

IDHS directors face challenge

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More than 100 members of the Irish Draught Horse Society are calling for an EGM on July 13th to replace the three directors approved by the High Court and to overturn the solution passed in March 2007 with authorized the formation of a co-op to replace the society.

The move has been condemned by the three directors, Anne Loughnane, Jim Cooke, and John Varly, who claim that it is an attempt to thwart the High Court settlement which saw them take over from the governing body and proceed with the arrangement to form a co-op. Seven motions are down for discussion in addition to the call for the removal of the three directors. Other resolutions call for a review of the existing corporate structure before the 2009 AGM and a choice of structures to be put before the membership.

Another resolution calls for the election of a governing body and for the appointment of all elected members of the body to become directors of the limited company. There is also a call for interim rules to be considered and adopted at the branch level.

Jim Cook said that the move was a blatant attempt to overturn the decision of the 2007 EGM authorizing the formation of a co-op. He said that the co-op rules had been approved by ICOS and now only awaited the authorization of the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

The legal status of the proposed July 13th meeting is unclear. Some 10% of the membership is required to requisition a meeting but all paid up members of the society, thought to number approximately 1,200 must receive a notice in writing.

Cooke believes that some members had not received such notice. He pointed out that a 75% majority would be required for the passing of any resolution.