

# **German-English Association (GEA)**

## **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the GEA**

held on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 9 pm  
at Rechthaler Hof, Arnulfstraße 10, 80335 Munich

Present : 44 Members (as per the attached list)

John Langton welcomed all those who were present and thanked all those who could not attend, but had sent apologies and given their views in writing or by email. With the consent of those present John Langton acted as Facilitator for the purposes of this meeting.

John introduced the other people who comprised the Reform Initiative: Roger Houghton, Roger Partridge, Ute Becker, Harald Cramer and Sunny Jay.

### **Background**

Since the Autumn of 2008 there had been no legitimate Committee in situ and it had been felt that there was a need to recognise and to place the role of GEA Organisers, who are fundamental to the continued success of the GEA, in a more leading position together with the Communications team.

Accordingly, the Reform Initiative had developed a Statement of Principles, which had been fully discussed, amended and endorsed by the GEA Organisers meeting on 08.12.2008, the minutes of that meeting had been widely circulated and posted on the Association's website.

One month had elapsed since the membership were given notice of this meeting at the Stammtisch and on the mailing list and website.

The adoption of these Principles was the sole purpose of this Extraordinary General Meeting, and a formal resolution would be proposed to give effect to this major change in the manner and form in which the GEA is directed. Central to the Statement of Principles is that there would be in future no elected committee nor would there be any central control of funds or of funding. Democratic control would in future be implemented through the Organisers Network, representing the members who participate in events.

### **Special Resolution**

The Statement of Principles, widely distributed and as agreed overwhelmingly by the Organisers at a meeting on 8.12.08 be tabled for consideration.

### **The Resolution:**

“That the Statement of Principles, as tabled, be adopted with immediate effect and be published on the website of the GEA.”

The resolution was proposed by Willi Brandt and seconded by Eleanor Ammermann. The Statement of Principles was signed for identification purposes by the Facilitator.

The Facilitator opened the floor for consideration of the Resolution.

A number of questions were addressed on the subject of potential conflicts of interest, of funding and of the need for personal representation of members interests. These questions were responded to by members of the Reform Initiative and by others.

With no further questions the meeting moved to a formal vote on the resolution.

Miranda Menzies and Dieter Stattenberger were appointed Tellers for the purposes of recording the votes cast.

## **Result of the Voting**

Of those present and voting (44):

42 were for the resolution, 1 was against and 1 person abstained.

The result of written votes and by email was formally announced:

There were 62 persons voting for the resolution, 1 was against and 3 persons abstained.

The overall result declared therefore:

For the resolution 100; against the resolution 2, abstentions 4.

(94% of those 106 members voting having voted in favour of the resolution).

**The Resolution was therefore declared carried and would come into force upon the closure of this meeting.**

## **Thanks**

The Facilitator noted the considerable amount of work undertaken by members of the Communications team. The meeting warmly extended their thanks for the efforts of all those involved.

The Facilitator declared the meeting closed.