

## **Motions not placed on the agenda.**

The standing orders for general meetings stipulate that criteria for acceptance of motions, which include matters that within the remit of the AGM. The remit of the AGM excludes matters reserved to the board. Such matters can be raised as questions or comments in response to reports.

An item not being placed on the agenda does not imply any view being taken about the motion. In each case the chair will write to the proposer and advise whether and how the board may address the matter.

### **1- Republic members' day/AGM (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that Republic in 2025 have again combined the AGM with the members' day, which means in reality we have neither a day devoted to the members' nor a day for the AGM which is not ideal, most other organisations hold their AGM as a standalone event and do not combine it with another event due to its importance and to allow sufficient time for the business of the AGM to be carried out without been rushed as is the case at the moment.

Therefore, this AGM instructs the Executive Committee (EC) that from 2026 the members' day and the AGM will be held on separate days.

### **2- Location of members' day/AGM (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that currently the AGM is held in London every year, as Republic has members all over the country it is only fair to members who do not live in London or the south east that they are given an opportunity to attend this event, and by constantly holding it in London every year we may be preventing them from attending due to the costs of travelling or the time involved to get to London.

Holding some AGMs outside London would encourage members' to attend.

Therefore, this AGM instructs the Executive Committee (EC) that from 2026 the members' day and the AGM location is rotated so they are only held in London every other year.

### **3- Republic AGM (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that at the present time only members who attend the AGM see motions as per rule 5.8.4 which have been submitted and accepted by the Board for debate, but they and members not attending the AGM are not allowed to see motions which have been submitted to the AGM but are not then accepted to be debated for whatever reason. This is clearly not good for accountability and transparency.

To improve this situation for everybody and to provide a complete record, Republic should put rejected motions with the reason for rejection on a dedicated page on its website.

Therefore, this AGM instructs the Executive Committee (EC) that

for the 2026 AGM and future AGMs all motions accepted for debate should be e-mailed to all current members no later than 14 days before the AGM is held.

rejected motions with the reasons they have been rejected or ruled out of order to be put on the Republic website no later than 14 days before the AGM.

*NOTE from Republic: Republic has always made available details of motions not placed on the agenda.*

#### **4- Local Campaign Days (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes with concern that local campaign days are no longer held face to face, these are only held on-line which is good in some respects but not others. The importance of these days as a means of allowing experienced and new ambassadors (or co-ordinators as they were known in the past) plus activists to meet each other cannot be underestimated.

The earlier campaign days were a good opportunity for ambassadors old and new, along with activists to meet face to face, to network, raise morale, share ideas & good practice, and plan joint events. These meetings also serve the purpose of encouraging activists who attended to think about becoming ambassadors.

The removal of the face-to-face local campaign days as been detrimental and has hindered the ability of the local groups to organise, and as made the job of the ambassador more difficult than it needs to be.

Therefore, this AGM instructs the Executive Committee (EC) to reinstate face-to- face local campaign days from 2026 with a minimum of 2 local campaign days per year.

#### **5- Membership Information for ambassadors (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that the continuing refusal of Republic over several years to supply membership details to local groups has hindered the growth and work of local groups. Republic has cited both the DPA and GDPR regulations as reasons for not sharing this information with local ambassadors.

Ambassadors are restricted in their ability to organise their group due to this refusal.

The details to be supplied would just have to be the members' names and their e-mail addresses, bearing in mind that Republic empathises the importance of the work of the local groups.

It should be noted that individual members can give permission for their details to be shared with a local branch ambassador only under data protection guidance. To do this Republic would have to have a valid "lawful basis" for sharing this information and for a specific purpose which there clearly is.

To be data compliant Republic members could be asked for their permission to allow Republic to share names and e-mail addresses so that ambassadors could contact them with news about upcoming activities.

This change would not prevent members from asking their ambassadors to stop sending them e-mails and to remove their details altogether as is the case with communications from Republic at the moment.

This information would also be useful for the local groups who leaflet on a regular basis to assess the impact of their leafleting ie to see whether there is an increase in membership in their area after they have leafleted.

Therefore, this AGM instructs the Executive Committee (EC) to implement this motion in 2026.

#### **6- Business Continuity Plan (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that Republic does not have a business continuity plan (BCP) and the processes to keep essential business running normally as possible during and after a disruption.

This involves preparing for unexpected events like cyber-attacks, natural disasters or system failures by creating plans to maintain functions, reports of incidents, staff leaving unexpectedly. And also taking measures to restore critical also to recover critical services to minimise the impact on the organisation.

Key components of a BCP would be the following: -

Risk assessment

Critical function identification

Resilient infrastructure i.e. IT Systems

Personnel and staff changes

Regular testing and updating

Therefore, this AGM recommend the Executive Committee (EC) to look into the creation of a BCP in 2026.

*NOTE from Republic: Republic does have and is reviewing relevant plans.*

#### **7- WhatsApp groups (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that in the past Republic had an expectation that local group co-ordinators now called ambassadors, would organise a minimum of three events per year.

Bearing in mind that they are currently over 30 WhatsApp groups and they should play an important part in building local groups. It is unfortunate, that the lack of local group events and activities over recent months shows that the WhatsApp groups are not being as effective as they should be.

Now that Republic is emphasising the importance of the work that local groups do in raising awareness and recruiting new members it's possible that this lack of activity could be damaging to Republic's reputation ie if we have new members who want to get involved, join local groups and then find nothing is happening.

