



MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

27th February 2026

MINUTES of the 130th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association held at the Leonardo Hotel East Midlands Airport, Ashby Road, Castle Donington, Derby DE74 2SH on Friday 27th February 2026, at 9.00am.

Present:	C O’Hare-IR, L Blacklock-CA (Chair), D Headon-DC, S Reed-DY, J Dodd-EM, S Finan-LN, G Cockshott-NE, P Murray-NW, R Harris-SO, S Beardmore-WE, P Whale-WM, T Gardner-WS
Apologies:	A Williams-LN, R Shirley-SW
In Attendance:	C Sutton-CEO, S Woodman-Finance Manager, Ms Nicola Mills-Office Manager (minutes), Ms Emma Seare-Assistant Office Manager (minutes)
Observers:	R Chambers-Head Officer, BHW, J Wheatcroft-Olympiad Team Manager, S Collishaw-EM, C Sterland-WM, Mrs Carol Gardner

The meeting was opened by the CEO, who passed the Chair to Vice-President L Blacklock. The Chair announced the sad news of the death of former RPRA President Mr Pat Mitchell and a minute’s silence was held for him and for those members who have passed on.

1. **ROLL CALL** – as above
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none declared
3. **RULE 46 COMPLIANCE** – all compliant
4. **MINUTES OF THE 129TH AGM MEETING HELD ON 28.02.25**

Proposed by WS, seconded by IR, and all in favour, that:
The minutes of the 129th Annual General Meeting held on 28th February 2025 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT

The CEO provided his report, as below:

Over the past two years, the RPRA has faced significant challenges. It has been a turbulent period, but instructive. The most recent example was the derecognition of the NWHU and the positive agreement subsequently reached between our unions. That chapter is now behind us. Confidence is returning, and the RPRA stands once again on a solid, accountable foundation.

That foundation matters. It gives us the credibility and capacity to look forward rather than inward. The question now before us is not how we revisit past difficulties, but how we build responsibly on the stability we have regained.

We must also be honest about the realities facing our sport. The demographic profile of pigeon racing is heavily weighted toward an older generation. Their contribution has been immense, and the sport owes them a great debt. This is not a criticism; it is a warning. If pigeon racing is to survive, time alone is not on our side.

Today, pigeon racing in the United Kingdom and Ireland is represented by six unions: the Royal Pigeon Racing Association, the North East Homing Union, the North West Homing Union, the Scottish Homing

Union, the Irish Homing Union, and the Welsh Homing Pigeon Union. Together, we represent well over 20,000 members.

That scale matters. With scale comes opportunity: the opportunity to govern more efficiently, reduce duplication, and focus resources not on administration for its own sake, but on the needs of the sport and its members. Through the Confederation of Long Distance Racing Pigeon Unions of Great Britain and Ireland, I hold a vision not only for unity of purpose, but for unity of structure where it serves the long-term health of pigeon racing.

In such a model, while respecting existing regional practices and identities, the RPRA, with its infrastructure and experience could act as a coordinating steward, supporting other unions within a shared administrative framework. This is not about erasing history, centralising power for its own sake, or diminishing regional voices. It is about coordination, cooperation, and economies of scale.

The world around us is changing. Regulation is changing. Participation is changing. And if we are honest with ourselves, parts of our sport must change too. The dogmas of the quiet past cannot meet the challenges of the stormy present. If pigeon racing is to endure, we must think anew, act anew, and free ourselves from divisions that limit what we can become.

We should protect our proud heritage and the traditions that define regional pigeon racing, while letting go of habits, assumptions, and divisions that no longer serve us. Pigeon racing has never been just about competition. It is about dedication, fairness, community, respect for our birds, for one another, and for the generations who built this sport before us.

Unions do not decline overnight. They weaken gradually, through mistrust, entrenched positions, and the belief that fellow fanciers or neighbouring organisations are adversaries rather than partners in the same cause. Disagreement is not the enemy; division as identity is. Participation does not grow in constant conflict, and innovation does not emerge where cooperation has broken down.

Our responsibility as pigeon fanciers in Great Britain and Ireland is not to defend one faction, one tradition, or one way of doing things. It is to ensure that pigeon racing has a future. That requires leadership which respects tradition without being trapped by it, governs firmly but listens openly, and places the long-term health of the sport above short-term victories.

