September 2002.  
It was proposed by David Evans, seconded by Philip Evans and agreed by all that the minutes be accepted.
4. **MATTERS ARISING**  
There were no matters arising.
5. **TRUSTEES' REPORT** for the year ended 31 March 2003  
Chairman, David Evans thanked Trustees Daphne Matthews, Lynda Wearn, Debbie Page and Jean Mackay who had retired during the year for their support and commitment. He welcomed Jean Collens and Ian Deane to the Board. The charity, Support for the Housebound and Aid to Carers, known as SHAC, had successfully merged with Age Concern Wiltshire (ACW) on 1 April 2002 along with its volunteers. The number of volunteers working with ACW was now over 90 and David commended the displays around the hall, which highlighted services using their support. ACW was also working in partnership with other agencies to provide work placements and these had proved beneficial to both trainees and ACW. ACW had been involved with "Make a Difference Day" and would be again on 23 October 2003 when the voluntary sector promoted volunteering. David thanked all ACW's volunteers and referred to the celebratory concert, which would be held on 22 November 2003 to acknowledge their valuable contribution to ACW.

ACW was part of a federation of over 400 different Age Concern organisations and groups, working with common aims for older people. David made a plea for more volunteers to enable the organisation to expand its work.

Liddy Davidson, Director of ACW reported on staff changes and acknowledged the work of the staff and volunteers in delivering services including information and advice, befriending, gardening, home support, fund raising and trading. A tender submitted to WCC had been successful and this would ensure funding to support work with more than 50 Day Centres and Luncheon Clubs for three years from 1 April 2003. The Information and Advice service had recently been awarded the 'Community Legal Service Quality Mark - General Help Level' and had raised more than £145,00 in annual income by helping local older people with benefit claims. There still remained unmet needs and ACW was actively looking at services around foot care and hospital discharge. Research had been a major new focus in the year, and ACW were delighted to be commissioned by West Wiltshire PCT to find out about local people's experiences of local stroke services and also to be part of a successful bid for Community Fund money to provide local stroke support in rural Wiltshire. In addition, ACW was leading a project with more than thirty other agencies to launch a major study into the needs, expectations and aspirations of older people across the county and was submitting joint funding applications. Finally, ACW had been reviewed in November 2002 by the Charity Commissioners and had received a very positive report.

**6. AUDITORS' REPORT and the AUDITED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 March 2003.**

The Honorary Treasurer, Philip Evans reported on a satisfactory year with unrestricted income of £456,000 and unrestricted expenditure of £392,000 giving an unrestricted surplus of £64,000. This was due in the main to the receipt of two substantial legacies and the trustees were discussing plans for the use of these funds. At the year-end, ACW had unrestricted reserves of £239,000, which met the organisation's reserves policy of holding 50% of annual unrestricted income. The largest proportion (81%) of the income came from WCC Department of Adult Care Services, Kennet & North Wilts PCT and West Wilts PCT and the largest proportion of the expenditure was used for staff that ran the services and supported volunteers.

The auditors, David Owen & Co had given an unqualified audit report and Philip thanked the auditors for their assistance and ACW's Finance Manager, Doreen Hutton for her support. After inviting questions from the floor, the meeting accepted all reports of trustees, including the accounts which had been agreed by the trustees on 28 July 2003.

**7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

It was proposed by Philip Evans, seconded by Lois de Lyle Turner and agreed unanimously that David Owen & Co be re-appointed as auditors until the next general meeting and the trustees be authorised to fix the auditors' remuneration.

**8. SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

David Evans explained that there was a need to amend ACW's governing document to update it to become compliant with Age Concern, the federation, increase the number of trustees and fix their rotation. The following resolution was proposed by David Evans, seconded by Angela Bowerman and carried unanimously:

"Age Concern Wiltshire resolves as a Special Resolution to amend its governing document by deleting the existing Memorandum and Articles of Association and substituting the attached Memorandum and Articles of Association being the Age Concern Standard 4 – Gold Memorandum and Articles of Association (February 2002 version) except for articles 25 (A) (ii) which increases the number of trustees other than the Chair to seven and 26 (B) which states that at the first AGM it shall be decided by lot which trustee shall serve for 1,2 or 3 years."

