

41

National Council Meeting
Friday 1st April 2022 at 11:00am

**Holiday Inn Cardiff Central, Castle
Street, CARDIFF, CF10 1XD**

MINUTES

National Board Officers

Peter Good	National President	PG
Jim Conway	National Vice President	JC
Bernard Elwen	National Secretary	BE
Kevin Lovett	National Treasurer	KL
Glen Lyon	National Membership Officer	GL
Andy Ventress	International Relations Officer	AV
Peter McBride	NCLO + Region 24	PMcB
Don Mullane	National Communications and IT Officer	DM
Steve James	National Fellowship Officer	SJ

National Councillors

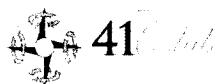
Colin McKenzie	Region 1	CM
Kevin Stewart	Region 2	KS
Aidan Coyne	Region 3	AC
Roger Spensley	Region 5	RS
Wynn Parry	Region 6	WP
John Kilshaw	Region 8	JK
Peter Walker	Region 9	PW
John Manley	Region 10	JM
Steve Tasker	Region 11	ST
Rory Tompsett	Region 12	RT
John Bell	Region 13	JB
Richard Holland	Region 14	RH
Paul Simmons	Region 16	PS
Kelly Clarke	Region 17	KC
Jason Thomson	Region 18	JT
David Chard	Region 20	DC
Mark Hinchliffe	Region 22	MH
Richard Dyson	Region 23	RD

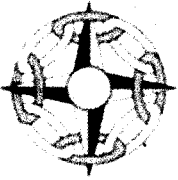
National Honorary Officers

Mark House	Honorary Webmaster	MHo
David Smith	Honorary Solicitor	DS
Bruce Bennett	Young Ambassador Programme	BB

Apologies

Andrew Mackereth	Immediate Past President	AM
Peter Milburn	Region 4	
Neal Lowe	Region 15 (represented by Tom Atkins)	TA
Kevin Chard	Region 21	
Sean McCormick	Honorary Archivist	





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Guests

Stuart Bizley	National Councillor Elect Region 17	SB
Stuart George	National Councillor Elect Region 22	SG
Marcus Jones	Beeston 41 Club	MJ
Michael Daley	Aviemore Conference Bid	MD1
Morag Daley	Aviemore Conference Bid	MD2
Bosco Townsend	Beeston 41 Club	BT
Phillip Ellis	Bangor 41 Club	PE
Terry Cooper	Clevedon 41 Club	TC

1. Welcome and Permission for guests to speak PG welcomed National Council and guests to the meeting.
2. Purposes and Objects Read by Rory Thomsett.
3. Declaration of Business Interests None
4. Apologies for Absence As above
5. Minutes of Meetings on 4th February 2022 Agreed as an accurate record.
6. Matters Arising None
7. National Council Reports BE proposed that National Council reports be reduced to 3 per year, to coincide with the National Council meetings in June/July, October and February. This was so that each report would be spaced 4 months apart and thus have more substance. JK suggested that each member of National Council submit an annual report for the AGM Order Paper, as Board members currently did. This was agreed by the meeting.
8. AGM – Emergency Resolution on Aid to Ukraine BE informed the meeting that the Board had agreed to ask the AGM for approval to put forward an emergency resolution. The situation was fast-moving, and the Association was being expected to respond. BE had received a suggestion from AM that the sum agreed should be spent over the next 12 months rather than all at once. TA pointed out that Round Table had pledged £95k, with the funds going via Round Table Germany. SG asked what our response should be to other refugee crises. RS and JM had concerns about members' money being used for charity instead of for the running of the Association. PE refuted the criticism that we would be seen to be favouring white refugees. After much debate, it was agreed that a Resolution be put to the AGM the following day, pledging £20,000 to assist Round Table in their efforts to support the people of Ukraine.



