



NOTES ON THE FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ADDYSG OEDOLION CYMRU | ADULT LEARNING WALES

Held virtually, on and leading up to Thursday 26 March 2020

This AGM was due to be held at Canolfan Soar in Pontmorlais, Merthyr Tydfil on the morning of 26 March 2020. However, due to the restrictions imposed on gatherings of people because of the Covid-19 outbreak, it did not take place as a physical event.

It was instead decided earlier that month by the Council (governing body) that members of the organisation should vote virtually in an on-line poll on the important procedural and statutory matters that were on the AGM's agenda. The background papers for those matters were distributed to all members by e-mail and a system established through the offices of Jonathan Goddard for such a virtual vote to take place over a four-day period in the week of the proposed gathering. Voting closed at midnight on 26 March 2020.

These brief notes record the names of those members who voted on-line and the results of the vote on each of the eight agenda items before them as resolutions. The virtual meeting was quorate.

Voters:

Individual Members – Mark Baines, Jeremy Comerford, Simon Conlin, Gareth Cork, Caroline Davies, David Elis-Williams, Tina Gallagher, Jeremy Gass, Jonathan Goddard, John Graystone (Chair), Ralph Hanscomb, Adrian Heathfield, Cath Hicks, Susan Hughes, Lorna Jones, Daryl Leeworthy, Wendy Lewis, Nichola Lowe, Betty Mason, Sarah Murphy, Stephen Nicholls, Tim Palazon, Graham Price, Alexandra Raab, Martyn Reed, Donna Ridler, Julie Roberts, Kathryn Robson (Chief Executive), Patrick Robson, Suzanne Samuel, Anne Saunders, Toni Schiavone, Marilyn Thomas, Jan Tiley (34).

Individual Members & Branch Representatives – Cathy Clark (Oakdale & Blackwood), Jenni Jones-Annetts (Caerphilly), David MacManus (Caerphilly), Sonia Reynolds (Upper Amman & Twrch Valley) (4).

Individual Member & Affiliated Organisation Representative – David Smith (Co-operatives & Mutuals Wales) (1).

Branch Representative – Margaret Ware (Caerphilly) (1).

Scrutineer of Votes – Stephen Thomas (Company Secretary/Clerk).

Item	ADDYSG OEDOLION CYMRU ADULT LEARNING WALES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020 (VIRTUAL)
1.	<p>Approval of Addysg Oedolion Cymru Adult Learning Wales's Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2018/19</p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 46 Against: 0 Abstention: 1</p>
2.	<p>Re-appointment of Btp Associates Ltd. as auditors for the 2019/20 financial year</p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 46 Against: 0 Abstention: 1</p>
3.	<p>Social Prescribing</p> <p>As this AGM is aware, there are plans across Wales to extend the use of Social Prescribing. This is a holistic approach to preventing ill health and improving the population's health generally. For many, isolation and loneliness can be key factors that make them turn up at a GP's surgery; for others it may be to improve mental health, as a way to manage another condition, or to help cognitive functions. Attending Addysg Oedolion Cymru Adult Learning Wales (AOC ALW) courses also offers alternative health benefits - whether through learning about a condition and building individuals' resilience to manage ill health, or promoting healthier eating and lifestyles, greater fitness, or dancing. However it is potentially beneficial in a broader way, simply through the chance to interact with other people, as it provides intergenerational opportunities, companionship and qualifications. Since classes are open to all ages, friendships can develop and may particularly benefit young parents or older people who have poor mental health, are unemployed or have longer-term health conditions.</p> <p>This AGM therefore calls on AOC ALW to make structured efforts to plug into social prescribing initiatives. In Caerphilly specifically, its courses could link into and be advertised through the Healthier Gwent strategy, GAVO's (Gwent Assoc. of Voluntary Organisations) InfoEngine, and the Family Information Service. In national terms, they could be included as a resource on the Dewis Cymru website, which deals with health and wellbeing matters Wales-wide.</p> <p><i>Proposed: Siân Northey, pp Caerphilly Branch</i> <i>Seconded: David MacManus</i></p> <p>The resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 47 Against: 0 Abstention: 0</p>

