

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



# North East England Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting

I am pleased to invite you to the twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the North East England Chamber of Commerce.

To maximise the opportunities for members throughout the region to engage with our AGM this will take place as a hybrid event with the majority of members able to join online.

You will find the AGM Notice and voting details set out in this document. This includes a Quick Vote facility to support the Board's recommendations and the option of appointing a representative to vote on your behalf.

As a member of the Chamber, you own a stake in this unique organisation. It is important to ensure that you have a say in how it is run on your behalf.

Voting will take place online following the success of last year's format. Online voting maximises engagement with members and ensures more members can cast their vote.

If you are able to attend the AGM you can book online at [www.neechamber.co.uk/events](http://www.neechamber.co.uk/events), if not, do your vote online. My colleagues and I look forward to seeing you very soon.

Best wishes,



David Langley  
Chief Operating Officer & Company Secretary

[Book here](#)

[Vote here](#)

# Formal notice

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (“Meeting”) of North East England Chamber of Commerce (“the Chamber”) will be held on Zoom on 29 June 2022 at 2:00pm.

You will be asked to consider and vote on the following resolutions which will be proposed as ordinary resolutions and special resolutions (as indicated):

## **ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS**

- 1.** To accept the notice convening the Annual General Meeting.
- 2.** To accept apologies for absence.
- 3.** To approve the minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting of the Chamber held on Thursday 21 September 2021.
- 4.** To receive accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 (attached). A full set of Financial Statements is included in the Chamber Annual Report 2021 and they can also be viewed online by clicking [here](#).
- 5.** To re-appoint Azets (formerly MHA Tait Walker) as auditors to hold office from the conclusion of the meeting until the conclusion of the next general meeting of the Chamber at which accounts are laid and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration.

**6.** Pursuant to article 14.7 of the Articles to appoint for a 2-year term:

As President  
Andrew Haigh (Newcastle Building Society)

As Vice President  
Deborah Walton (Palintest)

As Chair of the South of Tyne, Durham and Wearside committee  
Natasha McDonough (MMC)

As South of Tyne, Durham and Wearside committee representative  
Kay Carrick (St Cuthbert’s Hospice)

As Elected Member  
Liz Mayes (The Common Room)

## **BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL**

David Langley  
SECRETARY DATE: 20 May 2022  
Registered Office: Aykley Heads Business Centre, Durham DH1 5TS

Note: A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting convened by the above notice is entitled to appoint another person as his proxy to attend and to exercise all or any of his rights and to speak and vote at this meeting. A form of proxy is available on the online AGM voting form available [here](#).

Completion of the proxy does not preclude a member from subsequently attending and voting at the meeting in person if he or she so wishes.

# Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting

## 21 September 2021 09:30 - 11:30

Meeting held at Beacon of Light, Sunderland.

### 1. Present:

L Moody OBE President  
J Marshall Chairman  
D Langley Chief Operating Officer

Together with 108 attendees including Chamber members and members of the Council, joining the event

### 2. Welcome

Lesley Moody welcomed everybody and mentioned that unfortunately James Ramsbotham could not be here which would have been his last AGM as CEO as his mother had passed away and extended condolences on behalf of everybody. The newly released corporate video was then shown and Lesley commented that it was informative and shows the services and support the Chamber gives to businesses. She thanked the sponsors of the AGM then asked that the notice convening the AGM is taken as read

### 3. Apologies

Apologies were taken as read.

### 4. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 06 August 2020 were approved as a true record.

### 5. Accounts

It was proposed that the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020, previously available online as part of the AGM notice, be approved. There being no questions the accounts were unanimously approved.

### 6. Appointment of auditors

The resolution to appoint MHA Tait Walker as auditors to hold office from the conclusion of the meeting until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Chamber, at which accounts are laid and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration, was proposed and unanimously approved.

### SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

The next two resolutions are special resolutions requiring a 75% majority of those voting.

### 7. Articles of association

The resolution is to accept the draft articles of association, produced and circulated with all papers to this meeting, attached to this meeting notice, be adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing Articles of Association. This was unanimously approved

Lesley Moody handed over to John Marshall for resolution 7.