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9. AGM – Proposal to Withdraw Resolution 4 This was agreed by National Council. BE would ask for the approval of the AGM the following day to remove this from the Order Paper.
10. NCLC Selection Process BE had previously circulated a briefing note to all members of National Council agreement. This was agreed at the meeting and is included at Appendix 1 of these minutes.
11. Canvassing and Self Promotion in Contested Elections BE had previously circulated a briefing note to all members of National Council agreement. This was agreed at the meeting and is included at Appendix 2 of these minutes.
12. Treasurers Report KL would be putting quarterly reports on the Treasurers page of the 41 Club website, for members to see what income and expenditure had been received.
KL reminded National Council that all expense claims had to be submitted by 20th December each year.
The Finance Committee would look at the Reserves Policy and make recommendations where necessary.
13. Comms and IT Report DM reported that the contract for the support and maintenance of CAS was soon to be finalised. Progress was being made with the new website.
14. Fellowship Report SJ welcomed MD1 and MD2 to the meeting. They, along with CM, gave a brief presentation on holding Conference 2025 in Aviemore. It was noted that Conference 2021 should have been held in Aviemore. The proposed date was 24-27 April 2025, with the theme being “Once Upon a Time”. All present were in favour of the bid (*Note: at the time of the meeting, the bid had still to be approved by Tangent Executive*)
Walking Weekend 2023. SJ had received a bid from AV to hold this in Alcester. It would use the Kings Court Hotel, at a cost of £85 per night.
15. International Report AV reported that our application to join 41er World had been turned down but would be discussed at a Zoom meeting of IROs in September.
Young Ambassador Programme (YAP) tours were available again and anyone who met the criteria could apply.
16. Membership – Approvals and Disaffiliations GL reported that local Okehampton Tablers had been introduced to JC and RH and had been featured in “Tabler” magazine.
Birthday cards continued to be sent out to those Tablers who had reached the age of 40, encouraging them to think about joining 41 Club.



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The last three years had seen more clubs affiliated than at any time since the 1980's.

There were two clubs to be affiliated – Sheffield (Region 10) and the AndyPandy's (Region 26)

Clubs to be disaffiliated:

- Wrekin (Region 14)
- Manchester and Stockport (Region 7)
- Wadebridge and District (Region 22)
- Walton and Weybridge (Region 24)
- Stone (Region 11)
- Haslemere (Region 24)
- Colchester XRT (Region 18)

17. Any Other Business None

18. Next Meeting Saturday 9th July 2022 at 11:00 am at the Stuart Hotel, Derby.

Signed:

Jim Conway – National President 2022-23

Dated:

9/7/22

Appendix 1 – Selection of National Council Liaison Officer

Introduction

National Council put forward a resolution to the Special General Meeting in October 2021 to determine how the National Councillors' Liaison Officer (NCLLO) would be selected. This resolution, with accompanying rationale, was as follows:

Amend Rule 6.2 to read: All members of the National Council (with the exception of the National President, National Vice-President, Immediate Past President and National Councillors' Liaison Officer) shall be elected for an initial three-year term at the Annual General Meeting and the service in that office is limited to that three-year term (whether consecutive or not) unless there is no candidate to replace that Council Member. If there is no candidate for his replacement, then the incumbent Councillor or Officer may stand for re-election for a period of one year, repeatable once if there is still no candidate for his replacement after the one-year extension of his term. The National Vice-President shall serve a period of one year prior to becoming National President.



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Add new Rule 6.9 as follows: The National Councillors' Liaison Officer shall serve on the National Board for a period of one year, commencing immediately after the AGM. The postholder shall be a current National Councillor, who has served at least two years in the role, and shall be selected by National Councillors immediately after the AGM. The postholder will be expected to serve for the whole year, even if his term as National Councillor is due to finish before the end of the year. If no suitable candidate is forthcoming, the National Board may co-opt as they see fit.

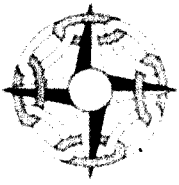
Rationale: For the past several years, the post of National Councillors' Liaison Officer has been an elected post at the AGM, with the outcome decided by the membership. This resolution seeks to revert to the previous arrangement whereby the National Councillors themselves select who will represent them at Board level and communicate with them the reasoning behind Board discussions and decisions.

The resolution was passed by the Special General Meeting. This now allows National Councillors to select their Liaison Officer from amongst themselves, with the postholder starting and finishing at successive Annual General Meetings.

