



*The Napoleonic & Revolutionary War Graves Charity*

Registered Charity No: 1196849

Web: [www.nrwgc.com](http://www.nrwgc.com) | Twitter: @NRWGCharity

## **AGM Minutes**

**8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, National Army Museum & Online**

**18:00-19:30**

DRAFT AGM MINUTES – AWAITING APPROVAL AT THE NEXT AGM IN 2023.

1. Welcome from the Acting Chair (Zack White)
  
2. Acting Chair's Report (Zack White)
  - a. ZW outlined the process through which the charity had formed, from the first meeting of provisional trustees being held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021, with a constitution being drafted over subsequent meetings, and the application to the Charity Commission being submitted on 10<sup>th</sup> June
  - b. ZW explained that the anticipated six week timeline for the Charity Commission to process the application had actually taken 5 months, with the NRWGC's charity number (1196849) being received in November. As Peter Molloy would explain in the treasurer's report, an account could not be opened without a charity number. In the interim, the Charity held an online launch event on 19<sup>th</sup> October.
  - c. The process of opening a bank account should have taken four weeks, with the application being submitted in mid-November. However due to a catalogue of failures from the banking provider the charity received access to its account in the first week of August.
  - d. The Charity launched its membership officially on 8<sup>th</sup> August, and at the time of the AGM had 45 members: 29 from the UK, 7 within the EU, 7 in North America and 2 in Australia.
  - e. In the interim the trustees and committee members had done their utmost to maximise the time:
    - i. a volunteer programme had been launched to gather information on graves to assist in assessing which graves were in most urgent need of attention.



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- ii. Progress had been made on the Bones of Burgos project which meant assistance from individuals at Cranfield University had now been acquired
  - iii. Contact had been made with the authorities at Vianen in relation to the 83 soldiers from the 1790s who had been found in a mass grave in the town. Positive discussions on the burial of these remains were ongoing.
  - iv. The Charity has organised the Second War and Peace in the Age of Napoleon Conference – a major two day international conference hosted both in person at the National Army Museum and Online across the 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September.
  - v. An online talks programme had been prepared with monthly talks that are free for members and £5 for non-members.
  - vi. The committee were working on a 'study afternoons' concept, to be held quarterly.
  - vii. The Charity had begun producing an e-newsletter called 'Despatches' for its members
- f. ZW thanked all trustees and committee members for their tireless efforts in founding the charity, and particularly paid tribute to PM for his work as Treasurer

### 3. Vote to adopt the Constitution

- a. Proposer: Zack White
- b. Secunder: Ed Coss
- c. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions

### 4. Treasurer's Report (Peter Molloy)

- a. PM explained that the Charity's experiences in opening its account had been highly unsatisfactory, with the account not being opening until 13<sup>th</sup> July preventing the charity accepting membership subscriptions, donations and working on other fundraising activities until 8<sup>th</sup> August.
- b. PM explained that the charity therefore could not be said to have begun its financial activities until one month prior to the AGM with the result that an



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annual statement was not possible. After liaising with the Charity Commission on an acceptable course of action in these circumstances, the Charity Commission had agreed that the Charity's first financial submission would be due on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023, and would cover the first 13 months of the charity's financial activities. Thereafter reports would be submitted on a 12 month, calendar year basis.

- c. In the interim, a statement from the Treasurer to this effect would be placed on the Charity website to explain the absence of any accounts to date. Members would vote on whether they found this course of action appropriate.
- d. Vote to adopt Treasurer's statement in lieu of accounts for the Charity's first year.
  - i. Proposer: Peter Molloy
  - ii. Seconder: Zack White
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions

5. Vote to adopt Committee Frames of Reference

- a. Proposer: Sam Jolley
- b. Seconder: Liam Telfer
- c. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions

The AGM was paused at 18:40 upon arrival of the news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

AGM recommenced 18:50

1 minute silence held in memory of Queen Elizabeth II

6. Election of Trustees

- a. Candidate: Edward Coss
  - i. Proposer: Ewan Carmichael
  - ii. Seconder: Sam Jolley
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- b. Candidate: Marcus Cribb
  - i. Proposer: Sam Jolley
  - ii. Seconder: Alistair Campbell-Grieve



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- iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- c. Candidate: Beatrice de Graaf
  - i. Proposer: Marcus Cribb
  - ii. Seconder: Liam Telfer
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- d. Candidate: Catriona Kennedy (Not present, apologies sent in advance)
  - i. Proposer: Ed Coss
  - ii. Seconder: Sam Jolley
  - iii. Result: Vote in favour. One abstention. No votes against.
- e. Candidate: Sam Jolley
  - i. Proposer: Ed Coss
  - ii. Seconder: Marcus Cribb
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- f. Candidate: Peter Molloy
  - i. Proposer: Zack White
  - ii. Seconder: Ed Coss
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- g. Candidate: Zack White
  - i. Proposer: Ed Coss
  - ii. Seconder: Mark Thompson
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- h. Candidate: Katie White-Iribhogbe
  - i. Proposer: Sam Jolley
  - ii. Seconder: Ed Coss
  - iii. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions

## 7. Election of Committee Members

- a. Position: Chair
  - i. Candidate: Zack White
  - ii. Proposer: Mark Thompson
  - iii. Seconder: Luke Reynolds



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- b. Question from the floor (Ewan Carmichael): How would the trustees be able to hold the committee to account if trustees were filling positions on the committee?
  - i. ZW thanked Ewan for the question and explained that it was the board of trustees intention that a convention be established whereby only two trustees would serve on the committee at any one time (ie the Chair and the treasurer, both of whom had to be trustees by law). This would minimise any conflicts of interests, and ensure that a majority was maintained on the board of individuals who were not tied to the work of the committee.
  - ii. Ewan thanked ZW for the reply and stated that he was content with this as a means of resolving the query he had raised.
- c. Resumption of election of Chair. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions.
- d. Position: Treasurer
  - i. Candidate: Peter Molloy
  - ii. Proposer: Marcus Cribb
  - iii. Second: Ed Coss
  - iv. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- e. Position: Volunteer Coordinator
  - i. Candidate: Megan Kelleher (Not present, apologies sent in advance)
  - ii. Proposer: Liam Telfer
  - iii. Seconder: Alistair Campbell-Grieve
  - iv. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- f. Position: Online Communications
  - i. Candidate: Megan Kelleher
  - ii. Proposer: Mark Thompson
  - iii. Seconder: Ewan Carmichael
  - iv. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- g. Position: Projects Liaison
  - i. Candidate: Edward Zimmerman
  - ii. Proposer: Zack White
  - iii. Seconder: Ed Coss



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- iv. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- h. International Liaison
  - i. Candidate: Séverine Angers
  - ii. Proposer: Liam Telfer
  - iii. Secunder: Sam Jolley
  - iv. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- 8. Vote to adopt the Funding Eligibility Criteria Policy
  - a. ZW explained the rationale behind the contents of the document, which would govern how the charity determined whether to award funding for projects, and opened the floor to questions. As there were no questions or comments, the AGM proceeded to a vote.
  - b. Proposer: Zack White
  - c. Secunder: Liam Telfer
  - d. Result: Unanimous vote in favour. No abstentions
- 9. AOB
  - a. ZW highlighted that details of future events, including the online lecture series could be found both on the charity website and Eventbrite page.
  - b. ZW thanked everyone for their time, attending in challenging circumstances.
- 10. AGM closed 19:20

With thanks to Marcus Cribb for taking notes during the AGM for the benefit of the minutes.

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