

# Notice of the AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Museums Association will be held on Monday 4 October 2010 at 1700 at the Manchester International Conference Centre for the following purposes:

## A Apologies

## B Minutes

To consider and adopt the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on Monday 5 October 2009 at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London.

## C Museums Association 2009/10

To receive a report on the MA's activities for the year 2009/10.

## D Annual report of the Museums Association

To receive the Annual Report of the council for the year 2009/10.

## E Accounts of the Museum Association

To receive the accounts of the association together with the report of the auditors for the financial year 2009/10.

## F Report on financial position

To receive a report from the council on the estimated financial position and forecast in respect of current and future financial years.

## G Subscriptions

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Ordinary Resolution (see Note 1 to agenda).

That with effect from 1 April 2011 individual member subscription rates be increased to the following:

Salary	Fee
Less than £14,500	£65
£14,501 - £22,500	£85
£22,501 - £31,500	£111
£31,501 - £43,500	£133
£43,501 - £62,500	£164
£62,501 - £88,000	£185
Over £88,000	£209
Student, retired, unemployed, volunteer, member of governing body	£50
International	£136

## H

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Ordinary Resolution (See Note 1 to agenda).

That with effect from 1 April 2011 institutional member subscription rates be increased to the following:

Expenditure	Fee
Less than £29,000	£69
£29,001 - £140,000	£144
£140,001 - £280,000	£290
£280,001 - £850,000	£580
£850,001 - £1,700,000	£810
£1,700,001 - £5,600,000	£1,389
Over £5,600,000	£1,739
Federations, specialist groups and friends' organisations	£50
International	£169

## I Auditors

To appoint Sayer Vincent as the auditors to the association until the conclusion of the next general meeting of the association at which accounts are laid before members and to authorise the council to fix the remuneration of the auditors.

## J Adoption of the Museums Association's revised Articles of Association

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Special Resolution (see Note 2 to agenda):

- to approve and adopt, with effect from 1 April 2011, the new Articles of Association.

## K Changes to the structure of the Museums Association's governing body

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Special Resolution (see Note 2 to agenda):

- to add the following definition to Article 1 of the Articles of the Association:  
Nothing in these Articles shall authorise an application of the property of the charity for purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.
- to add the following articles to the Articles of Association:

81. A board ('the board') shall be constituted prior to 31 March 2011. The board shall be comprised of:

81.1. The president;

81.2. Seven elected trustees elected by ballot of the members to hold office to 31 March 2014; and

81.3. Four appointed trustees appointed by the president and the elected trustees.

82. The board shall appoint a vice-president from among their number prior to 31 March 2011.

83. The procedure to be followed for holding the ballot to elect elected trustees including the procedure for, and any restrictions on, the nomination for election as an elected trustee shall be prescribed by regulations made by the council.

84. The president and elected trustees shall determine the terms of office of the appointed trustees and vice-president and establish such procedure for their appointment as they think fit.

85. The board shall have no powers, duties and responsibilities under the Act prior to 1 April 2011.

## L To announce the results of the council elections

# Notes to the agenda

## 1 Items G and H

All bands and rates have 3 per cent applied to last year's values. Annual inflation, as measured by the retail price index, is over 5 per cent and the MA's costs are rising at this time, but a 3 per cent rise is deemed more appropriate for members in the current economic climate.

## 2 Items J & K

### Changes to governance and membership dialogue at the Museums Association

Items J & K on the AGM agenda herald a major restructuring of the MA's governance and this will be accompanied by a new system for maintaining and improving dialogue with members throughout the UK.

### Governance

The proposed new constitution (attached to the agenda) replaces the current 39 person council with a 12 person board. Council has long recognised that, in trying to have a body representing all sides of the membership, it has been impossible to effectively manage the MA. It is therefore proposing a new smaller board. The key features of the new arrangements are:

- eight members of the board directly elected by the full membership
- the president elected by the full membership
- four further board members nominated by the elected board members.

The new structure was put together after a membership consultation, meetings with similar organisations and detailed work by an experienced working group. Council believes the new board will be more 'fit for purpose' in its role of overseeing the MA's affairs on behalf of the membership and will produce greater accountability and transparency. It is envisaged that the four nominated board members will be appointed to complement the eight elected board members to provide a board composition that reflects the membership – including different types of museums, senior and junior staff, different parts of the UK and members of governing bodies.

Item J brings in the new constitution and Item K enables a new board to be elected prior to 1 April 2011.

### Dialogue

The MA is also keen to strengthen its dialogue with members and will be founding a number of new initiatives alongside the new governance structure. These include:

*Members' meetings at least four times a year*  
These will be free of charge meetings to be held around the country – guaranteeing a meeting in each nation and region at least once every three years.

They will provide a platform for members to hear about and comment on MA initiatives and services as well as to discuss matters of national or regional interest. Other meetings, workshops and presentations will also be held before and after the members' meeting – working with local members and regional organisations.

*Twelve MA 'correspondents' across the country*  
The MA will advertise, interview and appoint a member in each nation and region to be its 'correspondent'. These posts will be voluntary and duties will take up no more than one day per month. The correspondents will be the MA's link to the nations and regions, providing information and intelligence as well as liaison with regional and national bodies. The enhanced MA website will have separate pages for each nation and region to help exchange information and news.

With these initiatives, the MA aims to raise the quality of its governance and membership dialogue to the highest and most responsive standard. They will provide much-needed clarity and purpose and ensure the MA has a more fruitful and accountable discourse with its membership. In short, they will bring the MA's representation into the 21st century.

Members are encouraged to look at the new constitution and accept council's recommendation and vote for the changes either on the day or, if unable to attend, by voting by the proxy voting form attached.

*Note: If you are not attending conference but will be attending the AGM, please arrive at the conference centre 15 minutes before the start of the AGM and collect a voting card from Georgie Stagg on the registration desk. If you would prefer your voting card to be posted to you, email [georgie@museumsassociation.org](mailto:georgie@museumsassociation.org) giving your membership number and postal address.*