Unity does not mean sameness. It does not require silence or the abandonment of deeply held views. It means agreeing on something larger: that our shared future matters more than individual disputes. Debate is not the danger. Forgetting that we are all custodians of the same sport is.

We should aspire to a sport where fairness and integrity are beyond question; where rules are consistent, governance is transparent, and success is earned on merit and care, not politics or position. A sport that places birds' welfare at its heart and demonstrates to the wider public that our commitment to our pigeons is informed, responsible, and unwavering.

A sport where young people see opportunity, mentorship, and belonging; where technology is embraced to modernise race management, communication, and engagement without losing the soul of the sport. A sport that is respected beyond its own boundaries, trusted by regulators, understood by the public, and confident in its place in modern society.

The challenges ahead are real: changing demographics, increasing public scrutiny, regulatory pressure, and the urgent need to attract and retain the next generation of fanciers. These challenges will not be met by standing apart. They can only be met together.

The future will judge us not by how strongly we defended our own positions, but by whether we preserved and strengthened the structures that make pigeon racing viable, credible, and respected. A divided sport may survive for a time, but only a united sport can grow, adapt, and endure.

This is why the conversation about consolidation cannot be deferred indefinitely. It is not an abstract ambition for the distant future; it is a practical consideration for the near term. A stable RPR gives us a window of opportunity to lead with foresight rather than urgency to plan carefully, consult widely, and implement change deliberately. To delay until pressure forces our hand would be a failure of stewardship. Handled correctly, consolidation is not a threat to democratic tradition; it is a means of protecting it.

Unless positive changes are made, the British Homing World has roughly twelve months left, not in theory, but in real terms. That matters not only to the six people who rely on it for their livelihood, but to every pigeon fancier who cares about pigeon racing as more than a pastime you scroll past on a phone. This paper has existed for over a hundred years. It has survived wars, recessions, rationing, and social change. It endured because those before us believed it was worth supporting. Today, the danger is not criticism; it is silence.

The internet has not killed interest in pigeon racing, but it has made everything disposable. Online posts vanish, arguments fade, and history is easily lost or rewritten. The British Homing World provides what none of that can: a permanent record, a trusted voice, and a home for the sport's history. Once it is gone, it does not return. If the paper closes, it will not be because it was not needed. It will be because those who valued it assumed someone else would step in.

Every generation faces its test. This is ours. We can say, "That's just the way things are now," or we can say, "Not on our watch." Saving this paper does not require miracles. It requires commitment: renewed subscriptions, supported advertisers, promotion by clubs and federations, and backing from experienced fanciers so newcomers have somewhere solid to learn. This is not about nostalgia; it is about ownership. If pigeon racing is to have a future that is respected, recorded, and remembered, we must support the institutions that give it credibility. We are the someone else.

Before looking forward, I must address an issue that has understandably frustrated some readers: the late delivery of subscription copies. This was not a failure of British Homing World. Over the past year, Royal Mail made operational changes beyond our control, resulting in delays in some areas.

We fully accept the frustration this caused. Rather than make excuses, we acted. Production schedules were moved forward by four full days, increasing pressure on staff but ensuring timely delivery. Thanks to the foresight of the Head Officer and his team, this change is already in place. Quality has not dropped, and commitment has not faltered. Late delivery should no longer be a reason to walk away from a publication that has served this sport for over a century. Looking ahead, printed publications and sporting organisations everywhere are adapting to a global, immediate, and digital environment. Our response must be structured and credible. The proposal is to develop a modern digital platform that unites the authority and heritage of British Homing World with the governance, reach, and membership base of the RPR. This is not to replace the printed paper, but to support it, protect it, and extend its reach.

The objectives are clear:

1. Establish a professional, authoritative online presence for news, results, education, and official communication.
2. Increase global visibility and engagement in an international sport.
3. Provide secure digital access through individual logins, supporting revenue and ensuring worldwide availability alongside print.

4. Future-proof the sport by meeting the expectations of younger generations in a controlled, credible environment.

British Homing World remains the voice and record of the sport in Great Britain and Ireland. The RPRA provides structure and authority. A digital platform connects both to the modern world. If we do not shape our digital future, others will, often for personal gain rather than the good of the sport.

For over seventy years, the BHW Show of the Year has stood as a beacon of pride in the pigeon racing world and has now marked its fiftieth year in Blackpool. From modest beginnings, it has grown into one of Europe's most anticipated pigeon exhibitions because of the commitment of fanciers, breeders, competitors, traders, and the wider fancy.

