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MINUTES OF THE 2005 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE REMOTE SENSING AND PHOTOGRAMMETRY SOCIETY

Thursday 8th September 2005, 4.30 pm, Lecture Theatre 1, The Portland Building, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, UK.

The Chairman opened the 2005 AGM at 4.45 pm and welcomed all those present to the meeting.

The attendance of the AGM is recorded in Annex 1.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: M Cooper, I Downey, R Kirby, J Mills and T Robins.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

It was proposed by P Mason that the Agenda be adopted. K McManus seconded this and all were in favour.

3. Approval of the 2004 AGM Minutes

The Chairman, S Marsh, requested any comments or amendments. There were no factual corrections so the 2004 AGM Minutes were signed as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising.

5. The Annual Review 2004-2005 and Accounts

J Finch introduced this item. He indicated that the Chairman would cover highlights of 2004-2005, with particular reference to the strategy established for the Chairman's term of office.

5.1 *Changes to Council membership.* The following Council members retired in the reporting period: P Bryan, R Payne, E Wallington and S Winterbottom. All were thanked for their contribution to RSPSoc over the years. It was noted that A Koh, T Wicks and M Williams had been elected to Council in 2004 for a first term and J Norton had been elected for a second term. C Farquhar had been nominated as the Student Representative to shadow C O'Shea. The Executive thanked these members for their current contribution to RSPSoc.

J Finch will retire at this AGM as Hon. Gen. Secretary. S Marsh thanked J Finch and noted that a large debt of gratitude was owed for all his work over the years and during the merger.

I Downey was thanked for his year on Council as immediate past Chairman, with personal thanks for his support and guidance to S Marsh, the Executive Committee and RSPSoc. I Downey had been involved in the merger and had designed the new Society logo.

5.2 *Chairman's Report.* S Marsh reported. With reference to External Affairs it was noted that strong and important links for RSPSoc had been made with other organisations with the aim of co-ordinating its meetings programme etc. ISPRS had been very active and there had been collaboration once again with RICS, ICES and EARSeL. There had been strong involvement in the ISPRS Congress in Istanbul in 2004 and plans were in hand for the 2008 Congress in Beijing. The Society enjoyed a good relationship with EARSeL. It was therefore active on an International and European level as well as through national level organisations. NERC and BNSC were once again involved in the annual conference and NERC had been involved through the ARSF facility in previous meetings.

A presentation was then given on the UK Geoforum and all those organisations involved. It was noted that it was a voluntary organisation of affiliated societies that co-operated on, for example, exhibiting at meetings. Co-ordination of the respective meeting programmes is being explored, as are website links. It was noted that in Europe mergers of similar set-ups had evolved, and it will be interesting to see how UK Geoforum developed in the UK, but for the present it provided an efficient national forum to match EARSeL and ISPRS.

The Annual Conference was now on track again and it was reported that the 2002 CD ROM will be circulated soon. The University of Portsmouth was thanked for hosting a very good conference this year; the high number of delegates was noted, as was the growing number of commercial vendors. There had been good collaboration with NERC with reference to presentations on 6th September and ISPRS, OCSIG and GRSG were also well involved. The Annual conference programme was very active and meetings had already been agreed for 2006 (Cambridge), 2007 (Newcastle) and 2008 (Exeter) .

It was then noted that new membership applications had increased recently but that existing membership figures remained static. The Society's peer reviewed journals continued to be a quality membership benefit and Purple Dogfish was in the process of developing the Society's new website. It was hoped that there will be a growth in membership once the new website is up and running.

With reference to the Special Interest Groups (SIGs), S Marsh had put a request in the last Newsletter soliciting members' views as to whether those wholly owned SIGS which had not been active lately should continue. These SIGs were: SARSIG, MATSIG and GISSIG and comments were received from some members. There had also been suggestions as to the following possible new SIGs: LIDAR (S Smith/D Boyd, OS), UAVs (D Donoghue, Durham University), CAL VAL (E Milton, Southampton University) and Vegetation (H Balzter, CEH EO Section, NERC). S Marsh urged all members who may be interested in joining these SIGs to get involved.

5.3 Hon. Treasurer's Report. R Taft reported. The AGM was referred to the Accounts which had been prepared in SOFA format for the purposes of the Charity Commission. In particular, the income surplus was considered. Surpluses from one and two day meetings was noted but it was also explained how there had been a slight decrease in royalties from IJRS, subscription income was flat and RSPSE Ltd was now closed so there would be no future covenanted monies from the company. As regards expenditure, it was noted that in the previous year R Taft had made prudent provision, for the payment of outstanding University of Nottingham invoices, which resulted in the recognition of an accrual in this year's accounts. Therefore, the income figure was up on last year's figure, expenditure was down and there was a surplus of some £29K. After consideration of an income chart, it was noted that: a) revenue from annual meetings showed a reduction as costs increased each year; b) the covenant payment from the closure of RSPSE Ltd was a one-off; c) a £5K surplus from a one-day symposia was unlikely to be repeated in this financial year and d) Royalty income was decreasing.

