

Proposal 1

That the following section of item 4.6 of the Constitution “That the owners and tenants of property containing caves have the right to grant or withhold access.” be amended to “That any rights held by the owners or tenants of property or mineral rights, to grant or withhold access, be respected.”

Purpose: To give effect to the resolution passed at the 2016 AGM

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Comment: It is understood that if the Electoral Reform Society is used to conduct the ballot their charge will be approx doubled (ie £10-12,000) as the requirement is for two ballots to be conducted.

Should this resolution be passed then it is further proposed that the Constitution be amended as follows:

Proposal 2

who add a Section 8.16: ‘8.16 An Individual or Honorary member (the 'voter') who is eligible to vote at a General Meeting may choose to appoint a proxy to vote for them. This proxy (the 'nominee') must be another Individual or Honorary member who is also eligible to vote. The form of proxy, determined by National Council, will be provided with the notice of the meeting. The voter must provide the completed form of proxy to the Recorder at least 7 days for any General Meeting before the relevant meeting excepting an Emergency General Meeting where 48 hours shall be sufficient. Voters may indicate how they wish their nominee to vote or allow their nominee discretion. Council is empowered to limit the number of voters who may be represented by each individual nominee to as few as two, excepting the Chair who shall have no such limit (or the maximum number of voters may be represented by each individual nominee is limited to two). Proxy voting is not available to Group Members.

Purpose: To give effect to the resolution passed at the 2016 AGM

Proposal 3

clause 5.1.b to read

Constitutionally established National Bodies (hereinafter referred to as Constituent Bodies); constitutionally established caving, mining and other related Clubs; constitutionally established Regional Caving Councils; Cave Rescue Organisations and Access Controlling Bodies, hereinafter known as Group Members when referred to collectively.

In 6.2, 6.4, 7.2 the words “National Body” or “National Bodies” be replaced with “Constituent Body” or “Constituent Bodies”

Purpose: To correct the anomaly whereby what are generally referred to as Constituent Bodies are referred to as National Bodies in the constitution

Proposal 4

Clause 6.1 to read

The Association shall have the following officers: a Council Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer together with the Chairmen of the Standing Committees (Section 7), who shall be elected from the membership of the Association at an Annual General Meeting, by a show of hands of those present who are eligible to vote. Here the two house voting system outlined in clause 8.9 will not apply. Each officer shall serve for a term of three years from the AGM. One third of Officers' posts in turn shall be eligible for election or re-election each year and those elected shall serve for a term of three years from the AGM.

Purpose: To avoid the potential impasse of one house voting for one candidate and the second house voting for another

Proposal 5

Clause 6.3 to read

Representatives from the classes of Individual and Group Membership shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting, by a show of hands of those present who are eligible to vote. Only Individual and Honorary Members shall vote in the election of an Individual Member's Representative and only Group Members who are not entitled to appoint a representative to Council under clause 6.4 shall vote in the election for a Group Membership Representative. Each representative shall serve for a term of two years from the AGM. Here, the two house system outlined in clause 8.9 will not apply.

Purpose: To avoid the potential impasse of one house voting for one candidate and the second house voting for another

Proposal 6

In Clause 6.15 the words "The post of President shall run for a period of one year from the Annual General meeting" be amended to "The post of President shall run until a new President is elected".

Purpose: To avoid the need to re-elect a President at every AGM

Proposal 7

Clause 9 Procedure for Postal Ballots be redesignated “Procedure for Ballots”

Clause 9.1 be amended to read

A constitutional amendment adopted by a General Meeting will require ratification by a ballot.

Clause 9.2 be amended to read

The General Meeting may refer any other successful motion that it deems appropriate, for ratification by a ballot. The General Meeting shall instruct the Executive to arrange such a ballot and shall specify any wording for the ratification of the motion and associated material, as the General Meeting considers necessary. The Executive may add additional associated material as it thinks fit. The ballot shall be held as soon as is reasonably practicable after the General Meeting. The ballot will normally be conducted as an online ballot and if so shall be issued to all members entitled to vote who have also elected to receive communications by e-mail. National Council shall ensure sufficient time is given from the dispatch of the papers to the closing date, normally one month or more, for receipt of returns. The counting of the votes shall be conducted as for a General Meeting.

In Clause 13.3 the word “postal” be deleted.

Purpose: To avoid the costs associated with a postal ballot