The show attracts both admiration and criticism, yet when compared with exhibitions elsewhere, one thing is clear: it remains the very best, not because of any single feature, but because of its history and the community that sustains it.

The show is not broken, nor does it exist for any one interest. It exists for the soul of pigeon racing: elite competition, live auctions, camaraderie, preparation for the season ahead, and entertainment for all ages. It also provides something priceless, public exposure and a platform for charitable support. Traders rightly seek to succeed, and their success fuels innovation. But commercial interest must never overshadow what makes the show extraordinary: its people, its history, and its shared passion.

Under the stewardship of the Show Committee, significant challenges, including Covid, avian flu, and rising costs have been met and overcome. The opportunity to host the 2028 FCI Olympiad was a major vote of confidence. While this may need to be deferred pending border agreements, strong support remains within the FCI for a UK Olympiad at the earliest opportunity.

We should take pride in what our forefathers built and accept our responsibility as guardians of the sport they entrusted to us. Every challenge outlined here can be overcome if we stand united and remain true to our purpose. A divided sport may endure for a while, but only a united sport can adapt, and last.

The Chair thanked the CEO and asked if there were any questions from the Committee. None were forthcoming. It was

Proposed by SO, seconded by WM, and all in favour, that:

The CEO Annual Report is published in the British Homing World and on the RPRA Website.

6. CONSIDERATION OF THE 2024-2025 BALANCE SHEET

The Finance Manager presented the 2024-2025 Balance Sheet as below. A copy of the consolidated accounts is included in the agenda.

(09:19am – J Wheatcroft entered the meeting)

The Finance Manager provided a simple one sheet presentation of the RPRA and BHW as individual entities, to aid the interpretation of the consolidated accounts. He thanked all regions for submitting their balance sheets. apart from the WE Region who has promised its submittance shortly. WE queried the negative numbers on the presentation of the single sheet which was considered confusing as Association costs should not be shown on the income as a negative.

Overheads to run the RPRA were £394,205, giving a net profit of £86,594, which shows that membership fees have been set correctly. This figure is down on the previous year due to declining membership but still

a positive for the second year running. Accounts are produced monthly for internal monitoring and at the end of January 2026 we are going in the right direction with £26,341 profit.

Membership of the RPRA stands at 11,742 which is a 14% reduction from the previous count of 13,615 paid members. This is mainly due to the removal of partnerships and the ring sales will predict a more accurate overview of those leaving the sport. Ring sales in 2024 were 649,405 and in 2025 619,075 were sold.

WS queried if any savings were made on the RPRA costs for Blackpool and it was reported that in 2025 costs were £11,435 and for 2026 they had decreased to £9,096.

Stray reporting still incurs significant costs although improvements have been made using email as a first preference, followed by a second class letter if necessary.

The BHW is in a critical position with 63 subscribers being lost each month. This has been a trend for many years now, but we are in a difficult situation, and it is time to act. In October 2024 there were 5,463 subscriptions, in October 2025 there were 3,815 and in February 2026 there were 3,431. Overheads were £330,086 with £379,692 gross profit. Net profit of £49,606 is considerably up from the prior year loss of £9,485. Although the BHW is still generating profit, we need to stem the flow of the loss to stay alive. Bank charges have increased significantly as we no longer qualify for free banking. Accountancy charges were also increased by £2,000 due to a larger workload on 2024 accounts.

NE queried the motoring costs of the CEO, which were confirmed as lease hire and fuel costs. There is a record of mileage, fuel receipts are submitted and, with the personal mileage taken into consideration, the business mileage is repaid.

It was queried and confirmed that the Head Officer's wage is reflected in the main RPRA staff costs along with all other staff.

WE thanked the Finance Manager for his figures concerning the BHW and pointed out that with the current trend the pivotal moment when the BHW would start to generate a loss would be in 10-12 months. He continued that if the emotion is taken out, the BHW could be sold for £1 now to prevent future liabilities.

LN queried the status of the debtors list, which is currently £4,301 for the RPRA and £4,533 for the BHW.

Proposed by NE, seconded by WS, and all in favour, that:

A vote of thanks is given to the Finance Manager.

Proposed by WS, seconded by SO, and all in favour, that:

The 2024-2025 balance sheet is approved.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All positions were declared vacant.

a) President

President Mr C O'Hare has completed his 1st year in office.

