Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Association of Financial Mutuals

At Crowne Plaza hotel, Stratford upon Avon, commencing at 17.00 on 16 October 2017

1. The Chairman, Andy Chapman, opened the Annual General Meeting of the Association, and verified that there were no actions arising from the previous Meeting.

Stuart Bell and Alan Goddard were appointed as tellers.

2. Review of Progress

The Chief Executive, Martin Shaw presented a review of the year. He confirmed that AFM was actively working against a set of six priorities, which he reported on to the board on a quarterly basis. The production of an Operational Report this year provided more extensive detail of the range of work undertaken by AFM’s broadened Committee structure.

In his assessment, the range of outcomes reported this year offer tangible substance to members, and include:

- Growth in membership base: from 38 to 48 full members
- Valuable concessions achieved from rating agencies, which are specific to AFM members only
- A range of new support for NEDs, including the NED toolkit
- Accelerate programme for future leaders, plus new events on digital insurance, NEDs and customer-facing staff
- We negotiated a reduction in price for AFM members for the CII’s online training portal, providing significant savings for ex-BHCA members.
- Access to ILAG events, as part of AFM’s affiliate membership
- New committees have broadened engagement in AFM
- PRA made several concessions in the year following AFM responses
- The Dormant Assets Commission accepted our argument that mutuals should be excluded from new arrangements for insurers.
- Regular FCA and FRC engagement
- HMRC and HMT: regular meetings
- Staff commitment to mutuality demonstrated by survey
3. **Election of Board Directors**

Andy Chapman provided a brief overview of the nomination process for the Board this year. There were 13 candidates; whilst the constitution providers for a maximum of 11 board directors, it also gives the power to co-opt members. The Board had therefore proposed that the candidates not elected were invited to join board meetings on a co-opted basis.

Members were invited to completing the voting form, and as a result the following were appointed to the Board:

Stuart Bell  
Andy Chapman  
Elaine Fairless  
Alan Goddard  
Paul Hudson  
Jane Nelson  
Paul Osborne  
Mike Perry  
Russ Piper  
Kevin Rogers  
Stuart Tragheim  

Peter Green and Chris Kenny were co-opted to the Board.

4. **Accounts for period to 30 June 2017 and Plans and Budget for 2017/2018**

Jane Nelson set out the final position at the end of 2016/17, and reported that the Board had planned for a deficit in light of AFM’s changed circumstances, but that the final position was more positive than planned. This was mainly achieved by savings in costs.

The budget for 2017/18 provides a small increase in income as a result of enlarged membership. The board had approved increased project spending, and as a result was committed to making active use of the accumulated reserves.

**The resolution to approve the accounts was passed unanimously.**

Martin Shaw confirmed that the plans for the year ahead include:

- Review of the Corporate Governance Code and compliance exercise
- Lobbying on the impact of IPT for health cash plans
• Further work on the contribution of the sector to savings in the NHS and welfare state
• Benchmarking SFCRs to support the sharing of good practice
• Support for a second Accelerate programme
• The launch of a new online training portal
• Developing stronger messages on the value of corporate diversity

6. **Any Other Business**

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 17.30.