

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS 2024

European Movement UK
European Movement UK Limited

Saturday 16 November 2024: 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Birkbeck College, University of London, Torrington Square, London, WC1E 7JL and online

Minutes

1 Introduction

The Chair, Dr Mike Galsworthy, called the meeting to order at 1.01pm, welcoming approximately 100 members attending in person and around 150 participating online.

2 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from members as listed below at the Annex.

3 Minutes of AGMs 2023

The Minutes of the AGMs of 24 November 2023 in Manchester were agreed.

4 Chair's address

The Chair noted that EMUK had celebrated its 75th anniversary in February and is going from strength to strength. He applauded the good work of YEM and also celebrated the recent creation of an All-Party Parliamentary Group on Europe – with EMUK serving as its secretariat. Our ultimate aim remains that of the UK one day rejoining the EU.

5 Annual Report of Activities

The Chief Executive, Sir Nick Harvey, introduced the Annual Report of Activities, noting the increase in campaigning capacity and activity in a productive and interesting year. Membership is increasing and the political climate has improved significantly with the election of a government wanting to reset relations with the EU. This has led to a larger number of media opportunities and social media hits. EMUK will be pressing for a UK-EU youth mobility scheme. He confirmed our international links are growing through EMI.

6 Annual General Meeting of the company – EMUK Ltd – (at 1.35pm)

Present: *Directors* – Dr Mike Galsworthy (Chair), Sandra Lawman (Secretary), David Edwards (Treasurer), Sir Nick Harvey (Chief Executive); and *Members* – approx. 200+ members of the company

(a) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, David Edwards, presented a summary of the Company's financial performance during the 2023-24 year, and a summary of progress to date in 2024-25. The report was noted, and he was thanked for his endeavours.

(b) Audited accounts for financial year 2023-24

Accounts for 2023-24, with the Directors' Report, were noted and formally received.

(c) Appointment of auditors of the Company for the current year

RESOLUTION 1: That Lindeyer Francis Ferguson be appointed as auditors of the Company. The resolution was carried with 149 votes in favour and 1 against

(d) Amendment of the Company's Articles and Memorandum of Association

RESOLUTION 2 (SPECIAL RESOLUTION) –

That the existing articles of association and memorandum of association of the Company be and are hereby replaced in their entirety with the new articles of association and restated memorandum of association attached as Annex 1 [articles] and Annex 2 [memorandum] to the notice of this general meeting.

After debate, the resolution was carried with 186 votes in favour and 4 against

(e) Transitional governance arrangements for the Company

RESOLUTION 3 (SPECIAL RESOLUTION) –

That, conditional on the passing of Resolution 2, the transitional governance arrangements detailed in Annex 3 to the notice of this general meeting will apply for the time periods detailed in such annex.

The resolution was carried with 193 votes in favour and 5 against.

The meeting closed at 2.18 pm

7 Amendment to the Constitution

After debate, the following resolution was carried with 190 votes in favour and 6 against:
That the existing Constitution of the European Movement of the UK (unincorporated association) be replaced in its entirety with the new Constitution attached as Annex 4 to the notice of this general meeting.

8 Motions

Albert Waterhouse proposed that EMUK should develop a strategy for branches and members. Cecilia Jastrzebska proposed that EMUK should form a women's network. Both resolutions were carried overwhelmingly.

BREAK: 2.30pm – 2.45pm

9 Valedictory speech: Michael Heseltine, retiring President

Lord Heseltine gave an impassioned speech which won a standing ovation in response.

10 Appointment of: Co-Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Patrons

The Chair proposed a new team: two Co-Presidents, five Vice-Presidents and 19 Patrons as a diverse group of champions who share our vision and values and will be deployed in our communications. Those stepping down were thanked. The Chair was thanked for his work in assembling the team, which was approved by the meeting *nem con*.

Co-Presidents <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caroline Lucas• Dominic Grieve Vice-Presidents <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marsha de Cordova MP• Tobias Ellwood• Stephen Gethins MP• Layla Moran MP• Baroness Carmen Smith	Patrons <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexandra Hall Hall• Edward McMillan-Scott• Lord Ed Vaizey• Femi Oluwole• Gina Miller• Sir Graham Watson• Jackie Jones• Jessica Simor KC• Baroness Joyce Quin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof Martin McKee• Mary Honeyball• Mete Coban• Lord Michael Heseltine• Naomi Smith• Lord Neil Kinnock• Richard Corbett CBE• Rt Hon Stephen Dorrell• Rt Hon Dr Sir Vince Cable• Zoe Gardner
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11 Election of Standing Committee chairs – to serve for two years

The following Chairs of the new standing committees were elected unopposed:

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|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • Audit Committee | David Barrett |
| • Conduct Committee | Lisa Burton |
| • Diversity Committee | Barbara Callender |
| • International Committee | Richard Morris |

12 Written reports

Reports were made available beforehand on the AGM hub and were duly noted, from:

- Branches Forum
- YEM
- Scotland (EMiS)
- Wales (W4E)
- Advisory Committees – Membership, Digital, Education.

The chair of Education urged members to respond to the Government's curriculum review by 28th November, pressing to ensure inclusion of education about Europe.

13 Introductory speeches – Caroline Lucas and Dominic Grieve

The new Co-Presidents introduced themselves, each described their commitment to the European cause and outlined their hopes for the term ahead of their co-Presidency.

In response, they were welcomed with a rousing ovation.

14 Conclusion

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and for their efforts and endeavours for the Movement over the past year.

The meeting finished at 4.01pm.

Annex – list of members whose apologies for absence were recorded:

Bev Haigh-Jones
Chris Forrest
Veronica Stiastry
Colin Smith
Beryl Leatherland
Rev Angela Robinson
Eleanor Tew
Kevin Jones
George Taylor
Mark Johnston
Tony McCobb