After further consideration of charts depicting the "actuals" versus the "could be's" it was noted that a surplus of £29K could, in fact, become a loss of £1.5K if a small number of items deviated from their current path.

In conclusion, it was stated that the Society's finances are under control but any proposed investment must benefit all members. With this in mind, it had been decided to re-design the Society's website and invest for the future. R Taft then asked if the AGM had any questions. There were no questions raised.

5.4 Website Re-design. J Shears gave a presentation on the proposed new website and the rationale behind this exercise. It is hoped that a vastly improved website will result in an increase and retention of membership and that a sense of community will be created. It was noted how the website will cater for all user groups in the Society and there will be various zones for non-members which will encourage membership. The content management system (CMS) will allow members to publish their own content and a number of value features will be available such as a SIG zone and Newsletter archives.

A proposal had been circulated to three companies and after consideration Council agreed that Purple Dogfish should be awarded the contract. The new website champion is P Aplin who will oversee this exercise. The two representatives from Purple Dogfish, G Salt and R Wyatt then introduced themselves after which feedback was requested on any ideas the membership have as regards the development of the new website. S Marsh then urged all members to respond.

6 Results of Council Elections

J Finch reported on the results of the recent elections. It was noted that R Gaulton, University of Edinburgh, had been nominated by Council as the new Student Representative. Council thanked C O'Shea, who stepped down at this AGM, for her efforts as Student Representative. With reference to the recent ballot, there were 6 candidates for 5 places on Council. Ninety-

nine forms had been returned to the RSPSoc office and the 5 members with the most votes were elected to Council and congratulated as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Votes</u>	
D Holland	76	(1 st Term)
S Lavender	82	(1 st Term)
J Shears	82	(2 nd Term)
R Teeuw	81	(1 st Term)
I Woodhouse	44	
P Zukowskyj	65	(1 st Term)

Trustees stepping down are: C Power, A Smart and M Wickett.

The Officers, appointed by Council, for 2005-2006 are as follows:

Chairman	S Marsh
Hon. Treasurer	R Taft
Vice-Chairman	P Aplin
Hon. Gen. Secretary	P Mason

Finally, the outgoing Hon. Gen. Secretary, J Finch, gave his full support to the above decision to appoint P Mason as his successor and then gave a brief background to his appointment and time on the RSPSoc Council. It was noted that J Finch had been involved with the merger process and he commented on how both former Societies had been very positive throughout the negotiations and paid compliments to all those who had made the merger happen. J Finch had a lot of confidence in RSPSoc for the future and its members who all worked for each other and thanked everyone who had supported him during his term of office.

7 Appointment of Independent Examiner

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

There being no further business, the AGM closed at 5.35 pm and all members were invited to the Blackwell's/BAE reception.

Signed:

Date:

Annex 1

THE REMOTE SENSING AND PHOTOGRAMMETRY SOCIETY AGM 2005

Thursday 8th September 2005, 4.30 pm, Lecture Theatre 1, The Portland Building, University of Portsmouth, Portsmouth, UK.

LIST OF ATTENDEES

M Aitkenhead	The Macaulay Institute
D Andrews	English Heritage
P Aplin	University of Nottingham
R Armitage	University of Salford
P Atkinson	University of Southampton
D Boyd	Ordnance Survey
K Brown	Environment Agency
R Burren	NPA Group
J Chandler	Loughborough University
M Clowes	English Heritage
A Cracknell	Editor, IJRS
P Curran	Bournemouth University
M Cutler	University of Dundee
H Doan	University of Southampton
E Edwards	Bath Spa University
J Finch	CEH
G Foody	University of Southampton
F Khalid	University of Greenwich
A Koh	Geotechnologies
K Laughton	RSPSoc Office
S Lavender	University of Plymouth
K McManus	British Geological Survey
J McMorrow	University of Manchester
S Marsh	British Geological Survey
P Mason	HME Partnership
C O'Shea	University of Stirling
C Power	University of Bristol
G Salt	Purple Dogfish
G Schumann	University of Dundee
J Shears	Infoterra
A Smart	Ordnance Survey
R Taft	Leica Geosystems GIS and Mapping Ltd
R Teeuw	University of Portsmouth
Adam Thomas	NPA Group
K Viergever	University of Edinburgh
E Wickens	

T Wicks
M Williams
R Wyatt
P Zukowskyj

Ordnance Survey
University of Newcastle
Purple Dogfish
University of Hertfordshire