

## **Scrutineering of the 2021 AGM Ballot – During this period of Covid-19 restrictions**

The voting process laid out in our articles and by-laws has been altered this year as just like every other business, we are subject to Covid-19 restriction. The ballot is being conducted by paper and electronic voting forms since large numbers voting in person is not allowed. These will be brought together once the ballot period is over for count of every vote. Ordinarily this is done by appointing a number of members at the AGM, this year it will be undertaken by a number of Area Representatives and overseen by myself, as President. On completion I will declare the result, via an e-mail cascade to the board, Section leadership, via the VMCC web-site and email to members. The result will also appear in the Journal.

The vote will be counted at Allen House within one week of the vote ending, it will be counted with due regard to Covid-19 Government guidelines and those we have put in place to safeguard the scrutineers.

The electronic vote is being monitored throughout the ballot period by a number of Area Representatives, and they will not be undertaking any counting until the ballot is closed. The paper ballot sheets are being securely stored as they are received at Allen House, this is been undertaken by an appointed member of staff. During the counting process it will be confirmed that votes belong to valid members, no duplicates are included in the result and proxy votes are aligned to the selected proxy (ideally this would be zero as members can all vote on-line or by paper).

Mike Wills

**President of the VMCC**