**9. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND TRUSTEES**

Liddy Davidson as Company Secretary, took the Chair to oversee the election of a new Chair of trustees. There being no other nominations, it was proposed by Phyllis Dayes, seconded by Doug Cleverley and carried unanimously that David Evans be elected Chair of the trustees of ACW.

David resumed as Chair of the meeting and informed everyone that all the trustees were prepared to stand for election to the Board. There being no other nominations it was agreed unanimously to elect the trustees on block.

**10. SET UP OF ROTATION OF BOARD MEMBERS (other than Chair)**

The names were then drawn by Cllr Henning to determine rotation:

Ian Deane and Angela Bowerman to serve for 3 years.

John Laidlaw, Jean Collens and Keith Martindale to serve for 2 years.

Philip Evans to serve for 1 year.

There was one vacancy and the Board was allowed to co-opt two further trustees. Interested parties were asked to contact the Director, Liddy Davidson.

**11. CLOSURE OF TWO LOCAL AGE CONCERN GROUPS.**

The closure of Melksham Age Concern in 2002 and Cricklade Age Concern in 2003 was reported but their excellent work over many years was acknowledged and celebrated. The trustees presented bouquets to Sheila Wilkinson (Melksham) and Lois de Lyle Turner (Cricklade).

In closing the formal business of the meeting, David Evans thanked the staff for their commitment and hard work during the year.

### **SPEAKERS**

Presentations on the theme of "Pension – What Pension?" were introduced by Roger Chalk, Assistant Director, Age Concern Wiltshire. The speakers were:

- Sheila Venn, Deputy Manager, North Wiltshire Citizens Advice Bureau
- Clare Bassett, Financial Assessment & Benefits Team Manager, The Pension Service
- Liddy Davidson, Director, Age Concern Wiltshire, on behalf of the Fawcett Society.

Following the presentations the speakers together with Michael Buckland, Senior Partner, David Owen & Co formed a panel to answer questions and comments from the floor.

Roger Chalk closed a lively discussion at 4.15 pm with thanks to the speakers and panel members for taking part and to everyone for attending.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY

Signed..... *R. Owen* ..... Date..... *12 Dec 03* .....

CHAIRPERSON OF TRUSTEES



WILTSHIRE

13 Market Place  
Devizes  
Wiltshire  
SN10 1HT

## PRESS RELEASE

Tel 01380 727767  
Fax 01380 728797  
Reg Charity No. 800912

### PENSION-WHAT PENSION?

Age Concern Wiltshire has questions for people of all ages in Wiltshire

- Are you a pensioner who think's "I'm not getting enough"?
- Are you worried about how you will receive payment of your pension?
- Are you working and worried that you will never be able to afford to retire?
- Are you a woman and concerned the pension system is insufficient for todays and tomorrows retired woman?

If your answer to any the above question's is "yes", then come along to their AGM at 2.00pm for 2.30pm on Tuesday 30 September, in the Corn Exchange, Devizes. You will hear the facts from experts from the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Pensions Service and the Fawcett Society but more importantly – you can ask the question that's worrying you and make sure you have your say!

Age Concern Wiltshire is campaigning to "Make pensions work for Women" and your personal support will be important and very welcome.

