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Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting

**Thursday 6th February 2020 at 7pm
B.R.L.S.I. 16 Queen Square, Bath**

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Linda Drummond-Harris, Gordon and Margaret Hobbs, Sonia Chant, Isabel Buckingham and Frank Lowe.

2. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

They were taken as read, copies having been left out, and agreed.

3. Matters Arising

Subscriptions amount will be dealt with in the President and Treasurer's report

4. Chairman's report

- Good evening and a Happy New Year to you all. We have had another busy and entertaining year with another ten very informative and illuminating talks. We, once again, held another 'joint meeting' with the BRLSI in October on William Smith, the 'father of English geology'.
- Again, we had an interesting field trip programme, starting as usual with our 'usual' clean-up of Brown's Folly; including a trip to the Etches Collection and Museum at Kimmeridge in Dorset, ending with a trip to Moon's Quarry, amongst others.
- We will continue to use the smaller room for our monthly lecture. I would like to thank Ann Hunt for opening her home to the society for committee meetings, giving us a further saving in costs.
- I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for the service they give the Society. We are looking for an Admin Secretary as Isabel Buckingham has stood down. I would like to thank her for all of the work she has done for the Society. And it goes without saying that an immense thanks goes to Jan for providing the refreshments for our meetings. A Job well done!
- I would like to thank Mellissa Freeman for her hard work in compiling and editing the Journal which was published in December 2019. Due to the increased cost of

printing the journal we have decided to make it available in a digital PDF format, members needing a hardcopy print can contact Judith Hible who can arrange this.

- A major event will take place for the BGS in July of 2020 and that is our 50th Anniversary as the first meeting was on the 25th September 1970 at Bath University.
- Finally owing to some health issues I have decided to stand down as Chair of the Bath Geological Society and from the committee. I thank you all for the help and support you have given me in this role.

Richard Pollock

5. Treasurer's Report.

- Copies of the balance sheet are available for inspection.
- Our position is much better than for a number of years.
- Income from subscriptions is up by 62%; income from visitors is up by 16%. Total income is up by 44%.
- Expenditure is down by 40%. We have reduced our expenditure by having more local lecturers and not printing the Journal. However, I have not received a claim for admin expenses and refreshments yet.
- We have asked the GA to reduce the cost of insurance to that for a smaller group. This has resulted in a refund of the overpayment for 2018 & 2019.
- We had paid for 10 room hires in 2018 but one of these was transferred to BRLSI. In 2019, we again transferred a lecture to BRLSI, so we only paid (net) for 8 room hires.
- If we average out the room hire and insurance between the years, to make them more directly comparable, then adjusted expenditure for 2018 = £1781.24 and for 2019 = £1414.96 giving an adjusted reduction in expenditure of 20%.
- There is probably no need to increase subscriptions in 2021, particularly if BRLSI continue to take over some lectures.
- This is an extract from the Constitution: 'The Secretary and the Treasurer shall hold office for a period not exceeding seven years and shall not be eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed.' In view of this I will not be seeking re-election as Treasurer.

Judith Hible

Notes / Questions from the floor

- Jan had not submitted a claim for refreshments as she thought the society was short of money. The Treasurer arranged a cheque for £15 (£10 for 2019 and extra £5 for 2018).
- Re: Journal - Judith can print copies of The Journal if they are needed (she is doing one for Valerie).

- Re: printed programme - Judith has prepared a prospectus for 2020, which was now on the website, print copies will be available at the March meeting.
- Following a question from Graham Hickman about the refund from the GA: Regarding the balance sheet and accounts – to make them comparable with previous year's accounts, I have included some refunds as negative amounts on the expenditure page. This includes the refund of the overpayment for insurance from the GA and also a repayment from HSBC bank. HSBC allowed an individual from London to set up a direct debit to Mangopay from our account using his mobile phone. This was despite our Society not being registered for phone or online banking and needing 2 signatories to set up a direct debit. Following a phone call from me, the direct debit was cancelled and £420 refunded.

6. Election of Officers

Graham Hickman volunteered to take on the role of Chair. He was nominated and seconded and the meeting elected him.

Philip Burge volunteered to take on the role of Treasurer. He was nominated and seconded and the meeting elected him. Judith will arrange to meet him and transfer the files and relevant information

The Administrative Secretary role is still vacant and needs to be filled. We are grateful to Polly and Anne who have stepped in to share out the admin tasks during 2019 however this is important role and needs filling.

A.O.B.

There being no further business the AGM was ended just after 7.30pm.