**Notes of AIUK GTF Meeting 28 September 2014**

1. **Present –** Malcolm Dingwall-Smith, Naomi Hunter, Sheila Banks. Joining by phone – Sarah O’Grady, Chris Ramsey and latterly Hannah Perry.
2. **Apologies –** Hannah Perry, Peter Pack, Karen Wagstaff, Tim Hancock, Clive Briscoe, Tom Hedley
3. **Items for consideration for inclusion in membership consultation**
   1. BWB Report

* 3.5. Minimum age of directors
* Reduce the age a person can become a Director from 18 to 16.
  + **GTF would like this question included in the consultation**
* 3.9. Numbers required for calling an EGM
  + Controversial. Not recommend changing this to a higher level, unless there is a need to.
  + After a vote, 2 no/3 yes – **GTF would like this question included in the consultation**
* 3.10. Timelines for calling general meetings
  + Not for the consultation, the GTF will take a view and make a recommendation to the board
  + **Re-visit at a later date**
* 3.13. Maximum term for Chairs
  + Integrated into the term of office for Directors see 28.3
  + Parking specific issue for later, depending on the consultation results, GTF will make a recommendation to the Board
* 3.19. 60 day notice for resolutions
  + This 60 notice timeframe enables groups to meet and make recommendations
  + **GTF does NOT recommend including this question in the consultation**
* 4.1. Voting rights for all members/conflict of interest
  + Conflict of interest for voting - After a vote, 2 yes/3 no – **GTF does NOT recommend including this question in the consultation**
  + This issue is unclear. May visit at a later date, if GTF may want to make a recommendation to the Board.
  1. Memorandum and Articles of Association
* 12. Arrangements for EGMs – qualifying period for speakers; ~~threshold for calling~~
  + People should demonstrate commitment to AIUK, but it could be seen as entryism.
  + There was a suggestion this should be 12 months, but there was discussion about whether this is a) too long b) would restrict democracy.
  + This would affect people have been involved, but not taken up membership, who donate, or are affiliated to a student group, or a Trade Union.
  + A thorny minor issue.
  + **GTF does NOT recommend including this question in the consultation**
* 19.3. Board reports to AGM – right to raise questions
  + GTF should make a recommendation to the Board. **Not for consultation**
  + Bring back to November meeting
* 23. Voting at AGM – use of card vote/inclusion of proxy votes; electronic/remote voting; weighted votes etc.
  + This is a controversial issue, and is the crux of the democratic nature of AI and how members make decisions.
  + Members should feel able to vote on the issues, even if they are not at the AGM.
  + ote by show of cards is not an accurate representation/measure of the vote, as it is the chairs judgement as to what is a single/group vote.
  + There are significant issues in this area. We must consult on this issue
  + There is also a broader question that needs fully explored. NCVO will also benchmark against other membership organisations, and we should assess their recommendations.
  + Weighted votes – should be part of the wider process. Could be increased, i.e. higher than currently set.
  + The focus groups should be the sounding board for the voting system
  + **GTF would like this question included in the consultation**
  + **Also need to look at how the voting structure works for all members, whether they are at the AGM or not**
  + **The GTF will discuss at a later date, and make recommendations to the Board.**
* 23.4. Improper behaviour
  + The AGM acts as a referee if someone is out of line
  + It’s a legal clause, not about a procedural motion
  + Not a major issue
  + **GTF does NOT recommend including this question in the consultation**
* 26 Reserved seats on Board
  + The composition of the Board should be looked at.
  + **GTF would like this question included in the consultation**
* 27.1.3. Qualifying period for Directors
  + **GTF would like this question included in the consultation,** looking at the makeup of the Board to include qualifying period of AIUK membership, for both Directors and co-opted Directors.
* 27.1.4. Other pre-condition for Directors
  + **The GTF will discuss at a later date.**
* 28.3. Term of office for Directors
  + **GTF would like this question included in the consultation**
* 28.9. Qualifying period for nominators of Directors
  + **The GTF will discuss at a later date.**
* 29. Membership qualification for co-opted Directors
  + Same as 27.1.3
* 29.3. Term of office for co-opted Directors
  + Should the co-opted Director be elected at the next AGM, or at a certain point as set out?
  + **GTF would like this question included in the consultation**
  + Links to 28.3
* 29.5. Filling ad-hoc vacancies
  + If just for a couple of months, or 1 vacancy, might not want to fill the vacancy.
  + If there is a major issue, i.e. 10 people leave, should be an election to fill the posts.
  + In catastrophic situations, an EGM can be called.
  + **GTF does NOT recommend including this question in the consultation**
  + Lower level issue

1. Others

* Membership qualifying period for submitting resolutions to general meetings
* Membership qualifying period for speaking on resolutions at general meetings
  + Issues of entryism issue – see 12.
  + Should ensure people can get involved if they wish.
  + After a vote, 2 agree/3 disagree – **GTF does NOT recommend including this question in the consultation**
  + Could come up at a later date, **the GTF could discuss at a later date.**
* Representativeness of AGM
  + Not too sure what this really means, so we cannot make a recommendation about this either way.
    - Is this a question about ‘do members believe that they, via the AGM process, should be the decision makers with regards to policy’?
    - Or about the wider membership engagement at the AGM?
  + **This should be discussed at a later date, and the GTF will make a recommendation to the Board.**
* Resolution process at GM – amendments; working parties; contradictory resolutions
  + **GTF would like this considered in the focus groups, and in the wider consultation if appropriate.** Could be included as a question for people who have been to an AGM.
  + This is a fundamental issue that is not easy to resolve.
  + Different ways to submit amendments. Amendments could be sent in before the AGM, so if people want to proxy vote, then they can vote on the amendment and the Resolution.

**Comments not in bold are points raised during discussion and do not represent an agreed position of the GTF.**

**- The GTF understand that the consultation will involve both an on-line survey and in-depth individual and/or group interviews and the way in which each point recommended for consultation is included in that consultation will depend on the nature and complexity of the issue**