

Special Business 2

That the National Institute of Medical Herbalists reinstates the role of Honorary Treasurer with immediate effect from the date of the 2025 AGM currently scheduled for 29 September 2025.

Notes to the Motion

In 2024 the NIMH AGM approved the removal of the role of Treasurer.

Passing this motion would rescind the Special Resolution passed at the AGM on 14 June 2024.

The notes to the 2024 Special Resolution 2 stated: "The Honorary Treasurer role, as per the Memorandum and Articles of Association, exists to physically make payments and sign cheques."

Whilst it was true in the past that the Treasurer was a signatory on cheques, this was not the sole purpose of the role.

Council has always had collective responsibility for NIMH finances. That is an integral part of the role and responsibility of a Director AND has never rested solely with the Treasurer. Financial oversight is an individual and collective duty for all Directors.

The role of Treasurer includes setting the annual budget, ensuring accounts are filed with Companies House in a timely manner, writing a full and comprehensive Annual Financial Report to members and ensuring the funds, which come from members subs, are properly and carefully managed.

The role involves:

- Setting the budget with the office staff responsible for allocating funds.
- Signing off large purchases
- Signing off expenditure that falls outside the annual budget
- Maintaining reserves
- Signing off time sheets, agreeing salary increases and remuneration changes.
- Looking at the accounts books on a regular basis.

- Advising Council of matters of concern to the membership.
- Checking the draft accounts for accuracy.

Recent events indicate that this was a failed experiment. It was a mistake to remove this role. Annual accounts have not been produced in a timely manner, or presented to the AGM as they should have been. Members were sent accounts from a previous year. The NIMH had a notice of First Gazette of strike off placed on Companies House on 23/07/2024. (subsequently discontinued on 06/08/2024)*
We believe it is imperative that the NIMH reinstates the role of Treasurer with immediate effect.

Statement from Proposer: As Honorary Treasurer from 2012 to 2018 I spoke against the removal of an official role whose entire purpose was financial oversight. It had often been my experience that it was easy to think of ways to spend money. It was more difficult to reign in enthusiasm in the face of a committee. Having an officer whose role it is to question decision making in financial terms ensures a layer of protection for members' funds.

Statement from Seconder: "I wholeheartedly second this motion. My three years as Honorary Treasurer, from 2021 to 2024, provided me with unique insight into the vital role of financial oversight. When the decision was made to discontinue this position, I vocally expressed my concerns to EXCO and Robyn about the inevitable loss of scrutiny. It's disheartening to see these apprehensions confirmed by recent events: the significant delays in annual account production, their belated presentation at the AGM, and even the regrettable error of sending out outdated figures to members. Reinstating robust financial monitoring and enforcement is crucial to protect our members' funds and guarantee the integrity and timeliness of our accounts. Please support this critical motion"

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[https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/00044483/filing history](https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/00044483/filing-history)

Proposer: Katherine Bellchambers-Wilson

Second: Martin Schoenbeck