



BRITISH SOCIETY
FOR THE HISTORY
OF MATHEMATICS

From the Honorary Secretary:
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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the BSHM Held virtually on the Zoom platform on Saturday 5th December 2020

The meeting opened at 12.30 pm with the President, Mark McCartney, in the Chair. There were 40 members of the Society present.

1. Apologies for absence

The following apologies were received: Sue Pope.

Before proceeding, the President had the poignant task of announcing the names of those members who had sadly died in the last year. Members stood in respect for:

Trevor Jones, Tamworth 3/4/2020

AEL Davis, London 23/11/2020

2. Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 7th December 2019

a) Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved.

b) Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Officers' Reports and Accounts

These refer to the timeframe Jan 1st to Dec 31st 2020 and are collated under the BSHM Company Annual Report, filed with Companies House.

a) The Officers outlined their reports as in the above document. There were no questions on the report.

- i. Membership numbers remained fairly constant at about 300. The new membership administration system, Membermojo, was in place and streamlining the processing of new members, as well as membership renewals and updates. Members can now go online and update their details and members are encouraged to do so.

- ii. We were in good financial health. The Treasurer went over the balance sheet for 2019, and reported that in 2020, with everything moving online, our expenses had reduced, so we were still ticking over.
- iii. The President gave an overview of past and planned events and awards, showing that the Society was in a healthy state and had maintained a good range of events despite the pandemic.
 - a. This year had seen the first award of the Taylor and Francis early career as a prize to Ellen Abrams, a recent PhD graduate, and presently a postdoc at Cornell University in the states. As part of this award she had been appointed as media coordinator for the society, and along with some other members of council had started a very productive blog section of the society webpages, which members were encouraged to look at.
 - b. The undergraduate a prize and the schools plus prizes resulted in a number of strong entries, and this led to the decision to award a larger number of runner up prizes than in previous years to recognize the strength of fields. This shows the importance of engaging with teachers in the secondary and perhaps even the primary sector in British education, and to this end we were launching an initiative to promote talks on the history of mathematics in schools and the creation of digital resources for users and teaching with the overall aim of raising the maths history profile.
 - c. The Birkbeck meeting on Decision Maths and the joint CSHPM/BSHM meeting in St Andrews had both to be postponed till 2021, but we had managed some very successful meetings online, including Maths in a Time of Crisis, the Gresham talks, and Black Heroes of Mathematics, the latter together with the IMS and LMS. Also with the LMS we had organised a successful Holgate lecture.
 - d. The President thanked all meeting organisers for all their work; Benjamin Wardhaugh for his work in maintaining a good selection of high quality and fascinating papers in the new Journal; and lastly thanked all Council members for all their work over the year. Among these latter, he especially thanked Robin Wilson, who was stepping down, for his contributions, and since he himself was also stepping down after his three years, emphasised what a genuine honour it had been to serve a society which had made a great and important contribution to the history of mathematics discipline and to the wider community over the last 50 years.
- iv. After a vote of thanks to the outgoing President and some discussion of the format of meetings and target audience of our outreach programmes, the meeting turned to the election of Council.

4. Election of Council for 2021

The names of the nominated Council for 2021 together with their biographies had been circulated to all members. No BSHM member had subsequently asked for anyone else to be nominated. They were as follows:

President	Mark McCartney
Vice President	Sarah Hart
Treasurer	Klaas Sijbrandij
Secretary	Fenny Smith
Membership Secretary	Ken Lord
New Members' Secretary	Dorothy Leddy
Communications Officer	Dorothy Leddy
Meetings Coordinator	Isobel Falconer
Education Officer	Snezana Lawrence
Publicity and Webmaster	Troy Astarte
Elected (ordinary) member of Council	Robin Wilson
Co-opted JMC Representative	June Barrow-Green
Journal Editor	Benjamin Wardhaugh

Note 1) Benjamin Wardhaugh was appointed as Journal Editor but not a permanent member of Council.

The motion that the **nominated Council be adopted** was proposed by Tony Mann and seconded by Richard Simpson.

5. Appointment of Andrew Thurburn & Co., 38 Tamworth Road, Croydon, as the Society's accountants and independent examiner

The motion that **Andrew Thurburn & Co be re-appointed as the Society's accountants and independent examiner** was proposed by Troy Astarte and seconded by June Barrow-Green.

6. The voting was managed by Zoom polls (many thanks to TA), with the proviso that some 'screens' had more than one voter, e.g. Sarah Hart and Martin Perkins; and the necessary abstention of the Treasurer from voting on his own Report. All three motions were carried overwhelmingly.

6. Any other business

There was none, except for the Secretary to thank Robin for his service on Council, Mark for all his hard work and good sense as President over the last three years, and to welcome Sarah into the presidential post.

7. The meeting closed at 12.59 pm.

Fenny Smith, Hon. Secretary
27/10/2020