

THE ECCLESIOLOGICAL SOCIETY MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

The meeting was held at the St Alban's Centre, Baldwins Gardens, London EC1N 7AB, on 10 April 2014, and was chaired by Trevor Cooper.

1. The meeting opened at 7.50pm following an excellent lecture by Sarah Brown entitled 'John Thornton's stained glass Apocalypse in the east window of York Minster: the creation and conservation of a medieval master-piece'. This was attended by about 35 people, 29 of whom remained for the AGM. The Chairman welcomed attendees and introduced the members of Council who were present.

2. The minutes of the AGM on 25 April 2013 at the St Alban's Centre were approved unanimously (proposed by William Parker, seconded by Christopher Webster)

3. The draft accounts for the year to 31 December 2013 were presented. The Treasurer, Anthony Gilmour, explained that the Society's finances were stable and that the increase in membership rates had led to a rise in income of about 20%. Expenditure had been down as no *Ecclesiology Today* had appeared (funds had been put aside for that future expenditure). The special purposes fund was expected to be used for improving the website and providing funding for the conservation of William Butterfield's tomb in Tottenham Cemetery. No questions were raised and the draft accounts were approved unanimously, on the basis that any material matters raised by the Independent Examiner would be reported to the next AGM (proposed by Sarah Brown, seconded by Valerie Hitchman).

4. The Annual Report of the Council had been put before attendees. The Chairman highlighted the Society's proposal for a project to conserve Butterfield's tomb; that although *Ecclesiology Today* did not appear in 2013 there is intended to be a double issue shortly; and paid tribute to Dr Valerie Hitchman in dealing with the many administrative problems arising out of the subscription increase. The Report was approved unanimously (proposed by Roger Cline, seconded by Paul Velluet).

5. The meeting put on record members' appreciation of the contribution made by the Society's President and Vice-Presidents to the standing of the Society and ecclesiology, as follows: the Rt Revd David Stancliffe (President), DD, MA, FRSCM; Dr Donald Buttress (President Emeritus), OBE, LVO, DLITT, MA, FSA, ARIBA, Surveyor Emeritus of Westminster Abbey; The Rt Revd & Rt Hon. Richard Chartres, KCVO, DD, FSA; the Lord Cormack, FSA; The Rt Hon. Frank Field, MP; Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch, DD, FBA; The Revd Dr M. J. Peel, BA, BD, MLitt; M. J. Saunders, MBE, MA, FSA; Sir Donald Sinden, CBE; Professor Gavin Stamp, Hon. FRIAS, Hon. FRIBA, FSA; Lady Wedgwood, FSA. The note of appreciation was proposed by Christopher Webster, seconded by Phil Draper.

6. Regarding honorary officers and members of the Council, it was noted that Keith Lovell and Dr Suzanna Branfoot retired from the Council in 2013. The chairman spoke warmly of the contribution both had made during their time on the Council. The following nominations had been received: *Director of Publicity and Publications (Acting)*: Trevor Cooper; *Membership Secretary*: Dr Valerie Hitchman; *Reviews Editor*: Christopher Webster; *Editor of Church Crawler*: Phil Draper; *Treasurer*: Anthony Gilmour; *Visits Organiser*: Ruth Knight; *Minutes Secretary*: Dr Geoff Brandwood; *Secretary*: Becky Payne; *Members of Council*: Dr Paul Barnwell, the Revd Dr Lynne Broughton, Sarah Brown, Andrew Derrick, Dr John Elliott, Paul Velluet. They were elected unanimously *en bloc* (proposed by Paul Velluet, seconded by Tony Trainer). Becky Payne is a new member of Council and her undertaking the role of Hon. Secretary is much welcomed by other members of the Council.

7. Mark Ockelton was approved unanimously as Honorary Auditor, the Society's name for the Independent Examiner of its accounts (proposed by Trevor Cooper, seconded by Christopher Webster). The Chairman expressed his appreciation of the constructive and careful way he had undertaken this role over the years, and also took the opportunity to thank Brigid Ockelton for her continued work in sending out orders for the Society's publications.

8. No other business was raised and the Chairman concluded the meeting with an expression of thanks to the Council. The meeting closed at 8.04p.m.