

ABAP

Caring for BA pensionable people today and tomorrow



President: George Bell

www.abaponline.org

Chairman: Captain Mike Post

The Association of British Airways Pensioners, PO Box 289, Chipping Norton, OX7 9EP

Message from the Chairman

Dear Colleague

Please find enclosed the papers for ABAP's 2016 Annual General Meeting which is to be held at Imperial College's Heston Venue (formerly the Concorde Centre, Speedbird Club) at 11 am on Thursday, 3 November 2016 - details included elsewhere in this communication. **Please note the new start time of 11 am which has been agreed to enable members to travel to and from the meeting in daylight.** A copy of the proposed ABAP Constitution is also included for approval at the AGM.

This year the Committee is losing Dayne Markham and Jack Shill who are retiring. Nikki Jones is also standing down because she will be setting out on a long sea voyage. Ian Heath has stepped down since becoming a Trustee. I should like to thank all four for their valuable past service. Bob Acott (APS), Joel Kosminsky (APS) and Joe Lowes (NAPS) have volunteered their services to the Committee. They have already contributed significantly to our deliberations and I request you to approve their elections.

I urge you to attend the AGM if you possibly can. The AGM will be taking place against a background of several significant events. These include:

- The failure of BA and the Trustees to agree the 2015 Valuations by the statutory date.
- The legal action that BA is pursuing against the APS Trustees due to begin on 26 October.
- The announcement in early August that the APS and NAPS Trustees are proposing to change the structures of the Boards to become Corporate Trustees.
- The significant losses which will be suffered by APS and NAPS pensioners who retire after April 2016 as a consequence of the State Pension reforms.

ABAP has written to Virginia Holmes, Chair of the separate APS and NAPS Boards, to explore the proposed re-structuring of the Trustee Boards. We expect to have received a reply to our letter before the AGM. We have also invited Ms Holmes and all the Trustees of APS and NAPS to attend our AGM in the hope that we will receive some reassurance about the future. I would ask that we give them a courteous welcome especially bearing in mind that the APS Trustees are currently under attack by British Airways in the High Court.

It is quite clear that the pensions and the inflation protection that we have paid for are under attack from many directions. Please make every effort to attend the AGM and bring along any ex-BA friends and colleagues who may benefit from ABAP's work. They can always join ABAP on the door on the day. May I also remind you that annual membership subscriptions should be paid as soon as possible after 1st July each year.

I look forward to seeing you at 11 am on 3 November 2016 at Imperial College's Heston Venue (the old Speedbird Club). Just as I am completing this note, I have been advised that catering arrangements at the Heston Venue have changed since we booked the AGM. Only bar snacks will be available at lunchtime. They will not provide a sit-down meal.

Yours sincerely
Mike Post
Chairman