

National Chairman, Paul Hands, opened the 15th AGM & Annual Conference at 10:00am, welcomed Delegates and thanked them for their participation. Departed colleagues and friends were remembered with a minute's contemplation and a special reflection in memory of Ron Whittaker, former member of the Executive Committee.

Dorothy Hanna, Chairman of the Conference Supervisory Committee (CSC) confirmed the voting strength as 30 Delegates, with 3 proxy votes. This met the requirement for Quorum. In the early stages of the meeting additional Delegates joined and the eventual voting strength was 38 Delegates, representing 27 Branches.

No written questions on the 2024 Annual Report & Accounts were submitted.

No Emergency Motions and no amendments to Resolutions were received.

There were 5 Motions submitted to Conference. Motions 2,3 & 4 were ruled Out of Order by the Conference Supervisory Committee. The Chairman of the Conference Supervisory Committee advised Conference that there was nothing wrong with the "spirit" of these Motions but the wording of each unfortunately meant that the Conference Supervisory Committee reluctantly had no alternative but to rule them Out of Order under Regulation 13.2.

The Chairman suspended the Annual Conference and formally opened the 2025 AGM.

The minutes of the 2024 AGM / Conference were approved. The following resolutions were considered and carried.

Resolution A - Ordinary Resolution - Carried

Acceptance of the Annual Report and Accounts for 2024 as printed

Resolution B - Ordinary Resolution - Carried

Renewing the appointment of FKCA Ltd as auditors for NFOP

Resolution C - Ordinary Resolution - Carried

Appointment of Directors

Under Article 9.2 the following were appointed as members of the Executive Committee for 2025/26: Steven Turner, Vic Jeffries, Alok Agrawal, Paul Hands, Suraiya Kassamally, John Hearn, James Nelson and Kavita Gulati

The following Resolutions were also brought to the AGM by the Executive Committee.

1. Ordinary Resolution 1 (simple majority to pass) - Carried

This AGM agrees that the Executive Committee is given the discretion to increase individual subscriptions by 25p per month and joint subscriptions by 10p per month with effect from 1st January 2026.

After formally proposing the Resolution on behalf of the Executive Committee, the CEO provided the AGM with some context. He advised that the decision to request members to approve an increase in subscriptions was taken with reluctance by the Executive Committee. However, on the basis that by January 2026 it will be 4 years since the last increase, whilst expenditure is increasing on an annual basis, it was considered responsible financial stewardship to request an increase in subscriptions. In addition to this, the proposed increases are modest.

There was little debate on or opposition to the Resolution from Delegates. A question was raised regarding branch rebate payments and whether or not the increase in subscriptions would be reflected in a corresponding increase in the level of rebate. The Chairman confirmed that any increase in the level of rebate requires a separate resolution to the AGM

Ahead of formal Proposing and Seconding of Resolutions 2,3 & 4, the CEO again provided the context for bringing these to the AGM. The Resolutions ask the AGM to approve proposed amendments to Regulation 5.5 in the Memorandum and Articles which address contradictions and inconsistencies relating to the participation of Social Branches at AGM / Conference.

There were no questions or discussion from Delegates relating to Resolutions 2,3 & 4. These were formally proposed and seconded by members of the Executive Committee and all were **carried**.

2. Ordinary Resolution 2 (simple majority to pass) - Carried

This AGM agrees to amend Regulation 5.5 b (Social Groups) as follows:-

From

5.5b Hold at least one meeting per year which will be a Branch AGM

To

5.5b Hold at least one meeting per year which will be a Branch AGM. At this meeting, a member will be nominated to Chair the meeting.

3. Ordinary Resolution 3 (simple majority to pass) - Carried

This AGM agrees to amend Regulation 5.5 c (Social Groups) as follows:-

From

5.5c Be eligible to send up to 2 Delegates to the AGM / Conference with accommodation provided by Headquarters

To

5.5c Be eligible to send up to 2 Delegates to the AGM / Conference with accommodation provided by Headquarters. Delegate nomination forms should be signed by the person nominated to act as the point of contact with Headquarters and the nominated Chair of the meeting.

