

Earth Science Teachers' Association

Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday 24 September 2016 at the University of St Andrews at 3.00 pm

1. Welcome

The Chair, Nikki Edwards (NE), welcomed everyone to the AGM. She thanked the University of St Andrews for hosting a very successful conference. She thanked PESGB who had once again sponsored the Annual Conference as well as several other initiatives with ESTA during the year.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Tracy Atkinson, Joanne Conway, Elouise Gill, Peter Jones and Tom Argles.

3. ESTA President

On behalf of all members NE thanked the outgoing President, Professor Iain Stewart, for his support of the Association. She then welcomed the new President, David Shilston and invited him to say a few words.

David Shilston said he felt privileged as a geologist working in industry to be invited to become ESTA President. He had been impressed by the enthusiasm shown by geology teachers for their subject, such enthusiasm was not always evident in other subjects!

4. Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 48th AGM, held on Saturday 26 September at Cardiff University, were accepted as a true record. Pete Loader proposed that the minutes should be accepted as a true record, seconded by Julia Kungu, agreed unanimously.

5. Matters Arising from the 48th AGM

There were no matters arising

6. Annual Reports

Annual reports from Council members had been published on the ESTA website ahead of the AGM and paper copies made available to delegates on request. Reports were taken as read but NE invited Officers to highlight key points.

6.1 *Chair's report:* Nikki Edwards summarised the main points of her report. One of her key aims had been to formalise liaison with other organisations for mutual support. The main challenge was to widen ESTA membership to every Geology teacher in the UK.

6.2 *Treasurer's report:* Carole Rushall advised members that ESTA remained in credit, but by a small margin. She thanked Peter Williams, Julia Kungu and John Reynolds for inspecting the accounts. Carole urged members to consider paying by Direct Debit and to sign the Gift Aid form.

6.3 *Secretary's report:* Taken as read.

6.4 *Membership Secretary's report:* Taken as read.

6.5 *Higher Education Co-ordinator's report:* Taken as read.

6.6 *Secondary Co-ordinator's report:* Taken as read.

- 6.7 *Primary Co-ordinator's report:* Taken as read. NE noted that Primary education was an area that ESTA would seek to support in the coming year. The Geological Survey of London had also expressed an interest in this area.
- 6.8 *Editors' report:* Hazel Clark reported that, due to circumstances beyond her control, the next issue of *Teaching Earth Sciences* had been delayed. She apologised for the delay and encouraged members to continue submitting articles for future editions.
- 6.9 *Projects Manager's report:* Taken as read. NE thanked Maggie Williams for continuing to liaise so fruitfully with PESGB. She also thanked Maria Iredale for PESGB's continuing support.

7 ESTA subscriptions: proposed increase

Carole Rushall noted that members had been notified of Council's proposal to increase subscriptions at the 2015 AGM and, subsequently, through the email distribution list, TES and AGM reports. She summarised the reasons for the proposal.

On behalf of Council, Carole Rushall proposed that Ordinary/Institution membership of ESTA be increased to £40 and Student/Retired membership to £20 from 1 October 2016.

John Reynolds seconded the proposal. Membership passed, nem con.

8 Election of Officers to Council

The following posts were vacant or due for re-election.

- 8.1 *Chair Designate:* Jo Conway had agreed to be nominated by Council and was elected unopposed. NE thanked Jo for agreeing to take on the role.
- 8.2 *Secretary:* David Bailey was proposed by Council and elected unopposed for another term. No other nominations had been received.
- 8.3 *Assistant Editor:* Maggie Williams agreed to be co-opted for a further term.
- 8.4 *Display/Promotions Manager:* No nominations had been received. Pete Loader described this role, essentially to look after the ESTA display materials and find members willing to staff it at the ASE and Geographical Association conferences.¹
- 8.5 *Reviews Editor:* Pete Loader agreed to continue in this role.

9 Any other business

- 9.1 Maggie Williams reminded members that PESGB were sponsoring a competition for GCSE and A Level students to make a short video to show geological fieldwork in action and demonstrate how the fieldwork has helped them to understand the geology of the place they have visited. Members were asked to encourage their students to take part.
- 9.2 Alan Richardson said that he had made all his A Level teaching resources available following his retirement, including a booklet of maths problems. He would be happy to share them with members on request.
- 9.3 Emma Smith noted that some organisations successfully use Facebook to liaise with their members. She volunteered to set up such a group for ESTA, where members could post questions and share ideas.

The AGM closed at 15.27

David Bailey, October 2016

¹ Mandy Winstanley and Dan Boatright kindly agreed to share the role of Display/Promotions Manager after the meeting had closed.