Ends

Note to Editors- you would be most welcome to attend the event – all or just the speakers and panel (ie. 3.00pm – 4.00pm)

Roger Chalk, Assistant Director, Age Concern Wiltshire, Tel 01380 727767

2121174

The Companies Acts 1985 and 1989  
Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital

Memorandum of Association  
of  
Age Concern Wiltshire

- 1 The name of the Company (hereinafter called "the Charity") is Age Concern Wiltshire.
- 2 The registered office of the Charity shall be situate in England and Wales.
- 3 The object for which the Charity is established is:  
To promote the relief of elderly people in any manner which now or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable in and around the county of Wiltshire (hereinafter called "the area of benefit").
- 4 The Charity shall have the following powers exercisable in furtherance of its said object but not further or otherwise, namely:

**Activities**

- a) to encourage, promote and organise direct services appropriate to the needs of individual elderly people or groups of elderly people and if thought fit to make reasonable charges for any services provided hereunder.
- b) to promote and organise co-operation in the achievement of the above object and to that end to support, join in with and co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies, statutory authorities and other organisations operating in furtherance of the object or of similar charitable purposes and to exchange information and advice with them.
- c) to establish, support, undertake or execute any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the objects.
- d) to promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out, surveys, investigations and research.
- e) to provide food drink and refreshments as appropriate but only for persons participating in the activities of the Charity.
- f) to arrange and provide for, or join in arranging and providing for, the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures, classes and training courses.

- g) to publish books, pamphlets, reports, leaflets, journals, films, videos, tapes and other material.
- h) to appoint and constitute such advisory committees as the Board of Trustees (hereafter referred to as "the Board" and as further described in Article 1 of the Articles of Association) may think fit.

### **Property**

- i) to purchase, take on lease or in exchange hire or otherwise acquire any property and build, improve maintain and equip any building or buildings which may be necessary for any of the purposes of the Charity.
- j) to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the Charity's property, subject to complying with the restrictions on disposals imposed by section 36 of the Charities Act 1993, unless the disposal is excepted from these restrictions by section 36(9)(b) or section 36(10) of that Act.

### **Finance**

- k) to obtain, collect and receive funds by means of contributions, donations, subscriptions, investment, deeds of covenant, legacies, the sale of donated goods or of those goods produced by elderly people in direct furtherance of the object of the Charity, grants, loans or any other lawful method and to receive gifts of property of any description and to trade in direct furtherance of its object, including the sale of goods produced by elderly people and to sell donated goods and otherwise to carry on trade which is temporary or ancillary to the object of the Charity, but otherwise the Charity shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities in raising funds for the object of the Charity.
- l) to borrow money for the purposes of the Charity on such terms and on such security as may be thought fit including mortgaging all or any part of the Charity's property as security for repayment of the money borrowed subject to complying with the restrictions on mortgages imposed by section 38 of the Charities Act 1993.
- m) to operate a bank or building society account or accounts in the name of the Charity.
- n) to pay out of the funds of the Charity the costs, charges and expenses of and incidental to the formation and registration of the Charity.

### **Employment, etc.**

- o) to engage or employ such persons (whether as employees consultants advisers or however) as may be requisite to the promotion of the purposes of the Charity and on such reasonable terms and at such reasonable remuneration as may be thought fit and to make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of pensions and superannuation to or on behalf of employees and their dependants.

### **Investment**

- p) to invest the monies of the Charity not immediately required for its own purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property of whatsoever nature and wherever situate as may be thought fit (including, for the avoidance of doubt but without limiting the effect of this power, shares in a private company) to the intent that the Charity shall have the same full and unrestricted powers of investing and transposing investments as an absolute beneficial owner.

PROVIDED THAT the Board shall seek written professional advice from a person of standing who is authorised to give investment advice under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 or other relevant legislation, before exercising such powers unless the Board reasonably concludes it is unnecessary or inappropriate to do so.

### **Insurance**

- q) to apply monies in insuring any buildings being the property of the Charity at their full value.
- r) to insure and arrange insurance cover for and to indemnify the officers servants and voluntary workers of the Charity and its members from and against all such risks incurred in the course of the performance of their duties as may be thought fit.

### **Copyright, etc.**

- s) to acquire copyrights, trade marks and other rights and privileges for the purposes of the Charity and grant licences conferring the right to use the name of the Charity or such other copyrights, trade marks, rights and privileges of the Charity whether subject to a royalty or not and whether exclusive or non-exclusive or subject to other limitation.

