**DRAFT MINUTES OF NATIONAL PIGEON ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE BPSS/NPA NATIONAL SHOW ON SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER 2011**

The President opened the meeting at 10.45 am.

**PRESENT**
There were 43 members present + the President, Chairman & acting Secretary.
 **ITEM 1 - APOLOGIES**
Apologies were received from Graham Giddings, Gladys Graham, Paul Littlewood, Nick Dawyd & Nick Wright.

**ITEM 2 - OBITUARIES**
Graham Bates read out a tribute to those members who had passed away in the previous year followed by a minute's silence as a mark of respect.
 **ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM**
The minutes were proposed as a true record by Richard Henderson & seconded by Kevin Sparkes; carried unanimously.

**ITEM 4 - MATTERS ARISING**
There were no matters arising.
 **ITEM 5 - CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE AGM**
A letter from Brian Brock was read out, the content of which was noted, with a request it be referred to the first meeting of the National Committee in February. The Chairman agreed with Mr Brock & assured him it would be on the agenda.

**ITEM 6 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
This had been published in the NPA News Bulletin. The President added whilst it had been an honour to serve as President it had not been an easy term of office & the past 2 years had seen some troublesome & particularly difficult things to deal with. He congratulated Evan Murray on his chairmanship during these difficulties & stated, whilst he had a hard act to follow in his predecessor John Surridge, he had guided the committee admirably & with total impartiality. He finished by saying he hoped the difficulties of the past few years were now behind us.
Richard Henderson proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring President for his services & input which was echoed by all followed by a round of applause from all present.

**ITEM 7 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
This had also been published in the NPA News Bulletin. The Chairman added a vote of thanks to the retiring President for his kind words
and also his help, advice & guidance throughout his term of office assuring him he would be sadly missed at future meetings.
The Chairman went on to state he had been accused, as had the committee, of being anti-Pickering, an accusation he totally refutes. He also added that it was immaterial whether Pickering was the venue for the NPA National show or the AGM, it would still get the full backing of the NPA.
 **ITEM 8 - SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT** (read by Graham Bates in Graham Giddings absence)
Graham Giddings thanked Graham Bates for standing in for him. He hoped everyone liked this year's bulletin & found it informative but stated to continue to keep it interesting he needed input from the members, Show Secretaries & Breed Clubs. If anyone would like to contribute they can e-mail, write or ring & this would be a great help.
Membership for 2011 was 709 adult, partnerships & juniors. Rings sold were 33,010 & 1260 rings were transferred. This compared to 739 memberships, 34,550 rings sold & 1025 transfers in 2010 which is a little concerning.
There were no accounts to approve as the year ending 31st Dec 2010 were approved at the last AGM in February.
Memberships have been coming in thick & fast which is a good sign & all membership cards & rings will be sent out by first class post to arrive by January 10th.
The Secretary's report finished by stating he hoped everyone enjoyed the show & wished everyone a merry Xmas & an excellent breeding New Year.
Graham Bates commented the secretary had not given a number for new members i.e. not been a member in last 10 years.
 **ITEM 9 - ELECTION OF PRESIDENT 2012/2013**
The current vice-president Mrs Gladys Graham had declined the post of President due to health problems, this was fully understood & the meeting wished Gladys a speedy recovery.

Brian Brock proposed Mr David Barraclough, seconded by Richard Henderson
Graham Bated proposed Mr Gary Eaton, seconded by Brian Joyce.
After a show of hands David Barraclough was dually elected President with 19 votes to Gary Eaton's 14 and was congratulated by the retiring President Mr Elsdon.
 **ITEM 10 - ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT**
Graham Bates proposed Gary Eaton, seconded by Brian Joyce; carried unanimously.

**ITEM 11 - PRESENTATION of AWARDS by the PRESIDENT**
**Young Fancier-Hall of Fame-Master Breeder**
Master Oliver Hughes was the recipient of the "Young Fancier of the Year" award. Sadly Oliver was not present so Mr Eaton said he would present the award at Reading show.
Dennis Ison was the recipient of the “Hall of Fame” award & was duly presented with it by the President.
Messrs D&S Bramley & Jeff Davies were the recipients of the “Master Breeder” awards but unfortunately neither was present at the meeting.
The Chairman would present the Bramley's award at the Homer Club Show & Mark Rudd would present Jeff Davies award at his home.

**ITEM 12 - DECLARATION OF BALLOT RESULTS**
**Changes to C&R**
There were 87 papers returned with 80 in favour & 7 against There were 4 late papers which were void.
There was no vote required for the national committee this year as there were only 3 candidates for 3 positions. The Chairman commented he found this disappointing & hoped that more members would take an interest in the running of our hobby & put their names forward for future elections.

**ITEM 13 - ANY OTHER BUSINESS (only items specific to the AGM allowed)**
Dennis Ison stated it had been mentioned the NPA had been in existence for 125 years which was in fact incorrect, we have been ringing birds for 125 years.
Richard Henderson stated there was a rumour going round that the BPSS show will not be held at Pickering in 2012 & that it may not be held at all. On behalf of the BPSS he pointed out that the show hall is already booked & that there will be a BPSS show at Pickering in 2012. There will be some changes to the format as it is hoped to include a poultry section & possibly rabbits & cage birds. This in turn should attract more trade stands & sponsorship.
The President thanked Richard for laying the rumours to rest but stated this was probably not AGM business.
New President Mr Barraclough expressed his concern about a decline in the fancy & the rifts that seem to exist resulting in the boycotting of some shows by some fanciers & promised to address these issues during his presidency. The Chairman responded by stating it was the job of the National Committee to encourage & support all shows & fanciers in the breeding & exhibition of pigeons in every way & this we would continue to do. However we must understand that members have a freedom of choice.
Retiring President Mr Elsdon asked all present to ensure they had signed the attendance register then closed the meeting by handing over the chain of office to new President David Barraclough.

Meeting closed at 11.20am