



Dear Guild Secretary,

The governing body of the AGWSD, the GPC, has considered the impact that the coronavirus may have on the attendance of the AGWSD AGM scheduled for Saturday 18 April. As there is much uncertainty as to future government directives, and taking into account the health and safety of our guild members, the GPC are in agreement that the AGM meeting at Conway Hall is replaced by a 'postal' voting system, which is already in place for those delegates unable to attend an AGM.

These are exceptional circumstances and ones not covered by the constitution. The GPC hope that all guilds are in agreement with the decision.

Postponing the AGM was considered, as constitutionally it has to be held between 1st March and 31st August with 30 voting delegates present for the meeting to be quorate. However, given the uncertainty there maybe regarding the national position during that time, inconvenience for Guild members having to alter plans, and the need for JEC and GPC nominations to be agreed sooner rather than later, for those committees to continue to run effectively, a change to a 'postal' AGM was considered to be the only option.

We are asking that the reports are either accepted/queried, with an abstention option, as we would at a face to face AGM. Comments or queries will be answered as soon as possible.

In a normal situation the Propositions and Points for Discussion are open for comment at the AGM. We ask that each guild discuss these within their membership and come to agreement as to how they will vote on each Proposition. The Diss Guild Point for Discussion is just that, a discussion point, views will be welcomed.

To give time for all guilds to have had the discussions with their members and to have made their return, by post or by email to Mary England, AGWSD Secretary, the closing date will be midnight on 30 April 2020.

A new voting form is attached, it includes a sentence asking for the agreement of the guilds to the change of the AGM meeting for this year, i.e. that the face to face meeting is replaced by a postal/email system. Please return your guild's completed form to Mary England to arrive by midnight on 30 April 2020.

The results of the 'postal' AGM will be emailed to all guilds as soon as possible after the 30 April.

Delegates who have already purchased their travel tickets will be refunded on production of the relevant receipts. These may be claimed using the delegate claim form with a copy of the ticket, receipt. Please send to Mary England who will arrange for payments to be made to the claimant. A claim form is also attached to this email.

Please do email your comments and queries as well as the completed forms to Mary England, secretary@wsd.org.uk, we will endeavour to answer them as quickly as possible. The comments, queries and replies will be collated and made available.

Thank you to all AGWSD Guilds and their members for their support.

Janet Crowther

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