### **General**

- t) to do all such other lawful things as shall further the attainment of the above object.
- 5 The income and property of the Charity shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the object and no part shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to members of the Charity and no Trustee shall be appointed to any office of the Charity paid by salary or fees or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Charity;

PROVIDED THAT nothing herein shall prevent the payment, in good faith by the Charity:

- A) of reasonable and proper remuneration to any member, officer or servant of the Charity (not being a Trustee) for any services rendered to the Charity, provided nevertheless that a Trustee shall be entitled to be reimbursed for any reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in carrying out any business of the Charity;



- B) of interest on money lent by any member of the Charity or a Trustee at a reasonable and proper rate per annum not exceeding 2% less than the published base lending rate of a clearing bank to be selected by the Board;
  - C) of reasonable and proper rent for property conveyed or let by any member of the Charity or a Trustee;
  - D) of fees remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to a company of which a Trustee may also be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such company.
- 6 No alteration of Clause 3 above or Clause 9 below or any other alteration within section 64(2)(b) of the Charities Act 1993 shall be made without the prior approval of the Charity Commissioners or the High Court.
- 7 The liability of the members is limited.
- 8 All members of the Charity undertake to contribute to the assets of the Charity, in the event of the same being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Charity contracted before they cease to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding one pound.
- 9 If the Charity is wound up or dissolved, and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Charity, but shall be given or transferred to some other charity or charities having objects similar to the objects of this Charity, which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as is imposed on this Charity by Clause 5 above, to be chosen by the members of the Charity at or before the time of dissolution in consultation with Age Concern England and if that cannot be done, then to some other charitable object.

*The Companies Acts 1985 and 1989*  
*Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital*

Articles of Association  
of  
Age Concern Wiltshire

General

- 1 In these Articles, if not inconsistent with the subject or context:

**'the Act'** means the Companies Act 1985 including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force.

**'the Charity'** means the above-named company.

**'clear days'** in relation to the period of a notice means that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect.

**'the Board'** means the Board of Trustees of the Charity which has the general control and management of the administration of the charity and forms the body of Trustees as defined in the Charities Act 1993.

**'month'** means calendar month.

**'the Office'** means the registered office of the Charity.

**'the United Kingdom'** means Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

**'in writing'** means written, printed or lithographed or partly one and partly another, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

Words importing the singular only shall include the plural, and vice versa;

Words importing the feminine only shall include the masculine, and vice versa;

Words importing persons shall include corporations.

Unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Articles bear the same meaning as in the Act but excluding any statutory modification thereof not in force when these regulations become binding on the company.

- 2 The Charity is established for the purposes expressed in the Memorandum of Association.

## Membership of the Charity

- 3 A) Membership of the Charity shall consist of:
  - (i) the subscribers to the Memorandum of Association;
  - (ii) one person appointed to be a member of the Charity by those voluntary organisations, departments of central government or of the local statutory authorities, any body corporate or unincorporated association serving or operating in all or part of the area of benefit, and individual persons aged eighteen or over who are interested in furthering the work of the charity.
- B) Membership shall be open on such terms and conditions as the Charity may from time to time determine in General Meetings, or as determined by the Board subject to review by the Charity at a General Meeting.
- C) Organisations or individuals being in sympathy with the object of the Charity may apply to be associate members of the Charity on such terms and conditions as the Board may determine but in any event associate members shall not be entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Charity.
- 4 The Board shall have the right to refuse any application for membership without giving any reason therefor.
- 5 The Board shall have the right for any good and sufficient reason to terminate the membership of any member or refuse renewal of any existing membership PROVIDED ALWAYS that the member concerned shall have a right to be heard by the Board before a final decision is made and that there shall be a right of appeal against a decision to terminate membership at a General Meeting of the Charity.
- 6 The Charity shall keep a register of members in accordance with the Act, and every member of the Charity shall either sign a written consent to become a member or sign the register of members on becoming a member.

