

Edinburgh Geological Society
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
7pm Wednesday 28 January 2015, Grant Institute

Present

Christine Thompson (Chair) and 26 members as listed in the attached Attendance Sheets.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Bob Morley, Phil Stone, Lilian D'Mello, Anne Burgess, Alison Tymon and Barry Tymon.

Minutes of Previous Meeting 29 January 2014

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposer: Averil Hope-Smith. Seconder: Bob Reekie.

President's Report

The President reported that the Society had had another busy and successful year in pursuit of its objectives; the stimulation and encouragement of public interest in geology and the advancement of geological knowledge. An excellent programme of 11 lectures took place during the Session 2013-2014. The lectures programme is now run by Graham Leslie, who took over from Kathryn Goodenough as Lectures Secretary at the last AGM. The President thanked him for following up with another interesting and varied programme this winter. A summer programme of 5 day and 5 evening excursions was organised and run by Mel Farquharson, Excursions Secretary. The President expressed her thanks to him, and to the excursion leaders who voluntarily gave of their time and expertise.

Once again, Anne Burgess had very professionally organised the Long Excursion, to the North of Ireland, while Lilian d'Mello organised the Long Weekend on Islay: grateful thanks were expressed to both. Lilian D'Mello was also particularly thanked for her hard work as Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee over the last three years, as she demits office, and especially for overseeing the launch of a new grant application process in March 2014.

The President thanked Andrew Rushworth, Membership Secretary, for his excellent work in maintaining the membership database and encouraging prompt payment of subscriptions, which is an important source of the Society's income. He too leaves office at the end of his term. She reminded members to complete a Gift Aid form if eligible, if they had not already done so, as this enables the Society to claim back tax and increases income. She noted that Andrew had also been chairing a Finance and Planning subcommittee which has been considering a strategy for the Society over the next five years.

The President expressed her thanks to Fiona McGibbon for her excellent work in continuing to compile and distribute the Billet, which was the Society's primary means of keeping in touch with all its members, and put out a plea for a volunteer to assist with enveloping the copies; the work would not be onerous.

As Chair of the Publications Committee, David Stephenson oversees the Billet and all other EGS publications. He is currently proof-reading and addressing copyright matters for the Perth and Stirling geological guide which is to be published in conjunction with the National Museums of Scotland. Its publication brings to fruition a 40-year gestation period, and thanks were expressed to Mike Browne and Con Gillen for their authorship, and to Angus Miller for preparing the diagrams. The corporate and individual donors whose contributions have enabled the Society to maintain its programme were collectively thanked.

The President paid tribute to the accounting skills and wise financial judgement of the Treasurer, Bob Morley. He will be stepping down in a year's time and the EGS is anxious to recruit a Treasurer-designate as soon as possible who will "shadow" him for the next year with a view to taking over in 2016. The President asked for

anyone who would like to volunteer, or knew of a potential candidate, to contact her or the Treasurer. Other posts which remain vacant, and for which volunteers are sought, are Librarian/Archivist, which is not an onerous task, and Long Weekend coordinator. Volunteers should contact either the Secretary or the President. Finally, the President thanked the Secretary for her assistance during the year.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting due to illness, and the President drew the attention of members to the Financial Reports which had been published in the Annual Report. She invited anyone who had a query to submit it by e-mail to the Treasurer, or to telephone him.

Election of Council Members

Nominations to Council had been published in the Billet and on the website, although there was one amendment to the published list, which had been notified by e-mail; Andrew Rushworth was standing for election as Asst Sec (Finance and Planning) and not Lilian D'Mello as previously notified. None of the posts had more than one nominee so no vote was required. The nominations were proposed by Brian Henderson and seconded by David Gould.

The following were elected:

President	Christine Thompson
Vice-President	David Stephenson
Vice-President	Richard Smith
Immediate Past President	Graham Leslie
Honorary Secretary	Beverly Bergman
Honorary Treasurer	Bob Morley
Membership Secretary	Barbara Clarke
Excursions Secretary	Mel Farquharson
Lectures Secretary	Graham Leslie
Publications Committee Chair	David Stephenson
Asst Secretary (Finance/Planning)	Andrew Rushworth
Asst Secretary (Billet)	Fiona McGibbon
Asst Secretary (Awards)	Graham Leslie
Librarian & Archivist	<i>Vacant</i>
Publication Sales Officer	Angus Miller
Ordinary Members	Angus Macpherson
	Mike Browne
	Phil Stone
	Rhona Fraser
	Colin MacFadyen
	<i>Vacant</i>
Scientific Editors	Rob Duck
	Maarten Krabbendam
Independent Examiner	A Gibson (Gibson McKerrell Brown)

The President Christine Thompson welcomed the new members of Council and members appointed to new office.

Further Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:17 pm and members then heard a lecture entitled “Just a big pile of sand? The sedimentology of the desert system, environmental interactions, effects of climate change and practical implications” presented by Dr Stuart Clarke of Keele University.