Proposed Selection Process

The principle has been agreed by the wider membership, but the enabling process has yet to be agreed by National Council. The Administration Committee wish to make the following proposals:

1. The National Secretary shall seek nominations from eligible National Councillors in the last week of November each year. National Councillors who are eligible are those who will have completed two years on National Council by the date of the forthcoming AGM and are not otherwise due to stand down at that AGM.
2. National Councillors who wish to be considered should submit their nomination form to the National Secretary by 10th January each year. This nomination form should be countersigned by an official of the Councillor's own club, as with any other election to National Council or Board.
3. If there should be only one nomination received, that National Councillor will be the NCLO Elect, and will take his place at the AGM as a member of the incoming President's Board.
4. If there should be more than one nomination, there will be an election involving all incumbent National Councillors. This will be a secret ballot, organised by the National Secretary.



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Appendix 2 Canvassing and Self-Promotion in Elections for Contested Posts

At the Annual General Meeting each year, several positions on National Board fall vacant and are open to those eligible to stand for election. Rule 6.6 of our rules states that "Canvassing for support of nominations for office is prohibited save that a candidate may submit to the National Secretary for circulation by him an election address in such format as shall be approved by the National Council. The National Council shall decide if any prohibited canvassing has taken place in which event that candidate shall be disqualified from that election. The National Secretary shall circulate to all constituent clubs prior to the Annual General Meeting such relevant details of the candidates as shall be required by the National Council from time to time."

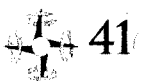
Candidates are invited to submit their nominations to the National Secretary within the period between asking for nominations and the submission deadline date. Prospective candidates may approach their club for endorsement of their candidacy. If there is more than one nomination by the deadline date, a contested election takes place. Difficulties have been encountered in recent years in determining what is acceptable practice within the letter and spirit of the rules on canvassing and self-promotion in the run up to the election, particularly with the widespread use of social media. These guidelines, approved by National Council, are intended to inform candidates what and what is not accepted practice prior to the election.

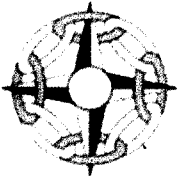
1. "Canvassing for support of nominations" (aka "prohibited canvassing") constitutes: -

- 1.1 a candidate asking for a Club to vote for him
- 1.2 any third party doing the same on behalf of a candidate and with the prior knowledge or consent of a candidate
- 1.3 a candidate shall not make disparaging remarks against another candidate

2. "Canvassing for support of nominations" shall not constitute: -

- 2.1 a candidate advising he is standing for office
- 2.2 a candidate responding to questions asked by members/clubs
- 2.3 normal social media posts or articles by a candidate (unless such posts or articles conflict with 1.1 or 1.2 above)





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The candidate who submits a nomination for a notified vacancy is invited to submit a manifesto of no more than 300 words, setting out why they consider themselves the best man for the post. This manifesto will be circulated to all constituent clubs in the agenda and order paper in advance of the meeting. The manifesto and photograph will also be printed in the Spring edition of the 41 Club magazine and newsletter. The magazine should be published and distributed 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

If there is to be a contested election, the National Secretary (or another Board member if the National Secretary is himself a candidate) will arrange an online session for the candidates whereby each candidate will be required to answer a predetermined series of questions in turn. The questions will be collated and posed by a suitably independent panel (such as a Past President and/or retired National Council member). Each candidate will be given the opportunity to answer 3-4 set questions, put to them one hour before, and will not hear the answers of the other candidate. Each Q&A session will be pre-recorded. This will give members an opportunity to see how well each candidate performs in response to specific questions relating to the position they are applying for.

If there is no contest for the post, the candidate will still be given an opportunity to take part in a Q&A session, so that membership will have an opportunity to meet the candidate.

Many candidates will have a presence on social media, and may continue to post, comment or react to any post which pertains to any aspect of 41 Club outside the election. For example, a candidate would be free to comment on a post relating to a Christmas Float, NSSW, 41 Club Connects or any other such activity. Candidates must not announce their candidacy on social media, nor take part in any post which refers to specific candidates, the election process, or the AGM.

Candidates may speak at National Council meetings which are open to all members, at the discretion of the National President. If they are currently a member of National Council, they may speak on matters pertaining to their current role.

Newsletter articles submitted by candidates will not be published in the monthly newsletter immediately prior to the election, unless such articles would normally be submitted as part of their current role. Any such articles submitted for publication will be held over until the next publication after the election, unless this would be detrimental to the effectiveness of the Association.

The National Secretary, in consultation with the National Honorary Solicitor, will be responsible for the interpretation and implementation of these guidelines.