## General Meetings

- 7 A) The Charity shall hold a General Meeting in every calendar year as its Annual General Meeting at such time and place (subject to paragraph B) below) as may be determined by the Charity.
- B) Every Annual General Meeting except the first shall be held not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding Annual General Meeting, and so long as the Charity holds its first Annual General Meeting within eighteen months after its incorporation it need not hold it in the year of its incorporation or in the following year.
- 8 The Charity shall hold at least two Ordinary General Meetings in each calendar year. All meetings other than Annual General Meetings and Ordinary General Meetings shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings.
- 9 Subject to Articles 7 and 8, the Board may whenever it thinks fit convene any General Meeting. Extraordinary General Meetings may also be convened on a members' requisition as provided by the Act.

- 10 At least twenty-one days' notice in writing shall be given of every Annual General Meeting and of every meeting convened to pass a Special Resolution. At least fourteen days' notice in writing shall be given of every other General Meeting.

PROVIDED THAT

A General Meeting shall be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed:

- a) in the case of an Annual General Meeting, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at that meeting; and
- b) in the case of any other meeting by such proportion of them as is prescribed by the Act or determined by the Charity in accordance with the Act.

The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted and in the case of an Annual General Meeting, shall specify the meeting as such.

The notice shall be given to all the members and to the members of the Board and auditors.

- 11 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of such notice by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

## Proceedings at General Meetings

- 12 The business to be transacted at an Annual General Meeting shall include:
- a) the consideration of audited accounts of the Charity;
  - b) the reports of the Board and of the Auditors,
  - c) the election of members of the Board (when appropriate), and
  - d) the appointment of, and the fixing of the remuneration of, the Auditors.
- 13 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present. Unless otherwise decided by the members in General Meeting one-fifth of the members shall be a quorum.
- 14 If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the General Meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place, or to such time and place as the Board may determine.
- 15 The Chair of the Board shall preside as Chair at every General Meeting, and shall have the right to attend all meetings of committees and other task groups or advisory groups. If at any meeting the Chair shall not be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, or shall be unwilling to preside, and if the Deputy Chair is not present or is unwilling to preside, the members of the Board present shall choose some member of the Board to act as Chair and if only one member of the Board is present and willing to act, that member shall be Chair. If no such member of the Board be present, or if all the members of the Board present decline to take the chair, the members of the Charity present shall choose one of their number to preside.

- 16 The Chair may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting from time to time, and from place to place. No business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. When a meeting is adjourned for fourteen days or more, at least seven clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as of an original meeting. Save as aforesaid, the members shall not be entitled to any notice of an adjournment, or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.
- 17 A) A resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless before or upon the declaration of the result of the show of hands, a poll is duly demanded.
- B) Subject to the provisions of the Act, a poll may be demanded by:
- (i) the Chair, or
  - (ii) at least three members having the right to vote at the meeting, or
  - (iii) a member or members representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting.
- C) Unless a poll is duly demanded a declaration by the Chair that a resolution has been carried, or carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that resolution.
- D) The demand for a poll may only be withdrawn with the consent of the Chair.
- E) No poll shall be demanded on the election of a Chair of a meeting, or on any question of adjournment.
- 18 A poll shall be taken at such time and place, and in such manner, as the Chair directs not being more than thirty days after the poll is demanded. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- 19 In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chair of the meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- 20 The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuation of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded.
- 21 A resolution in writing executed by or on behalf of each member who would have been entitled to vote upon it if it had been proposed at a General Meeting at which the member was present shall be as effectual as if it had been passed at a General Meeting duly convened and held and may consist of several instruments in like form each executed by or on behalf of one or more members.