### 8. Election of President

Notwithstanding the terms of the New Articles, the term of office of the Current President of the Chamber be extended from two years to three years as if article 14.7.3(b) of the New Articles did not apply to such term of office of the current President of the Chamber only, was proposed and unanimously approved and Lesley Moody was re-appointed as President.

John Marshall handed back to Lesley Moody.

## 9. Chair remuneration

In accordance with section 239 of the Companies Act 2006, the remuneration paid by the Chamber to the Chair of the Chamber for the period ending on the date of adoption of the New Articles, in breach of article 12.18 of the existing Articles of Association of the Company be confirmed, approved and ratified by the members of the Company. The resolution was approved.

## 10. Election of Regional Committee members

Pursuant to article 14.7 of the Articles to appoint for a 2-year term:

As Chair of the North of Tyne Sub-Regional Committee:

John Johnstone (Bernicia Group)

As Representatives of the North of Tyne Sub-Regional Committee:

Tony Gates (Northumberland National Park)

Suzie Robson (Newcastle University)

As Representatives of the South of Tyne, Durham and Wearside Committee:

Mark Dowdall (The Banks Group Limited)

Natasha McDonagh (MMC Research & Marketing)

Alan Metcalfe (Zenith People)

As Elected Members:

Laura Hepburn (Greenology Teesside)

Ross Smith (Northumbrian Water Group)

The resolution was proposed and unanimously approved.

Pursuant to article 14.5 of the Articles to re-appoint for a subsequent 2-year term:

As Tees Valley Committee Chair:

Patrick Masheder (Real Results Marketing)

As Representatives of the Tees Valley Committee:

Mike Lyons (Fujifilm Diosynth)

As Elected Members:

Andrew Davidson (Muckle LLP)

Aneela Ali (LNER)

Rachel Chambers (Driving the Electric Revolution Centre)

Martijn Gilbert (Go North East)

Paul Ryan (Bruker JV UK)

The resolution was proposed and unanimously approved.

## 11. Re-election of Council members

Pursuant to article 14.5 of the Articles to re-appoint for a final 2-year term up to the maximum time limit for their current position on Council

As Vice President:

Andrew Haigh (Newcastle Building Society)

As Representatives of the Tees Valley Committee:

Darren Hankey (Hartlepool College)

As Elected Members:

Richard Swart (Berger Closures)

Alan Ferguson (Fergusons Transport)

Malcom Copland (Greggs)

Deb Walton (Palintest)

The resolution was proposed and approved

Lesley Moody commented this now concludes the formal business of the 27th annual general meeting of the North East England Chamber of Commerce. I'd like to thank everyone for participating."

## 12. President's review

Lesley Moody thanked everybody for voting her in as President for another year and commented that it was good to be face to face at the AGM. She praised everyone for their resilience during the pandemic and the Chamber team for working together to give support to members during this time. She concluded her review by praising James Ramsbotham for his work and commitment over the last 15 years to the Chamber. James unfortunately could not be there, on what would have been his last AGM as CEO.

## 13. Chief executive's review

Lesley Moody read James Ramsbotham's review in his absence.

James Ramsbotham praised members for how they have worked to support one another

during the pandemic. He thanked Chamber staff for the commitment and effort they continue to display helping businesses across the region in this difficult time. James mentioned there have been highs and lows in his 15 year tenure and one high in particular the 200 year anniversary. James closed his review by wishing everyone well.

#### **14. Chair**

John Marshall mentioned he had taken over as Chair between AGM's and thanked the outgoing Chair Lucy Winskell for her contribution to the Chamber. He paid tribute to James Ramsbotham. John then introduced the incoming CEO John McCabe.

#### **15. Incoming CEO**

John McCabe thanked everybody for their support since the announcement of him taking up the post as CEO of the Chamber. He praised James Ramsbotham for being an ambassador, champion and advocate for the Chamber and region. John mentioned his outline agenda for the coming months to shape the North East and finished by thanking everybody.

#### **16. Any other Business**

No other business raised.