



Chancery Bar Association

Annual Meeting held on 4th July 2018, at 4.30pm

Parliament Chamber

Item		Action/ Resolution
1.	<u>Attendance</u> 16 members were in attendance – their names appear on the attendance sheet.	
2.	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Amanda Hardy QC.	
3.	<u>Minutes</u> The minutes from 2017 were noted, corrected in 1 item, agreed and arranged to be signed.	RESOLVED
4.	<u>Results of Elections of Officers & Ordinary Members</u>	NOTED

The results of the election of Officers and ordinary members of the Committee for 2018 were announced as follows:

Chairman	Eason Rajah QC
Vice Chairman	Amanda Hardy QC
Hon. Treasurer	Anna Markham
Hon. Secretary	Michael Green QC
Seminar Secretary	Fenner Moeran QC

Amanda Tipples QC, Jonathan Davey QC and Oliver Phillips retired from Committee.

Ian Clarke QC was duly elected to the Committee unopposed. Richard Dew and Albert Sampson were duly elected by ballot.

The ordinary (non-Officer) members of the committee for 2018-19 are therefore as follows.

QC members of the Committee:

Lesley Anderson QC, Ian Clarke QC, Marcia Shekerdemian QC and Andrew Twigger QC.

Over 7 years' call members of the Committee:

Zoë Barton, Richard Dew, Joseph Curl, William East and Joseph Ollech.

Under 7 years' call members of the Committee:

Eleanor Holland, Oliver Marre and Albert Sampson.



5. Report from the Chairman NOTED

The Chairman produced a written report. She highlighted many of the Association's activities of the past 12 months by reference to the report, a copy of which is annexed.

6. Report from the Treasurer NOTED
AM reported that:

1. The accounts are in good order and there is a healthy cash balance.
2. Annual income and expenditure are stable. Results are better than expected, a small deficit having been budgeted for (the discrepancy being due not to inaccurate budgeting but particularly careful management and in particular FC negotiating better than expected venue rates for London seminars and events) as a result of which there was a general surplus again in 2017 amounting to £31,619.
3. Other significant items to note, so far as expenditure is concerned:
 - i. there was a deficit again on the Winter Conference but the Committee feels that this is a well established annual event that there is still considerable demand for;
 - ii. E&T expenditure, contrary to expectations reported at last year's AGM, reduced in 2017. However, notwithstanding FC's excellent negotiating record there remains good reason to think this will be a challenging area for the future, as suitable and affordable seminar venues are thin on the ground and we do not yet have any insight into what rates Lincoln's Inn will charge for its facilities once building works are complete;
 - iii. ChBA continues to participate in the Bar Council's International Grant Scheme, which allows younger members to apply for a grant to attend international conferences where, if awarded, a third of the cost is met by the BC, a third by the applicant and the last third by the ChBA. The Committee would like to see greater take-up of these grants by junior members;
 - iv. there was a healthy reserve currently standing at £347,840;
 - v. all payments to HMRC in respect of employers' PAYE and NI are in good order.
4. The draft accounts were approved by Committee, subject to one issue, on 27th June 2018. That issue was the presentation of the summer conference





figures, shown in a previous draft as a deficit but now, the matter having been taken up with our accountants, correctly presented as a net surplus for 2017 and a prepayment for 2018 (note 5). The corrected draft has been circulated to the Committee prior to this meeting.

Charitable donations

Members will have noted that there is a proposed resolution before the meeting to distribute £16,000 out of reserves between four charities, and another £10,000 to the Association's Social Mobility Initiative. The Committee has proposed this resolution following a suggestion made by a member at last year's AGM. The Chairman will speak to it in detail, but as Treasurer I am satisfied that it is a proper application of part of the Association's funds, accounting for less than the surplus generated in 2017 alone.

Therefore, the AGM was presented with the 2017 Unaudited Accounts prepared by Citroen Wells and invited to approve them, which it did unanimously.

RESOLVED

6. Subscriptions

AM asked the meeting to note that the Association intends to maintain annual subscriptions at the same level for the forthcoming year (£130 for London members, £80 for regional members). Under rule 73 of the constitution, a resolution is not required where no change is proposed. The Committee does not consider it necessary to increase subscriptions; on the other hand, it does not consider it appropriate to rely on the accumulated surplus (built up from subscriptions of both past and present members) so as to reduce subscriptions in money terms. By being held level for another year, the rates are decreasing in real terms, and reserves may need to be drawn on in future given the inherent uncertainty as to future venue costs.

NOTED

7. Proposed Resolution

(A) It is hereby **RESOLVED** that £26,000 out of the Association's General Reserve be allocated and paid as follows:

- a. As to £10,000 to be set aside for the establishment and ongoing support of the Social Mobility initiative to be undertaken by the Chancery Bar Association;
- b. As to £4,000 to be donated to the Bar Pro Bono Unit;
- c. As to £4,000 to the Barristers' Benevolent Association;
- d. As to £4,000 to the Free Representation Unit;
- e. As to £4,000 to LawCare.

AJT noted that at the 2014 Annual Meeting, it was proposed to distribute £10,000 of surplus to the BPBU and the BBA. At the time legal advice was taken to ensure that the Association was acting within the confines of its objects, and it was determined that it was doing so. The Association can afford to make these





donations; it engenders a large amount of goodwill; it fits in with the ChBA's objectives and the work it is currently doing.

AJT then explained the aims and objectives of the Social Mobility initiative, and that this money is to enable the Association to scope out the initiative.

The meeting asked no questions.

RESOLVED.

8. A.O.B.

Eason Rajah QC proposed that the AGM record its thanks to AJT for her service as chair. He described her time as chair as marked by her energy, drive, determination, hard work and by the huge amount of her time which she had given up to the Association's affairs regardless of detriment to her own practice. The Association had been highly active and effective under her chairmanship, as apparent from the Chairman's report. He singled out for mention one particular achievement – the transformation of the recorder competition – it could fairly be said this would not have happened but for the remarkable report she had written (and which was read by the highest levels of the judiciary) and her subsequent persistence in dealings with the judiciary and the JAC until change was secured. It was a truly remarkable achievement.

The proposal was unanimously approved by the AGM.

APPROVED

There being no further business the meeting ended at 5.09pm

Signed.....

E Rajah

Dated.....

4 July 2019.