NE proposed L Blacklock be elected as President, WS seconded this proposal. L Blacklock advised that he was unable to accept, and said that in his opinion a president had already been elected for 5 years.

Proposed by SO, seconded by LN, with 10 votes for: CA/DC/DY/EM/LN/NW/SO/WE/WM/WS, 0 votes against and 1 abstention: NE, that:

Mr Cormac O'Hare (IR) is re-elected as President

The Chair was handed over to the President to a round of applause. The President said it had been a privilege to preside over the RPRA for the past year and thanked L Blacklock for acting as Chair and continued with the election of the Vice-Presidents.

b) Vice-Presidents (3)

Current Vice-President J Dodd (EM) has completed his 4th year in office, P Murray (NW) has completed his 3rd year in office and L Blacklock (CA) has completed his 1st year in office.

The following names were proposed:

Proposed by DC, seconded by SO, with 10 votes for: CA/DC/DY/IR/LN/NW/SO/WE/WS/WM, 0 votes against and 1 abstention: NE, that:

Mr Jon Dodd (EM) is re-elected as Vice-President

Proposed by DY, seconded by DC, with 10 votes for: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/SO/WE/WS/WM, 0 Votes against and 1 abstention: NE, that:

Mr Phil Murray (NW) is re-elected as Vice-President

Proposed by NE, seconded by WS, with 11 votes for: DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NE/NW/SO/WE/WS/WM, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions, that:

Mr Les Blacklock (CA) is re-elected as Vice-President

Mr J Dodd (EM), Mr P Murray (NW) and Mr L Blacklock (CA) were duly re-elected as Vice-Presidents.

DC thanked the President and Vice-Presidents for all their work on behalf of the members.

c) Auditors

Proposed by CA, seconded by DC, and all in favour, that:

Griffiths Marshall are retained as auditors

d) Solicitors

Proposed by SO, seconded by CA, and all in favour, that:

Election of Solicitors is left open dependent on the area of expertise required at the time

e) Trustees (3)

Proposed by SO, seconded by CA, and all in favour, that:

Mr J Dodd (EM), Mr T Gardner (WS) and Mr S Beardmore (WE) are re-appointed as trustees

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEES AS FOLLOWS:

a) By Regional representation:

(i) British Homing World Management

Proposed list: L Blacklock (CA), D Headon (DC), S Reed (DY), J Dodd (EM), C O'Hare (IR) (Chair), A Williams (LN), G Cockshott (NE), P Murray (NW), R Harris (SO), S Beardmore (WE), P Whale (WM), T Gardner (WS)

Proposed by EM, seconded by NW, and all in favour, that:

The British Homing World Management committee consists of the proposed list above, plus R Chambers (Head Officer, BHW) and C Sutton (CEO), SW to be advised

(10:18am – S Beardmore exited the meeting)

(ii) Appeals

Proposed list: L Blacklock (CA), D Headon (DC), S Reed (DY), J Dodd (EM), C O'Hare (IR) (Chair), A Williams (LN), G Cockshott (NE), P Murray (NW), R Harris (SO), S Beardmore (WE), P Whale (WM), T Gardner (WS)

Proposed by DC, seconded by NW, with 11 votes for: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NE/NW/SO/WM/WS, 0 votes against and 1 abstention: WE, that:

The Appeals committee consists of the proposed list above, SW to be advised

(10:22am – S Beardmore entered the meeting)

9. ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO:

a) Federation Colombophile Internationale (1 delegate, 1 reserve)

Proposed by CA, seconded by NE, and all in favour, that:

J Wheatcroft (Olympiad Team Manager) is nominated as delegate

Proposed by SO, seconded by WS, and all in favour, that:

Mr C O'Hare (IR) is nominated as reserve delegate

b) Countryside Alliance

Proposed by SO, seconded by WM, and all in favour, that:

Mr L Blacklock (CA) and Mr J Dodd (EM) are re-appointed as delegates

c) Confederation of Long-Distance Racing Pigeon Unions of GB & Ireland

Proposed by CA, seconded by SO, and all in favour, that:

Mr C O'Hare (IR), Mr P Murray (NW) and Mr S Reed (DY) are re-elected/elected as delegates

10. PROPOSITIONS

Existing rule is printed in italics.

