



WSRA Reform Group

UPDATE

16 May 2015

Appalling behaviour by Trustees continues!

Dear WSRA Members

Thank you to all of you who submitted proxies or came to last Sunday's EGM in person. The actions of the WSRA Trustees continue to be appalling, and the Reform Group are meeting this weekend to decide what to do next.

A reminder that the 5 votes at **last Sunday's EGM** were recorded by the WSRA as:

No confidence	1178 For,	1127 Against (Won)
Review of WSRA	1317 For,	1010 Against (Won)
Removal of David Williams	1124 For,	1136 Against (Lost)
Removal of Peter Chidezey	1086 For,	1141 Against (Lost)
Removal of Nick Nichols	1120 For,	1120 Against (Tied)
(but lost when David Williams exercised his casting vote 'against'.)		

After the 'No confidence motion was passed, David Williams told the meeting the following:

"From my point of view I have no intention of continuing. I am sure that will please many people greatly and that is probably all I need to say on that. Therefore it is not in my view up to me to be making the decisions as to who should be on the board following my departure. **I believe that that should be a matter for those trustees who remain and that will not include me.** And it would be morally wrong for me to be somebody inflicting other trustees on them."

(This is taken from a recording of the EGM made by Dr David Randles)

After hearing this statement, a number of folks at the EGM abstained in the vote to remove David Williams, believing that he had already resigned.....

The Trustees met on Wednesday 13 May. At that meeting, by votes of all 6 remaining Trustees other than Ian Coleby, the Trustees voted for Peter Chidezey (who was vice-Chairman) to become Chairman, and David Williams (who was Chairman) to become vice-Chairman, despite what he told the EGM.

As a response to a vote of no confidence, and a series of votes in which Trustees retained their positions by the width of a sheet of paper, members may think that the above game of 'musical chairs' is contemptuous to the concerns of the members.

However, it seems clear that **the votes were, in fact, wrongly recorded.** After the Nick Nichols vote, one member spoke up to say that he was holding his wife's proxy vote (to cast as he chose in the meeting) but despite raising this several times, it appears he was not allowed to cast that second vote. Other members then spoke up to say they were in the same situation. Despite calls for the vote to be re-taken, David Williams closed the meeting.

The Reform Group believe that there are also other irregularities in the way the proxy votes have been recorded, sufficient to alter the very narrow margins by which the votes to remove David Williams, Peter Chidzey and Nick Nichols were lost.

Trustee Ian Coleby also thought the members would have no confidence in the recorded votes. We attach his personal statement about what happened to him this week when he attempted to examine them.....

We think his account stands on its own, but we trust that you will be appalled as we are.

The Reform Group are meeting this weekend to decide what to do next, and in particular, what action to take between now and the WSRA AGM in July. The Trustees' recent behaviour has been SO appalling, that there is cause for optimism about the coming together of members to put matters right hereafter.

We urge supporters to do three things:

1. Maintain your WSRA membership at least until the AGM in July to ensure you continue to have a say.
2. If you are as appalled by the Trustees' actions as we are, e-mail them to say so. The best way is to send your e-mail to Keith Sandford, WSRA Administrator at wsra@btconnect.com and ask him to send it on to the WSRA Trustees and Manager.
3. Wait to hear how the Reform Group intend to take matters forward. We will be in touch again in the coming week.

WSRA Reform Group

THANK YOU for your continuing support.....spread the word

www.wsra-action.org