4. Ordinary Resolution 4 (Simple majority required to pass) - Carried

This AGM agrees to amend Regulation 5.5 d (Social Groups) as follows:-

From

5.5d Be eligible to participate in ballots for the Executive Committee and other Committees.

To

5.5d Be eligible to participate in ballots for the Executive Committee and other Committees but not eligible to nominate a member of the Group for election to the Executive Committee and other Committees.

Appointments for 2025/26

Conference Supervisory Committee	
Dorothy Hanna	Northern Ireland
Geoffrey Hadnam	Peterborough
Vinay Gulati	Harrow & Wembley
Audit & Risk Committee	
Kenneth Rees	British Steel
Peter Hedgcock	Northern Ireland
Appeals Committee	

David Boyd	British Steel
Paul Holmes	Cambridge
Elizabeth Godwin	Reading

The Chairman closed the AGM at 11:00am and reconvened the Annual Conference

Five Motions were submitted to Conference. Motions 2,3 and 4 were ruled Out of Order by the Conference Supervisory Committee under Regulation 13.2.2

- **Motion 1 - Carried**
This Conference directs the Executive Committee to arrange that NFOP lobbies Government etc. to maintain provision of affordable pensioner transport concessionary fares and extend these from buses only to include rail transport concessionary fares- rail fares being presently prohibitively expensive for many pensioners - **403 British Steel Branch**
- **Motion 2 – Ruled out of order**
Regulation 13.2.2 – outside objects of NFOP
- **Motion 3 – Ruled out of order**
Regulation 13.2.2 – outside objects of NFOP
- **Motion 4 – Ruled out of order**
Regulation 13.2.4 – deals with more than one issue
- **Motion 5 - Carried**
This Conference directs the EC, in conjunction with other organisations, to campaign to make it illegal for traders to refuse to accept Sterling cash in payment for “over the counter” transactions. Traders could continue to indicate a preference to be paid by credit card or debit card, but not to the exclusion of accepting cash - **267 Northern Ireland Branch**

NFOP Welfare Fund AGM

The Welfare Fund AGM opened with a report by the Fund Secretary, June Lee, as printed in the Annual Report and Accounts 2024. She began by thanking all those members who support the Welfare Fund by contributing to the 1001 Club and to Branches that had made donations to the Fund in the last year.

The Fund Secretary advised that in 2024 only 4 applications were received and it is a matter of great disappointment and frustration that the Welfare Fund was again undersubscribed. This was despite continuous and ongoing efforts to promote the Welfare Fund in the NFOP Magazine, e Newsletter, website and in General Branch Notes. A number of enquiries and requests for application forms did not ‘transmit’ into applications despite the efforts of members of the Head Office team in following these up.

In 2024 grants were paid in three cases, totalling £2,473.95. No outstanding cases were carried over from 2023.

The Fund Secretary finished her report by appealing to all Branches to promote the Welfare Fund in their meetings and in their Branch Notes. She also acknowledged the support of her fellow Trustees and the staff at Head Office during 2024.

There were no comments or debate from Delegates on the Welfare Fund's Secretary's Report. The Chairman then moved to the vote on the Report and Accounts of the Welfare Fund for 2024. These were Accepted.

June Lee is standing down as Secretary of the NFOP Welfare Fund. The Chairman acknowledged the role June has played over many years and thanked her for her tireless and selfless support on behalf of members.

The Chairman closed the Welfare Fund AGM and reconvened Conference.

Certificates of Merit

Since the 2024 AGM / Conference, Certificates of Merit have been awarded to the following members:

Peter & Barbara White – Joint Certificate (185 Gloucestershire)

Michael Moloney – (185 Gloucestershire)

Chris Cherry – (185 Gloucestershire)

Close of Conference 2025

The Chairman thanked Delegates, Dorothy Hanna Conference Supervisory Committee Chair; Fiona Gardiner and Matthew Boyd of Connect PA for their 'behind the scenes' work on the presentation of the AGM / Conference; Conal O'Gorman from BC Technologies; Tara Aldwin, Foxley Kingham Chartered Accountants, and the staff team at NFOP.

The CEO proposed a vote of thanks to National Chairman, Paul Hands, for chairing the AGM / Conference, for all the work he does throughout the year on behalf of NFOP and for his valuable guidance and support on an ongoing basis.

