

FAQ regarding the decision to hold a virtual AGM

1. What has happened to the Members' Day aspect of the day?

We have taken the decision to split the Members' Day from the AGM this year. We know from experience that lengthy online meetings are not ideal.

For this reason, we are running a series of virtual 'Members' Events', designed in collaboration with Members, representing the diversity of our communities. There will be standard items, common to all, which demonstrate the charity's Research strategy and plans, alongside items that showcase the inspirational efforts of our Members..You can find out more about these events by visiting our website www.parkinsons.org.uk/agm or by contacting team@parkinsons.org.uk or 0800 138 6593.

The Members' Events will be held on Saturday 3 October, Tuesday 6 October, Thursday 8 October and on the afternoon of the AGM on Saturday 24 October (start times tbc).

2. Can I attend the AGM in person?

Having made this decision and not having a large venue available we cannot safely accommodate more than a very limited number of people attending in person at the charity's offices in London. These spaces will be used for the Chair, the CEO, the Company Secretary and a very small number of trustees and staff who will support the running of the meeting.

Therefore members must participate remotely and we hope you will be supportive of the arrangements we've made this year.

3. Do the charity's Articles of Association allow the AGM to be held virtually?

Some charities have specific clauses within their Articles that allow them to hold virtual or 'hybrid' AGMs. We do not. However our Article 6.4(a) states that "the quorum for the transaction of business at a members' meeting of the Charity is 50 Members present in person or by proxy."

By appointing the chair of the meeting as your proxy, we will meet the requirements for a quorum under our Articles.

4. What does appointing the Chair as my proxy mean?

When you join the meeting remotely on the 24 October you will not be legally considered to be attending in person. This means we cannot allow you to vote virtually at the meeting on the ordinary and special resolutions as your vote would not be legally valid and that is why we are asking you to appoint the chair of the meeting as your proxy.

When appointing the chair of the meeting as your proxy, you can still specify how you want your vote to be cast on each resolution. The proxy form will be similar to the below (please note that this is an example and there may be differences in the form used in hard copy or online this year):

I hereby appoint the Chair of the meeting ☐

as my proxy to vote in my name and on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Charity to be held on Saturday 24 October 2020 and at any adjournment thereof.

*If you wish to instruct your proxy how to vote, please **mark a cross (X)** in the relevant box alongside each resolution. If you wish your proxy to vote or abstain from voting as he/she thinks fit, please leave the boxes blank.*

I authorise and instruct my proxy to use this form in respect of the following resolutions only:

Ordinary Resolutions	FOR	AGAINST
R1: That Crowe UK LLP be re-appointed as auditors of the charity and the Board of Trustees authorised to agree their remuneration.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

You will see that we are recommending changes to the Articles of Association which, if approved by members, mean that in future we will have the flexibility to treat any members attending the AGM remotely as being legally in attendance and will facilitate allowing members to vote on the day by electronic means.

5. What does the Charity Commission and Company Law say about holding AGMs virtually?

The Charity Commission recognises that in the current situation it may be difficult to hold face-to-face meetings.

It notes that there is a temporary amendment in the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act 2020 relating to members' meetings held between 26 March and 30 September which sets out that:

- “[members meetings can] be held by phone / video or other electronic means, even if the governing document requires them to be held physically face-to-face
- members still have the right to vote, but the charity can require this to be done electronically, or by other means (such as by post)
- members will not have the right to attend a meeting in person or participate in meetings other than to vote”

The Parkinson's UK AGM does not currently fall within this date range, but the temporary amendment may be extended if the government thinks this is needed.

Regardless, the Charity Commission has stated that it expects that decisions regarding AGMs during this time to be made in the charity's best interests, that all other meeting requirements should be met and that the decision should be recorded to demonstrate good governance of the charity.

The Charity Commission has been informed of Parkinson's UK's decision to hold a virtual AGM.

6. Can I still join if I don't have the internet?

Yes, you can join via telephone if you don't have the internet. You will be able to hear all presentations on the day. Please register your attendance via the contact details below to receive instructions on joining.

7. How do I join remotely?

Please register your attendance for the AGM via www.parkinsons.org.uk/agm (or you can contact team@parkinsons.org.uk or 0800 138 6593 if you are unable to register via the website). You will be provided with full joining instructions before the event. You can register your attendance at the Members' Events via the same contact details.

The registration deadline for the AGM is Sunday 18 October.

The registration deadline for the Members' Events is Monday 28 September.