



Date	15 October 2022
Meeting	Annual General Meeting
Document type	Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting (held remotely)

0001 Welcome

Bev Higgs JP, National Chair of the Magistrates' Association welcomed attendees to the meeting.

0002 Minutes of the 59th Annual General Meeting

There were no amendments required and the minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

0003 Presentation of the Annual Report of the Board of Trustees for the year ending June 2022

Bev explained that the Annual Report had been on the website for more than two weeks, and a summary had also been included in the latest edition of MAGISTRATE magazine.

0004 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the year ended 30 June 2020

The Annual Report and Accounts for 2021-2022 were presented by Christine Grant JP.

0005 Appointment of Auditors

Price-Bailey LLP were nominated by the Board of Trustees as auditors for 2022-23. Their appointment was approved.

0006 Appointment of new Trustees and National Officers

Mark Beattie JP had been elected unopposed as National Chair. Jacqui MacDonald-Davis JP and David Ford JP were elected unopposed as Deputy National Chairs. Three trustees were elected – Sarah Clarke JP, Josh James JP and Jo King JP.

0007 Motions for debate

The first motion was put to the meeting:

The magistracy is a cornerstone of the justice system in England and Wales. Magistrates' courts hear more than 90% of court cases – amounting to around 1.4 million cases per year. Yet there is low morale amongst many magistrates, and a sense that change is done 'to' rather than 'with' us. The MA therefore calls on:

- (i) *MoJ to ensure that maintaining and supporting the magistracy is at the heart of any changes introduced as part of the move to a single justice area.*

- (ii) *MoJ and HMCTS to put in place a Magistrates Volunteering Charter, setting out clearly both the expectations on magistrates and what magistrates can expect as volunteers, working with the MA to build into the Charter best practice in the UK voluntary sector, and making the maintenance and support of the magistracy a priority when making business decisions.*

- (iii) *The Cabinet Office to issue a special Magistrates Medal for magistrates who give in excess of five years' service, to be worn on ceremonial occasions."*

Proposer: Danny Brennan JP – Notts MA

Seconder: Sue Grace – North & West Yorkshire MA

The motion was voted on in parts as follows:

Part (i) – 162 in favour and 2 against

Part (ii) – 161 in favour and 6 against

Part (iii) – 125 in favour and 47 against

Therefore, the motion in its entirety was carried

0008 Any other business

There was only one item of any other business – Mark Beattie JP noted that this was Bev's last AGM as chair. He thanked her on behalf of the MA for her work as both chair and as a trustee over many years, and presented her with a gift and flowers.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 10.15am.