26/01 RPRA Council propose:

Delete Rule 17

17. Any pigeon racing or showing organisation may apply for affiliation to the Association by writing to the Secretary of the Region within which its headquarters are situated. The written application must be made by February 1st and include: The name of the organisation, which may only include the word National if its membership is open to all members of the Association. The full names and addresses of at least eight competing lofts for a club, or three competing members for a group. A copy of the domestic rules of the organisation which must include the route the organisation wishes to fly and all

rules in the Association Standard Rules for Affiliated organisations. A written statement to justify the reasons for affiliation. A deposit of £50 which may be returned less advertising costs. The fully compliant application shall be advertised by the Region Secretary in two of the UK national papers devoted to pigeon racing and showing, allowing 21 days from the date of publication during which any member, organisation or Region may submit a written and signed objection to such affiliation. The Region Secretary shall copy any written objection to the applicant organisation which then may submit a written response. At the expiry of the 21 days objection period the Region Secretary shall as soon as practicable, refer the application with any objections and responses to a meeting of the Region Committee at which neither the applicant nor the objector may make verbal representation unless requested to do so. The decision of the Region Committee is final and shall be communicated in writing to all parties concerned. Affiliation shall take immediate effect if granted. An organisation refused affiliation cannot reapply to any Region for a period of 12 months.

Replace with:

17. Any pigeon racing or showing organisation may apply for affiliation to the Association by writing to the Secretary of the Region within which its headquarters are situated. The written application must be made by February 1st and include: The name of the organisation, which may only include the word National if its membership is open to all members of the Association. The full names and addresses of at least eight competing lofts for a club, or three competing members for a group. A copy of the domestic rules of the organisation which must include the route the organisation wishes to fly and all rules in the Association Standard Rules for Affiliated organisations. A written statement to justify the reasons for affiliation. A deposit of £50 which may be returned less advertising costs. The fully compliant application shall be advertised by the Region Secretary in the UK national press devoted to pigeon racing and showing, allowing 21 days from the date of publication during which any member, organisation or Region may submit a written and signed objection to such affiliation. The Region Secretary shall copy any written objection to the applicant organisation which then may submit a written response. At the expiry of the 21 days objection period the Region Secretary shall as soon as practicable, refer the application with any objections and responses to a meeting of the Region Committee at which neither the applicant nor the objector may make verbal representation unless requested to do so. The decision of the Region Committee is final and shall be communicated in writing to all parties concerned. Affiliation shall take immediate effect if granted. An organisation refused affiliation cannot reapply to any Region for a period of 12 months.

Reason: To clarify wording in line with the current amount of national press papers available.

CARRIED – 12 FOR: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NE/NW/SO/WE/WM/WS, 0 AGAINST

26/02 RPRA Council propose:

Delete Rule 99

99. All Secretaries of Organisations must, on or before the first day of April in each year, forward to the Chief Executive a complete list of all rings sold, together with the names and addresses of the purchasers and where known the telephone number and email addresses. On the first day of each succeeding month thereafter each Secretary of an Organisation must forward to the Chief Executive a list of all rings sold during the preceding month, giving the names and addresses of all purchasers. The ring list sent to the Association shall be franked by the Association and returned to the Secretary of the Organisation. The Chief Executive shall notify any Secretary of an Organisation who has not sent lists of rings sold by 1st May in any year that such lists are overdue and should be sent immediately.

Replace with:

99. All Secretaries of Organisations must, on or before the first day of April in each year, forward to the Chief Executive a complete list of all rings sold, together with the names and addresses of the purchasers and where known the telephone number and email addresses. On the first day of each succeeding month thereafter each Secretary of an Organisation must forward to the Chief Executive a list of all rings sold during the preceding month, giving the names and addresses of all purchasers. The ring list sent to the Association shall be date stamped by the Association and returned to the Secretary of the Organisation. The Chief Executive shall notify any Secretary of an Organisation who has not sent lists of rings sold by 1st May in any year that such lists are overdue and should be sent immediately.

Reason: To clarify wording to reduce misinterpretation of how a ring list is processed once received.

