
**MINUTES OF THE 61ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC
SOCIETY HONG KONG,
HELD ON 20TH APRIL 2021 ON ZOOM IN HONG KONG.**

The meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

Welcome

The Hon Secretary, Mr David McKellar, welcomed everyone to the 61st Annual General Meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong.

As preliminary points, the Hon Secretary noted:

- thanks were due to Peter Stuckey for the waiting room slides
- apologies had been received from a number of members and recorded
- the welcome presence of overseas members
- the AGM papers had been loaded onto the dedicated webpage
- there were slides to accompany the AGM
- a few housekeeping matters, given the AGM was being held over zoom: questions could be asked at any time, by a member raising his/her "virtual" hand and unmuting the microphone; or by typing the question in the relevant box
- when there would be calls for a resolution to be proposed or seconded, or for votes for and against, for convenience Dr Helen Tinsley would ordinarily propose the same, and the Hon Secretary would second, although members were of course free to do so too.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 60th AGM held on 21st April 2020

The Honorary Secretary referred to the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 21st April 2020. No questions on the Minutes were tendered although Mr John Wilson commented that he hoped peace would prevail in Hong Kong. Receipt and confirmation of the Minutes was proposed by Dr Stephen Davies and seconded by Mr Peter Stuckey. They were passed unanimously.

2. Vice President's Report for the year 2020-2021 on the activities of the Society and Ride Fund

The President presented her Report and included thanks to the Administrator.

There was an enquiry if Mr James Hayes was still a member of the Society. Dr Colin Day confirmed he was. Mr Peter Stuckey inquired regarding the number of members. The President confirmed that membership had dropped by about 25 in the year, but remained in the 400-500 range.

There being no further questions, receipt of the Report was proposed by Mr David McKellar and seconded by Ms Janet Spence, which proposal was passed by the members present, with virtual acclaim.

3. Reports of the Honorary Librarian, Hon Editor, Hon Activities Co-ordinator and Hon Archivist

The Hon Secretary noted that the Reports had been posted to the Society's website, affording members time to digest the same; and were included in the bundle for the meeting. The reports were to be taken as read.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31st December 2020

The Hon Secretary referred the Meeting to the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 31st December 2020. He also noted the Hon Treasurer's report thereon.

As preliminary issue, the Hon Secretary noted that at the previous AGM, the Society had elected Ian Hasell & Co as the auditor. Due to the sad passing of Ian Hasell, that firm was unable to continue with the appointment, and so the Hon Treasurer and Council had arranged for the accounts to instead be audited by Clemence YC Lo & Co. The Hon Secretary proposed to ratify that appointment. This was proposed by the Hon Secretary and seconded by the Hon Treasurer and passed unanimously.

The Hon Treasurer referred to her report. The Hon Treasurer noted all events in 2020 had been free of charge, hence the drop in income. As a result, the Society made a small loss. However, the Hon Treasurer noted how delighted the Council had been to see so many members at events. Questions from the floor were invited, but none were received. Receipt of the Report was proposed by the Hon Secretary and seconded by Mrs Connie Carmichael, which proposal was accepted unanimously.

5. Report of the Accounts of the Sir Lindsay and Lady Ride Memorial Fund

The Hon Secretary referred the meeting to the financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 31st December 2020, which were to be taken as read.

6. Report of the Chairman of the Friends of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch in Britain

The Hon Secretary noted that the Report of the Chairman of the Friends of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong Branch in Britain, which were also to be taken as read.

7. Election of Officers and Members of Council for the year 2021-2022

The Hon Secretary referred to item 7 on the Agenda and the list containing the names of those proposed for election to Council which had been circulated with the Notice of this AGM. He was noted that the theme of this year's proposal was continuity.

The Hon Secretary noted that Dr Tinsley was being proposed as both President and as Hon Activities Co-ordinator, but really the Society needed someone to join Council with an aim to taking over the role (aswell as someone willing to become the Hon Secretary): the previous year's pleas for "new blood" were repeated!

The Hon Secretary asked if there were any nominations for Council, other than those listed in the papers which had been circulated. None arising, the Hon Secretary then proposed to carry out the Council election en bloc and enquired if there were any objections to doing so. None having been received, Mr John Wilson then proposed and Mr Peter Stuckey seconded the election to Council of those listed below. The proposal was carried unanimously and the Hon Secretary declared the following Council elected for the ensuing year:

Office Bearers:

President	Dr Helen Tinsley
Vice President	Dr Stephen Davies
Hon Secretary	Mr David McKellar
Hon Treasurer	Ms Connie Carmichael
Hon Editor	Mr Tony Banham
Hon Librarian	Ms Vivian So
Hon Activities Co-ordinator	Dr Helen Tinsley
Hon Archivist	Mr Yip Chun Man

Other Council Members :

Mr Don Gasper
Ms Davina Lee (<i>website</i>)
Mr Robert Bunker (<i>social media</i>)
Dr Kwong Chi Man
Mr Roy Delbyck

The Hon Secretary noted that Council can co-opt additional members and invited those interested to speak with any Councillor after the meeting about doing so.

8. To elect additional Trustees to the Sir Lindsay and Lady Ride Memorial Fund for the year 2021-2022

The Hon Secretary reminded the AGM that the majority of the Trustees of the Fund are ex-officio Trustees, by virtue of their position as officers of RASHKB: the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Treasurer and the Immediate Past President; and that the Trustees might at any time appoint not more than two Trustees. Further the Society was able, at any AGM, to elect not more than two Trustees. The Hon Secretary noted that the President had earlier thanked the two retiring Trustees, Mr John Strickland and Mr John Budge. The motion therefore was to elect two additional Trustees. The Hon Secretary was pleased to propose Mr Colin Day and Mr Chris Munn be elected, which was seconded by Dr Helen Tinsley. There being no other nominations, the proposal was voted upon and approved unanimously.

Ms Davina Lee reminded members that some of the Ride Fund supported works are also available on kindle.

9. Appointment of Auditors for the year 2021-2022

The Hon Secretary said that he was pleased to propose Clemence YC Lo & Co be elected as Auditors for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded by Dr Helen Tinsley, and was carried unanimously.

10. Any Other Business

The Hon Secretary asked if anyone had any other business to raise or questions.

The Hon Secretary thanked everyone present for attending the AGM via Zoom. Dr Tinsley noted the recent busyness of the Friends in the UK, some of whose members might be interested in joining the Society. A member thanked the Society for arranging so many zoom events (a recent event having over 90 in attendance) and noted that the library had once again re-opened.

The Hon Secretary then thanked the Administrator for his arrangements.

No further business being raised, the 61st Annual General Meeting was then declared closed by the Hon Secretary at 7.18pm.

Confirmed by President: Date: 26th April 2022