Accepting the fact that ambassadors are volunteers, Republic should not be content for the current situation to continue year after year. This problem needs to be investigated as a matter of urgency to see if the situation can be improved

This AGM therefore considers that ambassadors of continuing inactive groups should be asked to stand down, and more vigorous efforts should be made to recruit people who are prepared to fulfil what Republic asks of the role.

Therefore, this AGM therefore considers instructs the Executive Committee (EC) to implement this motion starting in 2026.

#### **8- Republic young members committee (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM recognises that the campaign to achieve our objectives will not be achieved in the short term so considers it imperative that Republic encourages young people not only to join and participate but there should be also be a mechanism for them to express their view and opinions.

Therefore, Republic should set up a young member's committee.

The main functions of the committee would be:

1. To encourage young members' involvement and participation in their local groups liaising with local group ambassadors to achieve this aim.
2. To encourage local groups to put on specific events or to attend events aimed at young people for the purpose of recruitment and raising awareness.
3. To encourage groups to have a young members' officer responsible for organising young members in their group.

This AGM instructs the Executive Committee (EC) to implement this motion during 2026.

#### **9- Republic Governance (Nigel Catling)**

This AGM notes that Republic unlike many other organisations such as trade unions, political parties, local authorities and pressure groups does not have an elected

standing orders committee (SOC) which would be the final authority for interpreting the constitution, its primary role would be to ensure orderly conduct of the AGM and internal elections by overseeing rules for motions and candidacies.

The committee would be elected at the AGM with members serving for an agreed period before having to stand down.

Key Responsibilities of the SOC would include: -

#### Advising Members:

The committee may offer advice to individual members and local groups on how to draft and submit motions.

#### Interpreting Rules

The SOC would act as the ultimate interpreter of Republic's Constitution and the Standing Orders for the AGM.

#### Reviewing Motions

It reviews motions submitted to the AGM, correcting errors in spelling, grammar, or numbering, and may change the titles of motions if they are inappropriate or too long.

#### Timetabling Motions

The committee would be responsible for the order of motions at the AGM, it would determine and prioritise motions to be debated, ensuring that the most important or relevant topics were addressed along and other business within the allotted time. ensuring the smooth conduct of the AGM.

#### Ruling Motions Out of Order

The SOC would be able to rule motions "out of order" for example but the reasons for this would have to be open to consultation before being agreed.

Examples why motions may be rejected by the SOC are if they violate the Constitution, are ambiguous, trivial, or propose significant policy changes without proper consultation. It would be able to make recommendations on how motions should be handled and determines if a motion is "in order" for debate at the AGM

#### Enforcing Election Rules

In internal elections, the SOC may make reports to the Executive committee if rules are violated, and significant violations can lead to an election being voided.

#### Disciplinary Context

In disciplinary proceedings, the SOC would be the body responsible for interpreting the Constitution.

### Reviewing Standing Orders

The SOC, through its Standing Orders Subcommittee, would be responsible for reviewing and proposing revisions to the Standing Orders and the internal disputes and complaints process.

### Reporting to AGM

The SOC would compile and maintain a record of organisational statements and presents proposed revisions to the Standing Orders to the AGM for approval.

### Manages AGM Business

The SOC's main role is to oversee the agenda and flow of business at Republics annual general meeting, including the rules of debate and procedure.

### Ensures Smooth Operation:

The SOC would help the AGM run efficiently by providing recommendations on the conduct of business.

### Promotes Democracy, Transparent and Accountability.

By ensuring motions are properly processed and debated, the SOC would help facilitate member-led democracy within Republic.

The setting up of a SOC would boost amongst Republics democratic credentials and equally important it would help to defend the organisation from its detractors who as Republic grows in terms of influence and membership will be looking for anything which can be used to damage its reputation and chances of success.

Therefore, this AGM instruct the Executive Committee (EC) to start work on this motion with a view to a SOC been set up during 2026.

### **10-Members voting on what motions go on the AGM agenda (Alex Hughes)**

This AGM agrees that it should be up to the membership to decide upon which motions it wishes to debate. Any motion securing a minimum of 25 signatures (digital or physical) and submitted to the chair no less than 30 days before an AGM (or 14 days in the case of an EGM) will be scheduled for debate. In order to cope with time constraints, the order of debate will be determined by the number of signatures; the motion with the greatest number of signatures being debated first, the second greatest number second and so on.

### **11-Making the AGM free and advertising the online access (Christine Child)**

The Annual General meeting is an important annual event and should be open and accessible to all members in the spirit of openness and democracy. I therefore

propose that the AGM is free to current members and the opportunity to attend on-line is made very clear and highlighted on the website.

**12- advising new members of local ambassadors (Christine Child)**

Local Ambassadors have a key role in organising members and supporters. I therefore propose that new members are given the name of their local group and the name of the Ambassador when they join Republic. They could also be introduced to the local Whatsapp Group This would give the new member a local point of contact right from the start. Currently members in a Group don't necessarily know who their Ambassador is, or even that such a role exists.

**13- Including strategy review within the report to the AGM (Chris Murgatroyd)**

This AGM agrees that the report of the Executive Committee to the AGM each year under Art. 5.8.2 of the Constitution will include a dedicated section on review of strategy, describing the success of the campaign in terms of progress against monitoring milestones and indicators set each year in a process led by the Executive Committee itself.

**14- Including membership relationship management within the report to the AGM (Chris Murgatroyd)**

This AGM agrees that the report of the Executive Committee to the AGM each year under Art. 5.8.2 of the Constitution will include a dedicated section on review of Member Relationship Management, in terms of progress against priorities for MRM set each year in a process led by the Executive Committee itself.