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**Subject:** Outcomes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 13 September 2021  
**Date:** 14 September 2021 12:02:46  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

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The trustees of Newbury & District Agricultural Society wish to advise all members that the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society took place yesterday evening as had been advertised. Dr. Rex Walters, trustee, chaired the meeting. More than 200 members registered to attend and there were a further 140 proxy votes cast.

The purposes of the meeting were to bring members up to date with the current status of the Society's finances; to advise on the current status of the trustees' negotiations for the outright sale or option of the Showground, and to seek members' approval for the trustees' strategy. A poll was taken after presentations by Board members and a lengthy Q&A session.

Members present and voting by proxy voted:

- 63% against the trustees' proposals
- 37% in favour of the trustees' proposals

Following the announcement of the result, Dr. Walters advised the meeting that he anticipated that most, if not all, trustees would resign **AFTER** a further EGM had been organised at which new trustees would be elected. Every effort would be made by the current trustees to ensure an orderly transition to a new board of management. If this cannot be achieved the trustees will seek the protection of the Charity Commission for the interim governance of the Society. A list of nominees to become trustees will be published when details of the next EGM are announced.

The trustees are very concerned that those who will be setting the future strategy and direction of the Society must recognise it's primary charitable objectives as an educational charity. Those who have identified themselves as opposing the current trustees' strategy have thus far made little reference in their communications to education and helping young people, rather focusing on retaining ownership of the Showground and the holding of the Royal County of Berkshire Show at all costs. Furthermore, they do not seem to recognise the seriousness of the Society's financial problems which go back many years and which the trustees have done their best to stem, but which have been made much worse by the COVID pandemic.

The trustees wish to thank all the staff of the Society who are working in such difficult circumstances, and we also wish to thank Savills for their professionalism and huge efforts to provide the Society with propositions that would provide substantial resources to ensure that the Society survives and thrives in the future.

The Trustees of Newbury and District Agricultural Society

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