4.	<p>Toilet facilities for disabled people, plus dyslexia noting</p> <p>This AGM notes that few toilet facilities at public venues have a hoist to assist those with physical challenges, including wheelchair users. It therefore calls on AOC ALW to support campaigns and initiatives to raise awareness of this situation, which affects many of our learners as well as the general public. AOC ALW should further promote awareness of dyslexia and urge learners to share their experiences of dyslexia early in their contact with the organisation.</p> <p><i>Proposed: Anna Davies, pp Emerge Community Arts (Affiliated Org.)</i> <i>Seconded: Lewis Roberts, pp Emerge Community Arts (Learner Forum); and Flintshire Remploy Learner Forum</i></p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 41 Against: 0 Abstention: 6</p>
5.	<p>Co-operative education and University</p> <p>With the economic and social landscape changing rapidly, this AGM believes the Co-operative and Adult Education Movements should take the lead in promoting co-operative education which can address the challenges of our times.</p> <p>We note that: (a) legislation and policy in Wales is now commonly framed with co-operative intent; and (b) the First Minister has publicly stated his views on the importance of co-operative service delivery models and his expectation that this sector has to grow.</p> <p>This AGM, recognising that we need a beacon of learning that reflects our values and provides opportunities for learners to access co-operative community learning programmes that build on the capabilities of people in strengthening our communities, calls upon AOC ALW to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore partnership working with the Co-operative College in creating a centre for learning and research, as part of a federated Co-operative University, providing firm foundations for co-operative education and development in Wales. 2. Work in partnership with other educational establishments towards a common understanding of how together we can support the emergence of a federated Co-op University concept, as part of a long-term plan. 3. Report progress to AOC ALW's 2021 AGM. <p><i>Proposed: David Smith, pp Co-ops & Mutuels Wales</i> <i>Seconded: Adrian Roper, pp Cartrefi Cymru Co-operative</i></p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 39 Against: 4 Abstention: 4</p>

6.	<p>Regional Forum boundary change, regarding Denbighshire</p> <p>This AGM agrees to change the boundaries of the Organisation’s Regional Forum areas within the North operational region, to make them of more equal size. This will be achieved by transferring Denbighshire from the North West to the North East Regional Forum. The counties will henceforth be divided as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="279 448 1220 604"> <tr> <td data-bbox="279 448 925 604"> <p>North West Region: Anglesey / Ynys Môn Gwynedd Conwy</p> </td> <td data-bbox="925 448 1220 604"> <p>North East Region: Denbighshire Flintshire Wrexham</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Proposed: Dafydd Rhys</i> <i>Seconded: Michelle Kerswell</i></p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 42 Against: 1 Abstention: 4</p>	<p>North West Region: Anglesey / Ynys Môn Gwynedd Conwy</p>	<p>North East Region: Denbighshire Flintshire Wrexham</p>
<p>North West Region: Anglesey / Ynys Môn Gwynedd Conwy</p>	<p>North East Region: Denbighshire Flintshire Wrexham</p>		
7.	<p>Nia Parry for Honorary President of the Organisation</p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 46 Against: 1 Abstention: 0</p>		
8.	<p>Amended Articles of Association and Standing Orders</p> <p>That the regulations set out in the documents produced to the meeting and, for the purpose of identification, initialled by the chair of the meeting be adopted as the articles of association and standing orders of the Company in substitution for all existing articles of association and standing orders of the Company with immediate effect, subject only to all necessary consents (if any) having been received to the adoption of new articles of association from the Charity Commission for England and Wales.</p> <p><i>By order of the Council</i> <i>Stephen V. Thomas</i> <i>Company Secretary</i></p> <p>This resolution was carried as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">In Favour: 44 Against: 1 Abstention: 2</p>		