## Votes of members

- 22 Subject as hereinafter provided, every member shall have one vote. An associate member shall not be entitled to vote.
- 23 Save as herein expressly provided, no member other than a member duly registered, who shall have paid every subscription and other sum (if any) which shall be due and payable to the Charity in respect of membership, shall be entitled to vote on any question at any General Meeting.

## Board of Trustees

- 24 A) The first members of the Board of Trustees shall be the subscribers to the Memorandum of Association who shall hold office until the conclusion of the first Annual General Meeting.
- B) The number of the members of the Board shall never be less than 3.
- 25 A) After the first Annual General Meeting, the Board shall consist of:
- (i) the Chair of the Charity elected under Article 26 below;
  - (ii) seven persons elected by the members at an Annual General Meeting, under the provisions of Article 26 below, or such other number as may be determined in accordance with Article 29 below.
  - (iii) persons co-opted under the provisions of Article 28 below.
- B) A representative of Age Concern England and the senior paid employee of the Charity shall have the right to attend, to comment, advise and make recommendations but not to vote at meetings of the Board, and also to have access to information and papers relevant to the business of the Board. Any such representative or staff member shall not be considered a member of the Board as defined in Article 1.
- 26 A) Elections for the Chair and members of the Board appointed in accordance with Article 25 A)(i) and (ii) shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting may provide for the rules governing an election if the Board has made no Regulations in accordance with Article 33 below.
- B) The persons elected as Chair and to the Board may serve for three years from the date of their election except at the first Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election save that the Chair may serve for a maximum of six consecutive years. Two or three elected members of the Board other than the Chair shall retire and seek re-election each year over a three year cycle. At the first Annual General Meeting it shall be decided by lot which of these members shall serve for 1, 2 or 3 years.
- C) Persons elected as Chair and to the Board need not be members of the Charity at the time of their election but will automatically become members from the time of their election, subject to the provisions of Article 6.
- D) Any voting member may nominate a person for election as Chair or as a member of the Board. In the event of no nominations being received in advance, nominations may be accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting at which voting is to take place. All nominations must be seconded and, if submitted before the meeting, be in writing.

- E) The Board may nominate a person or persons as Chair or members of the Board but in this case such nomination must be sent to members of the Charity at the same time as the notice of the meeting at which voting for the Chair or Board members is to take place.
  - F) If nominations exceed vacancies, an election shall take place by ballot among the members of the Charity. The Board will have power to decide whether this ballot should be postal, or held at the meeting called for the purpose, or a combination of the two.
- 27 A) The Board may appoint persons to fill any casual vacancies which occur during the year amongst the elected members of the Board, such appointments to terminate at the end of the term for which the original member was elected.
- B) The Board may invite any person to attend and speak at its meetings as an adviser or observer but such person shall not be entitled to vote and shall not be considered a member of the Board as defined in Article 1.
- 28 A) The Board may co-opt any person, whether or not a member of the Charity, to membership of the Board until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next following, provided that the number of co-opted persons shall not exceed one-third of the total number of members elected under categories (i) and (ii) of Article 25 A) above.
- B) A person whose co-opted membership of the Board has terminated shall be eligible for co-option again at any time.
- 29 Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Charity may from time to time in General Meeting increase the number of members of the Board and may make the appointments necessary for effecting any such increase.

## Honorary Officers

- 30 A) The Honorary Officers of the Charity shall consist of a Chair, elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting and such other Honorary Officers (such as a Deputy Chair or Honorary Financial Adviser) elected by the Board as it thinks fit from amongst its own members.
- B) Except for the Charity's first Honorary Officers (who shall be, or be appointed by, the first members of the Board until the first Annual General Meeting), all Honorary Officers except the Chair shall be elected at the first Board meeting next following the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which they retire or must seek re-election.
- 31 The Board may appoint persons to fill any casual vacancies for Honorary Officers which occur during the year, such appointments to terminate at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next following.

