Edinburgh Geological Society

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 7pm Wednesday 26 November 2008, Grant Institute

Present

Andrew McMillan (Chair) and 45 members as listed in the attached Attendance Sheet.

Apologies

Tony Prave, Caroline Paterson, Anne Burgess.

Minutes of Previous Meeting 28 November 2007

The minutes were accepted.

President's Report

The President highlighted a few items of importance. The Planning Committee had reconvened to consider membership issues, and were planning high profile events outside of our usual programme. A memorandum had been agreed with NMS Enterprises Ltd to publish EGS Excursion guides. It is recognised that Ian Jackson already does an excellent job in selling EGS publications and that the new arrangement would give access to a wider network. An agreement with the Geological Society Publishing House to publish the Scottish Journal of Geology would be signed in December and will be hugely beneficial to members of EGS and the Geological Society of Glasgow. Further details will be available soon. Printed copies of the journal would still be available for the next seven years and members would have access to the online Lyell collection.

Tony Harris was thanked for convening an excellent programme of lectures, and thanks were also due to the lecturers who give their services voluntarily. Jim Smith and Yvonne Couper were thanked for their assistance in the smooth running of the lecture programme. The President thanked Excursion leaders and Myra Smith and Angus Miller for coordinating the programme, and Anne Burgess for organising a very successful Long Excursion. The Lothian and Borders RIGS Group had participated in the Excursion Programme, offering a series of Wednesday evening excursions.

Treasurer's Report

David Gould highlighted a deficit of £7,421 and a loss in the value of assets of £18,890. He noted major expenditure in the depreciation of publications stock, which is being systematically depreciated, to £5,582 this year. This is the main cause of the deficit. £4,500 was paid for the publication of the Scottish Journal of Geology, and the new agreement will see this major expenditure removed from 2010. So we can expect a surplus of income over expenditure of around £2000 per year beyond 2010. EGS had lost £11,469 on investments because of the collapse of the stock market. £7,000 in cash is held by our investment managers, awaiting reinvestment. The Finance Committee had discussed and agreed a new investment strategy with the investment managers but has been put on hold until markets have stabilised.

The President thanked David Gould for his efforts and noted that members did not have time to read the report, but that it has been reviewed and considered by Council. Proposal in the future to allow perusal in advance of the AGM. A Special General Meeting will be held in January to propose a law change that would move the date of the AGM to January, and also take account of the new agreement with the Geological Society Publishing House.

Election of Council Members

The following were elected:

President A A McMillan
Vice-President A G Leslie
Vice-President S K Monro
Secretary A D Miller
Treasurer D Gould

Membership Secretary C L Thompson

Excursions Secretary

Lectures Secretary
Assistant Secretary (Billet)
Assistant Secretary (Social)
SLB Arkley
Librarian and Archivist
RP McIntosh
Publications Sales Officer and Proceedings Editor
DI Jackson

Ordinary Members A M Macpherson

R Morley

A Custance-Baker

R Reekie

A Burgess

K M Goodenough

Scientific Editors R W Duck

A Prave

Independent Examiner B Russell (Dalgliesh & Tullo)

There were no nominations for Excursions Secretary and the President asked for further ideas from the membership. He thanked retiring members of Council: Emrys Phillips, Bill Pullar, and particularly recorded our great appreciation to Caroline Paterson for her long service to Council.

Further Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:28pm.