

<p>The 67th AGM of the British Agricultural History Society was held at the Jubilee Conference Centre, University of Nottingham, Nottingham at 4pm on Monday 8th April 2019.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>Present: There were 26 members of the Society present. The Chair was taken by Prof. Henry French. Officers of the Society present were Dr Sarah Holland (Secretary), Prof. Richard Hoyle (Editor, <i>Agricultural History Review</i>), Bill Shannon (Treasurer).</p>	
<p>613 Apologies for absence: Dr Carl Griffin and Dr Nicola Whyte.</p>	
<p>614 Minutes of the 65th meeting: were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>615 Matters arising from the minutes: The Chair reported on the new format of the Spring Conference, noting that the CFP had been very successful in encouraging ECRs to submit papers (although papers from other academics had mainly been drawn from personal invitations). Building on this success, the new format would be the basis for the next conference in 2020 and would continue to evolve. It was also noted that the number of attendees to the spring conference was larger than recent years, which was a positive trend.</p>	
<p>616 Elections of Officers of the Executive Committee The following nominations had been received: Treasurer: Dr William (Bill) Shannon. Secretary: Dr Sarah Holland. Editor: Prof. Richard Hoyle. All were approved by the AGM and will serve for one year (when they are eligible for re-election).</p> <p>Dr Briony McDonagh had stood down as books review editor. Dr John Morgan had been nominated to become book reviews editor and this was approved by the AGM.</p>	
<p>617 Election of Ordinary Members of the Executive Committee There were two vacancies on the EC in 2019. The following nominations had been received: Prof. Nicola Verdon and Dr Paul Warde. Both were agreed by the AGM and will serve a four-year term in the first instance.</p> <p>Dr Paul Brassley had served two consecutive terms at the EC and was not eligible for re-election. Dr Brassley will however become the new President of the Society – taking over from Dr John Broad.</p>	
<p>618 Chair's report: HF thanked Dr Sarah Holland for taking on the role of Secretary.</p> <p>HF outlined the succession planning for Officers, which was in process and would be necessary over the coming year. He explained that Prof. Richard Hoyle would be retiring from the editorship of the Review and that Dr Paul Warde would be taking over. As such a new Winter Conference Organiser would be needed to take over from PW. The next winter conference (2019) would be in memory of the life and work of Alun Howkins. Initial preparations such as room booking had already been made by PW. Karen Sayer and Nicola Verdon are to assist in co-organising the Winter Conference in memory of Alun Howkins. Suggestions for a new Winter Conference Organiser were therefore welcomed – this position would need to be filled in time to organise the 2020 Winter Conference.</p> <p>HF also noted that Bill Shannon would also be retiring as Treasurer at the next AGM and the Society would need a new Treasurer soon to allow for a transition. Suggestions for a new Treasurer were therefore also welcomed.</p>	<p>RH and PW</p> <p>KS and NV</p> <p>HF</p>
<p>619 Treasurer's Report: The AGM were presented with the Society's balance sheet, income and expenditure, and membership</p>	

<p>figures, all for the year ending 31st January 2019.</p> <p>The Society made a deficit of £4,770 (compared to a loss of £1,702 in the previous year), but Dr Bill Shannon explained this was wholly attributable to unrealised losses in the value of our investments (largely in the final quarter of the year).</p> <p>The in-year surplus (excess of income over expenditure) was £845. Although modest, it was noted that this was part of deliberate plan to spend more on things like LIBRAL and conference bursaries.</p> <p>It was noted that more conference bursaries had been handed out in 2019 due to more ECRs presenting at the Spring conference.</p> <p>It was noted that there was no evidence that the increase in subscription fees had negatively impacted on membership rates but that it should positively impact on the balance sheet in the future.</p> <p>Bill noted that the next accounts would be his 6th set of accounts for the Society and he is ready to handover to the next Treasurer.</p> <p>The accounts were agreed by the AGM.</p> <p>The AGM also agreed to reinstate the external examiner, Zoe Crumby.</p>	
<p>620 Editors' Reports:</p> <p><i>Agricultural History Review</i></p> <p>Two issues of the <i>Review</i> appeared last year, with part two being slightly late. The next one (Vol 67 part one) is in final proof and should be distributed in May 2019.</p> <p>The submission rate of articles had been much slower than was ideal, and this made problems for both scheduling publication and achieving a good balance within individual issues of the <i>Review</i>. It was noted that there was too little of everything at present.</p> <p>Plan S was discussed: this would mean that all publications resulting from research funded by public grants must be published in compliant Open Access Journals or on compliant Open Access Platforms. RH explained that this meant some people would not be able to publish in the <i>Review</i> unless it became completely open access and then there would be no revenue from the review. The EC would watch this matter closely.</p> <p>Professor Hoyle reminded the AGM he would be retiring from the editorship in 2019, and outlined the transition process for handing over the editorship of the <i>Review</i> to Dr Paul Warde. RH would see Vol. 67 part two through the press – this would be his last issue. Arrangements were being put in place for an incremental handover of duties during the second 2019, including PW taking over responsibility for the refereeing and acceptance of papers in the Summer. RH would then formally retire from post at the 2020 AGM when PW would be appointed in his place.</p> <p>Professor Hoyle thanked Dr Briony McDonagh for her work as reviews editor over several years and welcomed John Morgan as the new reviews editor.</p> <p><i>Rural History Today</i></p> <p>Dr Rebecca Ford told the meeting that the next edition of RHT was on track for publication later in the year, and that she was always looking for fresh and lively content for inclusion. RF is also going to apply for an ISSN for RHT (hopefully in time for the next edition).</p> <p>LIBRAL</p> <p>There will soon be 500 books on LIBRAL, so it is growing at a reasonable rate. New stuff is constantly being added, including (at present) items from the Perkins Library, Southampton. Members were invited to suggest things for inclusion.</p>	<p>RH and PW</p> <p>RF</p>
<p>621 Any other business:</p> <p>With regret, HF informed the AGM of the death of Prof. Alun Howkins in July 2018. It was agreed</p>	

unanimously that the most fitting tribute to Prof. Howkins' considerable contribution to the Society over many years would be to perform a toast in his memory at the drinks reception prior to the conference dinner.	
622 Date of Next Meeting: To be held at the next Spring Conference at Wortley Hall on 6 April 2020.	HF and SH

15 April 2019