## Powers of the Board

- 32 A) The business of the Charity shall be managed by the Board subject to the provisions of the Act, the Memorandum and Articles and to any directions given by special resolution. No alteration of the Memorandum or Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given.
- B) The Board may pay all such expenses of, and preliminary and incidental to, the promotion, formation, establishment and registration of the Charity as it thinks fit.
- C) A meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Board.
- 33 The Board shall have power to make, repeal and amend Regulations for any matter concerned with the administration of the affairs of the Charity and in particular for the conduct of meetings, the nomination of members of the Charity and the Board and the method of election to the Board provided they are not inconsistent with these Articles. Such Regulations, and any repeals and amendments, shall have effect until set aside by the Board or at a General Meeting.
- 34 The member or members for the time being of the Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body; but if the number of members of the Board shall at any time be less than the minimum prescribed by or in accordance with these Articles, they may act as the Board only for the purpose of admitting persons to membership of the Charity, filling vacancies or calling a General Meeting.

## Secretary

- 35 A) The Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for such time, at such remuneration (if any) and upon such conditions as it may think fit. Any Secretary so appointed may be removed by the Board. The Board may from time to time by resolution appoint an assistant or deputy Secretary, and any person so appointed may act in place of the Secretary if there be no Secretary or no Secretary capable of acting.
- B) No member of the Board shall occupy the salaried position of Secretary.

## The Seal

- 36 The common seal of the Charity (if any) shall only be used by the authority of the Board or of a sub-committee of the Board authorised by the Board. The Board may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a member of the Board and by the secretary or by a second member of the Board.



## Disqualification and removal of members of the Board

- 37 The office of a member of the Board shall be vacated if that member:
- a) ceases to be a member of the Board by virtue of any provision of the Act or becomes prohibited by law from being a member of the Board; or
  - b) becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with creditors generally; or
  - c) is, or may be, suffering from mental disorder and either:
    - (i) is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983 or, in Scotland, an application for admission under the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of these Acts), or
    - (ii) an order is made by a court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder for that member's detention or for the appointment of a receiver, curator bonis or other person to exercise powers with respect to that member's property or affairs; or
  - d) resigns as a member of the Board by notice to the Charity; or
  - e) fails without reasonable excuse to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board and the Board resolves that the office of that member be vacated.
- 38 A) In addition and without prejudice to the provisions of section 303 of the Act, the Charity may by Extraordinary Resolution remove any member of the Board before the expiration of that member's period of office.
- B) The Charity may by an Ordinary Resolution appoint another qualified member instead; but any person so appointed shall retain office so long only as the member being replaced would have held that office.

## Proceedings of the Board

- 39 The Board may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit subject to the provisions of these Articles. It may determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business, provided that the quorum for meetings of the Board shall never be less than one quarter or three of the members of the Board (whichever is the greater number).
- 40 The Board shall prepare, adopt and regularly review policies on equal opportunity, health and safety, confidentiality, handling complaints, and financial management, and such other policies as recommended from time to time by the Assembly of Age Concern, the federation.
- 41 A) A member of the Board may, and on the request of a member of the Board the Secretary shall, call a meeting of the Board by giving notice to all members of the Board; but a member of the Board who is absent from the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to notice of a meeting.
- B) Fourteen days' notice of any meeting of the Board shall be given by the Secretary to all members of the Board save that if any three members of the Board decide that it is necessary to call a meeting of the Board on shorter notice such a meeting may be called on four days' notice.

