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MINUTES OF THE 2004 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE REMOTE SENSING AND PHOTOGRAMMETRY SOCIETY

Thursday 9th September 2004, 5.30 pm, Room: Gordon Suite B, The Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre (AECC), Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, Scotland, AB23 8BL.

The Chairman opened the AGM at 5.45 pm and welcomed all members to the meeting.

The attendance of the AGM is recorded in Annex 1.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: D Rhind, J Finch, P Mather, K Atkinson, J Elder, M Cooper, T Wicks, T Robins and K Bowden.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

It was proposed by I Downey that the Agenda was adopted. E Wallington seconded this and all were in favour.

3. Approval of the 2003 AGM and EGM Minutes

The 2003 AGM and the 2003 EGM Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

An anomaly was noted, by P Newby, in the 2003 EGM Minutes, in the 3rd paragraph, final sentence. The Chairman suggested alternative wording to read as follows:

"M Wickett seconded this".

All agreed to this amendment.

5. Annual Review and Accounts

The Chairman referred members to the Annual Review and Accounts with particular reference to the:

5.1 *Chairman's report.* Various activities of the past year were highlighted. RSPSoc had been invited to contribute on space-related strategy by BNSC and NERC and had done so. Amongst the points the Society had made was to press for the recognition of the contribution airborne activities could make. It was noted that the 2002 Round Table inputs were being finalized.

Activities of the External Affairs Committee were noted as part of the outreach exercise across the UK. The Society is the UK affiliating body for the ISPRS, the National Report for UK activity over the past 4 years had recently been produced. All those involved in the production of the report were thanked for their effort in participating and providing information.

The type and format of the Society's Technical meetings was noted; the annual conference in 2003 in Nottingham had been very successful, as was RSPSoc2004 in Aberdeen, and the organisers were thanked once again. The Society looked forward to meeting in Portsmouth in 2005. The student members had been very active and there was a need to reinforce linkages.

The Publications Committee report was referred to and it was seen how the Society's publications, The Photogrammetric Record and The IJRS, had grown from strength to strength. The Newsletter Editor, P Mather, and all those who provided input, were thanked for a much improved Newsletter and thanks were also expressed to the webmaster, M Wickett, for his efforts in maintaining the web pages over the past year.

The Education and Training Committee needed volunteers to help out at various events and the Chairman asked any member who might be interested to contact the convener of this Committee.

It was further noted that Council continued to review the activities of the Society with particular reference to the issue of equalising benefits but as yet there was no firm proposal. The Working Practices document was continually being updated and was a useful document which helped the Society's officers to deliver the Society's objectives. The membership database at Nottingham had been updated and financial reporting continued to improve. However, 140 members had recently had their membership terminated as persistent non-payers. Procedures were in place to track lapsed members. Grateful thanks were recorded to P Mather and P Aplin who supported the RSPSoc office in carrying out the work of the Society on a day-to-day basis. The Society's sponsors were also thanked for their continuing support.

After this AGM the Chairman, I Downey, retired and he recorded his thanks to Council, the membership and all those who had helped and supported him during his 3 year term. He said it had been an honour to chair the Society with the assistance of S Marsh. I Downey started his remote sensing course 20 years ago in Aberdeen and acknowledged a number of individuals who were still involved in the teaching of remote sensing; he wished all and the Society well in the future.

5.2 *Hon. Gen. Secretary's Report.* This report was given by S Marsh in the absence of J Finch and members were referred to page 5 of the Annual Review. At the start of the reporting period, M Stuttard and M Wickett retired from Council as trustees but M Wickett was still active as the Society's webmaster. K Bowden is no longer the

Compliance Officer but is a member of the External Affairs Committee. J Adams retired as the Student Representative and A Smart and S Winterbottom were elected for a second term as trustees. J Drummond and M Cutler were elected to Council for a first term and C O'Shea was nominated as Student Representative. J Chandler stood down from the post of Vice Chairman in November 2003 but is still the Convener of the Publications Committee. S Marsh took over as Vice Chairman and Annex 1 (Council Membership) of the Annual Review was noted. The closing remarks of the Hon. Gen. Secretary's report, which thanked the staff at the RSPSoc office for their work, were noted.

S Marsh then thanked I Downey for his sterling efforts over the last 3 years, particularly his work in the post Society merger period steering the two former Societies into one Society in the 3 year period. Council was extremely grateful to Ian for all he had achieved.

