MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING
OF CENTRAL ENGLAND CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED (10143R)

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2026 AT 7.00 PM

Hosted by: Elaine Dean (President), Bob Burlton, Chair of the Remuneration Committee, Debbie Robinson (Chief Executive Officer), Selina Butterfield-Mashoofi (Chief Financial, Property and Technology Officer) and Simon Plunkett (Acting Society Secretary), Ian Adderley (incoming Society Secretary).

Held and broadcast online via the LUMI platform from The Kassam Stadium, Oxford and live broadcast to The Village Hotel, Walsall, The Pavillion, Derby, Chelmsford Cricket Club, Meltham Golf Club, Leicester Tigers Rugby Club, The George Hotel, Huntingdon.

1,189 members present

The meeting was recorded, forms part of the record of the meeting, and is available at the following online location: AMM 2026 Highlights | Central Co-op Membership

1. **President's Welcome and Introduction**

The President welcomed members and guests to the meeting, noting this was the first meeting of the newly formed Society, bringing together members from the predecessor societies of Central England Co-operative Limited, Chelmsford Star Co-operative Society Limited, and The Midcounties Co-operative Limited. The President provided an overview of recent activity, and the future work to be completed.

The Chief Executive presented an overview of the Society's activity, integration work, and strategic priorities, noting the Society was resilient, well-financed, and proceeding from a position of strength.

2. **Annual Report of the Board of Directors and Financial Statements for Central England Co-operative Limited for the year ending 24 January 2026**

The Chief Financial, Property and Technology Officer detailed the financial performance of the Society, sharing detail of the annual report and accounts.

The Chair of the Remuneration Committee presented the Society's Remuneration Report, and set out the details of the proposed resolution on director remuneration, noting the increased scale, and complexity of Executive roles in the new Society.

The Directors and Officers in attendance at the meeting responded to questions and comments from Members that had either been submitted in advance of, or, during the course of the meeting – from the floor of the meeting, satellite locations, and online, on matters including:

- Recent store closures, including the financial rationale for these closures, communication to customers, colleagues and members and opportunities to explore future community ownership.
- The ranging of high fat, salt and sugar products in stores and activity to increase the availability of healthy food and fresh produce.

- The speed of integration activity following the mergers of the respective Societies, and when the new Society would see cost savings from this activity.
- How the Society is working with other small co-operatives to grow the size and scale of the sector.
- Activity that was underway through the CM50 alliance of co-operatives to explore the procurement of fresh produce from other European co-operatives.

3. Reappointment of Auditors

The Board proposed the re-appointment of MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Rutland House, 148 Edmund Street, Birmingham, B3 2FD as auditors.

4. Distribution of Trading Surplus:

The Board of Directors proposes the following distributions from trading surplus: -
- Membership and Community Activity Budget: up to £487,000
- Funding to support co-operative partnerships: up to £86,000

5. Political subscriptions

Following a speech from Joe Fortune, Co-operative Party General Secretary, the Board proposed to set aside funding for political purposes in furtherance of Co-operative Values and Principles of up to £120,000 for the financial year ending January 2027.

6. Director fees increase

The board proposed a resolution to an increase in fees payable to OurCoop Board Directors from £10,284 to £12,340 per annum.

The meeting then moved to vote on each resolution. The results of each resolution were declared and are detailed in Appendix 1.

7. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting of Central England Co-operative Limited were presented, along with minutes of the previous meeting of The Midcounties Co-operative Limited and Chelmsford Star Co-operative Society Limited available for comment.

Each venue then held a separate local meeting where members were able to receive presentations on Society membership and community activity.

Simon Plunkett
Acting Society Secretary
20 May 2026

APPENDIX 1 - RESULTS OF VOTING

Resolution 1:

To receive the Annual Report of the Board of Directors and Financial Statements of Central England Co-operative for the year ended 24th January 2026 including the Annual Report of the Remuneration Committee.

	VOTES FOR	%	VOTES AGAINST	%	VOTES ABSTAIN	VOTES TOTAL
Resolution 1	644	85.64	108	14.36	95	752

Resolution 2:

To APPROVE the Reappointment of Auditors:

MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Rutland House, 148 Edmund Street, Birmingham, B3 2FD

	VOTES FOR	%	VOTES AGAINST	%	VOTES ABSTAIN	VOTES TOTAL
Resolution 2	676	90.74	69	9.26	111	745

Resolution 3:

To APPROVE the distribution of Trading Surplus as follows:

- Membership and Community Activity Budget: up to £487,000
- Funding to support co-operative partnerships: up to £86,000

	VOTES FOR	%	VOTES AGAINST	%	VOTES ABSTAIN	VOTES TOTAL
Resolution 3	742	91.60	68	8.40	60	810

Resolution 4:

To APPROVE that funding be set aside for political purposes in furtherance of Co-operative Values and Principles of up to £120,000 for the financial year ending January 2027.

	VOTES FOR	%	VOTES AGAINST	%	VOTES ABSTAIN	VOTES TOTAL
Resolution 4	487	65.72	254	34.28	129	741

Resolution 5:

To APPROVE an increase in fees payable to OurCoop Board Directors from £10,284 to £12,340 per annum.

	VOTES FOR	%	VOTES AGAINST	%	VOTES ABSTAIN	VOTES TOTAL
Resolution 5	458	57.11	344	42.89	77	802