- 42 The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Charity shall be the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Board respectively. If at any meeting the Chair (or Deputy Chair) is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting or is unwilling to preside, the members of the Board present shall choose one of their number to be Chair of the meeting.
- 43 All members of the Board shall be entitled to vote, and any matters arising shall be determined by a simple majority of those present and voting. In case of an equality of votes the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.
- 44 A) The Board may appoint a Finance Committee and such other Special or Standing Committees as it may deem necessary from time to time and shall determine their terms of reference, powers, duration, quorum and membership provided that:
- (i) no committee appointed under this Article shall be given power to co-opt more than one-quarter of its total membership.
  - (ii) no such committee shall have power to spend or commit the assets of the Charity without the prior approval of more than one-half of its members being voting members of the Board.
  - (iii) the proceedings of all such committees shall be minuted and reported to the meeting next following of the Board.
- B) (i) The Board shall establish a Committee (called the Liaison Committee or some other appropriate name) to bring together in discussion those appointed to represent the Charity on other bodies, and representatives of other bodies in membership of the Charity.
- (ii) The (Liaison) Committee shall meet at least twice a year, prior to ordinary meetings of the Charity, to receive written reports from its members and to conduct its business as determined by the Board in accordance with article 44 A) and C).
- C) Regulations may from time to time determine the number of days' notice of the meetings of any such committees. In the event that the Regulations make no provision at all for such notice as aforesaid, fourteen days' notice of any committee meetings shall be given by the secretary of the committee to all members of the committee, save that if any four members of the committee decide that it is necessary to call a committee meeting on shorter notice such a meeting may be called on four days' notice.
- 45 All acts done in good faith by any meeting of the Board or by any committee of the Board, or by any person acting as a member of the Board, shall, notwithstanding it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuation in office of any such member or person acting as aforesaid, or that any of them were disqualified from holding office or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and had continued in office and was qualified to be a member of the Board and had been entitled to vote.
- 46 A resolution in writing signed by all members for the time being of the Board or of any committee of the Board who are entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Board or of such committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a duly convened and constituted meeting of the Board or of such committee (as the case may be). Such resolution in writing may consist of several documents in the like form each signed by one or more members of the Board.

## Minutes

47 The Board shall cause proper minutes to be made of:

- a) all appointments of officers made by the Board; and
- b) all proceedings at meetings of the Charity and of the Board and of committees of the Board, including the names of the members of the Board present at such meetings.

Any such minutes of any meeting, if purporting to be signed by the Chair of that meeting, or by the Chair of the next succeeding meeting, shall be sufficient evidence without any further proof of the facts therein stated.

## Accounts

48 A) The Board shall cause proper accounts to be kept, audited and made available to the members of the Charity in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

B) In addition to the above, the Honorary Financial Adviser, or the Chair in the absence of the Honorary Financial Adviser, shall present to each meeting of the Board a written statement of accounts which gives members a full and fair description of the Charity's financial position.

49 Bank or building society accounts shall be opened in the name of the Charity on such terms as the Board shall decide. The Board shall decide which of its members and staff may sign cheques on behalf of the Charity. Every cheque in excess of £300 must be signed by two persons, one of whom shall be a member of the Board, unless the Board agrees to vary this sum in which case this variation must be reported to the next following Annual General Meeting.

50 A) The accounting records and other books or documents of the Charity shall be kept at the registered office or at such other place or places as the Board shall think fit, and shall always be open to the inspection of the members of the Board.

B) No member (other than a member of the Board) shall (as such) have any right of inspecting any of the accounting records and other books or documents of the Charity except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Board or by the Charity in General Meeting.

## Notices

51 Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Articles shall be in writing except that a notice calling a meeting of the Board need not be in writing.

52 A notice may be served by the Charity upon any member, either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the registered address of the member as appearing in the register of members or by leaving it at that address.

- 53 Members whose registered addresses are not within the United Kingdom and who give the Charity an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to them shall be entitled to have notices given to them at such address. Otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Charity.
- 54 A member present at any meeting of the Charity shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which it was called.
- 55 Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. A notice shall be deemed to be given at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted.

## Dissolution

- 56 Clause 9 of the Memorandum of Association relating to the winding up and dissolution of the Charity shall have effect as if the provisions thereof were repeated in these Articles.

## Indemnity

- 57 Subject to the provisions of the Act but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a member of the Board may otherwise be entitled, every member of the Board or other officer or auditor of the Charity shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Charity against any liability incurred by them in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in their favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Charity.