CARRIED – 12 FOR: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NE/NW/SO/WE/WM/WS, 0 AGAINST

26/03 RPRA Council propose:

Delete Rule 106

106. In the event of dissolution or termination of a partnership, alterations to the registered owner's name(s) will be made upon payment of a fee of £5.00 per partner (inclusive of value added tax), provided that the succeeding owner is resident at the registered address of the former partnership. Proof of dissolution or termination of a partnership shall be furnished to the Chief Executive and all of the partners in the ex-partnership must sign the Association's standard form. Should it not be possible to obtain the signatures of all the former partners for any reason, a covering letter explaining the circumstances must be forwarded to the Secretary of the relevant Local Region Committee who, after investigation, may give permission for the partnership to be dissolved. All rings on pigeons removed from or to an address other than that at which the owner of such rings is registered must be transferred by means of submission of the standard ring transfer form.

Replace with:

106. (a) In the event of dissolution or termination of a partnership, alterations of the registered owner's name will be made upon payment of a fee of £5.00 per partner (inclusive of value added tax), provided that the succeeding owner is resident at the registered address of the former partnership. Proof of dissolution or termination of a partnership shall be furnished to the Chief Executive and all of the partners in the ex partnership must sign the Association's standard form. Should it not be possible to obtain the signatures of all the former partners for any reason, a covering letter explaining the circumstances must be forwarded to the Secretary of the relevant Local Region Committee who, after investigation, may give permission for the partnership to be dissolved. All rings on pigeons removed from or to an address other than that at which the owner of such rings is registered must be transferred by means of submission of the standard ring transfer form.

106. (b) Upon dissolution or termination of a partnership whereby the loft reverts to a single member loft, the loft name shall be changed from the partnership loft name to the full name of the remaining member.

106. (c) Upon dissolution or termination of a partnership whereby the loft has one paid member and one or more deceased and exempt members remaining on the partnership, the loft name may remain as the partnership name.

Reason: To remove ambiguity and assist office administration.

CARRIED – 11 FOR: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NE/SO/WE/WM/WS, 1 AGAINST: NW

26/04 RPRA Council propose:

Delete Rule 108

108. The Secretary of any Organisation may obtain verification of the ownership of any association ring on a bird upon paying to the Chief Executive a fee of 20p per ring (inclusive of value added tax)

Replace with:

108. The Secretary of any RPRA Organisation may obtain verification of the ownership of any RPRA association ring on a bird using the free online verification tool on the RPRA website. Any RPRA Organisation or non-RPRA Organisation may request verification of ownership by paying to the Chief Executive a fee of £1 per ring (inclusive of value added tax)

Reason: To highlight the use of the free online tool and update the price in line with inflation.

CARRIED – 9 FOR: CA/DC/DY/EM//IR/LN/WE/WM/WS, 3 AGAINST: NE/NW/SO

26/05 RPRA Council propose:

Delete Rule 110

110. On receipt of notification of a stray bird from a non-fancier, and having established that the bird is a stray, the Chief Executive will notify the owner by first class post or email and pass the telephone number(s) to the non-fancier. The owner will be advised that if he/she has not made contact with the finder and arranged collection of the pigeon within 48 hours (2 working days) the finder will be asked to contact the Chief Executive. In this instance, disciplinary action may be taken against the owner. The owner will have 14 days in which to arrange collection of the bird. If a pigeon has to be collected from a non-fancier by a local fancier, then the conditions of Rule 110 still apply in that the owner has 48 hours to collect his pigeon from the new finder.

Replace with:

110. On receipt of notification of a stray bird from a non-fancier, and having established that the bird is a stray, the Chief Executive will notify the owner by second class post or email and pass the telephone number(s) to the non-fancier. The owner will be advised that if he/she has not made contact with the finder and arranged collection of the pigeon within 48 hours (2 working days) the finder will be asked to contact the Chief Executive. In this instance, disciplinary action may be taken against the owner. The owner will have 14 days in which to arrange collection of the bird. If a pigeon has to be collected from a non-fancier by a local fancier, then the conditions of Rule 110 still apply in that the owner has 48 hours to collect his pigeon from the new finder.

Reason: To show the use of emailed stray reports and the correct postage used for stray postal letters.

CARRIED – 10 FOR: CA/DC/DY/EM/IR/LN/NE/NW/WE/WS, 2 AGAINST: SO/WM

26/06 Southern Region propose:

New Rule 233 (spare rule)

That Four RPRA members must be available for the marking of birds on ETS and for Strike off of ETS.

Reason: The issue being, if a club has only four members. One member races with Federation “A”, the remaining three race with Federation “B”; there is no rule within the RPRA rules that states that four RPRA members must be present at marking for entry into a race.

PROPOSITION WITHDRAWN

Meeting closed: 10:38am