

# **Edinburgh Geological Society**

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting 7pm Wednesday 20 January 2010, Grant Institute**

### **Present**

Andrew McMillan (Chair) and 41 members as listed in the attached Attendance Sheet.

### **Apologies**

Anne Burgess and Kathryn Goodenough.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting 26 November 2008**

The minutes were accepted.

### **President's Report**

The President highlighted the achievements of the Society in the last 15 months. The Annual Report and Proceedings for the financial year to 30 September 2009 had been published. The date of the AGM had been moved to the third week in January by amendment to the Laws of the Society.

Membership of the Society had remained static in the last year. Our instructions to our investment managers remained unaltered. A new agreement had been finalised with the Geological Society Publishing House and the Geological Society of Glasgow, which meant that the Scottish Journal of Geology, back to 1965, was now available to all members online as part of the Lyell Collection. Transactions of the Society would be scanned and made available through the same mechanism.

Council had approved new guidelines for authors of excursion guides and this would help standardise the excursions guides that we publish jointly with NMS Enterprises Ltd. Rum, the first guide under the new arrangement, had been selling extremely well, and thanks go to Kathryn Goodenough and David Stephenson for their work on this.

Other highlights of the year included a Fossil Detectives event at Our Dynamic Earth during the Science Festival and a revamped Social Evening as a wine and cheese in association with Fellows' Night, which had been well received.

### **Treasurer's Report**

David Gould presented his 20<sup>th</sup> annual report. He noted an overall deficit of £4,090 with incoming subscriptions down by about £300 but other items of income broadly similar to the previous year. Investment income was down substantially due to selling of shares at a considerable loss, including Lloyds TSB. Despite the ongoing turmoil in the financial markets, the balance sheet shows only a £500 decrease since last year. He noted major expenditure in the depreciation of publications stock, which is being systematically depreciated, with one more annual depreciation to complete.

The cost of lectures keeps on increasing, largely due to increased venue costs. We would not be required to pay as much for the Scottish Journal of Geology from now on, and a fund of £5,000 had been created by the two societies to pay extra page costs. This would be replenished jointly with Geological Society of Glasgow as it was used.

Looking into the future, the Treasurer noted continued deficit in the next financial year due to depreciation of publications stock; thereafter the society would broadly break even, and could afford to fund publication of two issues of the Edinburgh Geologists per year. The President warmly thanked David Gould for his diligence and long service.

## **Election of Council Members**

The following were elected:

President	Angus Macpherson
Vice-President	Graham Leslie
Vice-President	Andrew McMillan
Secretary	Angus Miller
Treasurer	Bob Morley
Membership Secretary	Christine Thompson
Excursions Secretary	
Lectures Secretary	Kathryn Goodenough
Assistant Secretary (Billet)	Sarah Bailey
Assistant Secretary (Lectures)	Alice Custance-Baker
Librarian and Archivist	Bob McIntosh
Publications Sales Officer and Proceedings Editor	Ian Jackson
Ordinary Members	Anne Burgess Bob Reekie Richard Smith Rachel Wood Lilian D'Mello David Gould
Scientific Editors	Rob Duck Ian Alsop
Independent Examiner	B Russell (Dalgliesh & Tullo)

There were no nominations for Excursions Secretary.

Andrew McMillan, retiring President said it had been a privilege to serve the Society. He thanked Tony Harris for arranging excellent Lectures Programmes over the years, and Sarah Arkley who is stepping down as Assistant Secretary (Social) for efficiently organising the Social Evening for several years. He expressed gratitude to Stuart Monro for his efforts and welcomed new members of Council, Richard Smith and Lilian D'Mello.

He noted our thanks to Ian Jackson for the immense amount of work he undertakes as Publications Sales Officer, Weekend Excursions Organiser and Proceedings Editor and other hard-working Council members including Christine Thompson and Anne Burgess for their work, and noted that Angus Miller as Honorary Secretary has also undertaken other duties. He noted a very successful excursions programme and thanked all the excursion leaders and Myra Smith for taking bookings. He thanked Alice Custance-Baker for her help in publicising lectures and acknowledged the input of Jim Smith and Yvonne Cooper, before handing over to Angus Macpherson.

The new president thanked Andrew McMillan for his work as an enormously energetic President. He had been the moving spirit and taken a full part in progressing the business of the Society, and this had been widely commented on. On top of a busy day job he had worked hard and attended many committee meetings, and further noted that Andrew had been Secretary of the Society around 20 years ago and had served the Society exceptionally well.

## **Further Business**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:30 pm.