- 5.3 *Hon. Treasurer's Report.* The Hon. Treasurer, R Taft, reported on the financial results of the reporting period and it was noted that there was a £14k surplus with a total asset value of £214k. The accounts were now produced in two formats to comply with the Charity Commission (SOFA format) and Companies House. The former, SOFA, format was contained within the annual review (Annex 3). It was reported that the accounts were stable and that there was double the annual revenue as a reserve for 2 years. Last year a £3k loss was reported on the COIF shares but this had been recovered in the reporting period. The AGM was asked for any questions on the accounts.

J Mills questioned the figure relating to the surplus as regards his one-day meeting in 2003 and R Taft explained that the figure quoted is a net figure as there had been a catering bill yet to be paid.

P Newby raised a question relating to the unrealized losses of last year and R Taft explained that this year it had been reported again as a negative expenditure which equalled an unrealized gain (ie "0" in the accounts). R Taft then briefly explained the COIF practice.

6. Results of Council Elections

I Downey reported. The Society's Officers are elected from Council, by Council, and at the last meeting they were elected as follows:

Hon. Treasurer	R Taft
Hon. Gen. Secretary	J Finch
Vice Chairman	D Rhind
Chairman	S Marsh

It was noted that D Rhind's position was an interim one until a new Vice Chairman was elected.

With respect to Council elections, there had recently been a ballot as five nominations had been received for four vacancies. Those members retiring from Council were P Bryan, J Norton and R Payne. The new members of Council are: A Koh (1st Term), J Norton (2nd Term), T Wicks (1st Term) and M Williams (1st Term).

R Teeuw (Organiser of RSPSoc2005) had been co-opted onto Council as an Observer and C Farquhar will shadow C O'Shea as Student Representative.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner

R Taft proposed that D Cooke be re-appointed as the Independent Examiner. P Mason seconded this and all agreed unanimously.

8. AOB

- 8.1 A Cracknell referred members to the 2003 AGM Minutes (5.3 paragraph 3) as there was an anomaly in the penultimate sentence. The Chairman suggested this be amended to read: "An EGM ...costs. It was noted that the financial policy was to maintain reserves for 2 years. There ...". This was agreed.
- 8.2 IJRS. It was noted that the submission and handling of papers for the IJRS will be produced electronically. Much work had been undertaken testing the new system with the software package and it was noted that it will soon go live. A Cracknell requested that, in future, submissions should be made electronically which would help the refereeing process. The system is good and logs all the necessary details.
- 8.3 Chain of Office. It was noted that I Downey will pass this to S Marsh after the AGM.
- 8.4 Outreach activities. P Zukowskij suggested that perhaps some of the surplus in the accounts could be used to further educational outreach activities. I Downey responded that there was a difficulty in getting volunteers. It was noted that some teaching materials were online, that BNSC supported other initiatives and that Council might consider taking this suggestion forward.
- 8.5 J Mills suggested that for many delegates there was a lack of resources to attend conferences and that Council might consider some financing towards this. S Marsh indicated that this was an area that should be looked at, with a view to encouraging the next generation of remote sensors and photogrammetrists, and that it was a helpful suggestion.
- 8.6 C O'Shea thanked E Wallington (retiring Student Representative) for all his efforts over the past year. E Wallington responded by wishing her good luck in organising the 2005 student meeting in Stirling and asked for Supervisors to support this meeting.

There being no further business, the AGM closed at 6.20 pm and all members were invited to attend the Blackwell's reception.

Annex 1

THE REMOTE SENSING AND PHOTOGRAMMETRY SOCIETY AGM 2004

Thursday 9th September 2004, 5.30 pm, Room: Gordon Suite B, The Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre (AECC), Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, Scotland, AB23 8BL

LIST OF ATTENDEES

G Amable	NMS Numan
P Aplin	AL Nunes
P Atkinson	E Ogunbadewa
D Boyd	C O'Shea
K Brown	W Rotinsulu
P Bryan	T Rubin
M Clowes	A Smart
AP Cracknell	G Smith
M Cutler	R Taft
V Djepa	R Teeuw
S Donegan	S Tovey
I Downey	R Vaughan
M-L España	E Wallington
C Farquhar	M Weir
G Foody	E Wickens
S Foster	AK Wilson
P Goldsmith	M Williams
JB Hockey	P Zukowskij
R Holley	
I Izzawati	
N Khaleque	
K Laughton	
S Lavender	
L Liddaman	
K McManus	
J McMorrow	
S Marsh	
P Mason	
TR Mathew	
A Mathur	
D Mellor	
JP Mills	
G Mottram	
PRT Newby	