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**MINUTES OF THE 57<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC  
SOCIETY HONG KONG, HELD ON FRIDAY 28TH APRIL 2017 AT THE HONG KONG  
CLUB, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.**

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The meeting commenced at 6:40 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

**Welcome by the President**

The President, Mr Michael Broom, welcomed everyone to the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society Hong Kong.

As a preliminary point, the Secretary noted apologies had been received from a number of members and recorded. A further apology was received from the floor.

**1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016**

The Honorary Secretary, Mr David McKellar, presented the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016. No questions on the Minutes were tendered. Receipt and confirmation of the Minutes was proposed by Mr Mike Broom and seconded by Mr Victor Apps. They were passed unanimously and were duly signed by the President as a correct record.

**2. President's Report for the year 2016-2017 on the activities of the Society and Ride Fund**

The President presented his Report and included thanks to the Administrator and the HK Club.

Mr Robert Nield noted that the President had done and continues to do an outstanding job. Mrs Sally Bunker stated that the Society needs to target younger members, and enquired regarding social media. Ms Moody Tang confirmed that the Society does have a facebook page and uses other social media. Another member noted that there's a young member of the Society, not present at the AGM, who runs a group HK History Meetup. Dr Patrick Hase stated that the Society has always been highly desirous of getting younger members, but that it has proved hard to do. Another member suggested making contact with schools and universities.

There being no questions, receipt of the Report was proposed by Dr Patrick Hase and seconded by Mr John Budge, which proposal was passed by the members present, with some acclaim.

**3. Reports of the Honorary Librarian, Hon Editor, Hon Activities Co-ordinator and re the website**

The Hon Secretary noted that the Reports had been posted to the society's website, affording members more time to digest the same; and were included in the bundle for the meeting. The reports are to be taken as read. The Hon Secretary requested those office bearers to stand, and invited questions, but there were none. The Hon Secretary invited members to discuss issues with them during cocktails.

**4. Honorary Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31st December 2016**

The Hon Secretary referred the Meeting to the Hon Treasurer who presented her Report and the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 31st December 2016. Questions from the

floor were invited, but none were received. Receipt of the Report was proposed by Mr Robert Bunker and seconded by Mr Robert Nield, 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 that the financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 31st December 2016. No questions were raised. He noted the presence of the Trustees at the meeting, and invited questions to be discussed over cocktails.

**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 was also in the bundle of papers, would be tabled to the Meeting in that form and taken as read. The President encouraged members to attend Friends events when in the UK.

**7. Election of Officers and Members of Council for the year 2017-2018**

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 described the changes if the proposed list were accepted: Ms Vivian So offered to replace Ms Edith Chan as Hon Librarian, upon her retirement. Other nominations were invited. Mrs Sally Bunker proposed Mr Bob Bunker. Mr Mike Broom indicated he was willing to stand for a further, final year as President.

The Hon Secretary then proposed to carry out the election en bloc and enquired if there were any objections to doing so. None having been received, Dr Patrick Hase proposed and Mr Victor Apps seconded the election to Council of those listed. The proposal was carried unanimously and the Hon Secretary declared the following Council elected for the ensuing year:

*Office Bearers:*

President	Mr Michael Broom
Vice President	Dr Gillian Bickley
Vice President	Dr Helen Tinsley
Hon Secretary	Mr David McKellar
Hon Treasurer	Ms Connie Carmichael
Hon Editor	Dr Stephen Davies
Hon Librarian	Ms Vivian So
Hon Activities Co-ordinator	Dr Helen Tinsley
Hon Archivist	Ms Anna McCormick

*Other Council Members:*

Mr Don Gasper  
Ms Moody Tang  
Ms Davina Lee  
Mr Robert Bunker

**8. To elect additional Trustees to the Sir Lindsay and Lady Ride Memorial Fund for the year 2017-2018**

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 motion therefore was to elect two additional Trustees. The Hon Secretary was pleased to propose Mr John Strickland and Mr John Budge be re-elected, which was seconded by Mr Peter Stuckey and approved unanimously.

#### **9. Appointment of Auditors for the year 2017-2018**

Mrs Connie Carmichael said that she was pleased to propose Ian Hasell & Co be re-elected as Auditors for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded by Mr Robert Nield, and was carried unanimously.

#### **10. To consider amendments to the Constitutional Rules of the Society**

The Hon Secretary referred to the Agenda, which set out the proposed amendments. He stated that there were two aims:

- i) to provide flexibility to Council in arranging its meetings; and
- ii) to allow notices to be given by email, not paper – save paper, save costs, save time, save money.

Mr Chris Lewis queried whether it might be better to retain part of clause 24.2, suitable amended to allow for notices to be sent by email to all members. The Hon Secretary agreed with this sensible suggestion. No other discussion taking place, the Hon Secretary then proposed, seconded by Mr Chris Lewis, and unanimously approved by the members, the following amendments to the Constitutional Rules of the Society

- a. Rule 14 be amended as follows: " **Ordinary Meetings** of the Council shall be held as frequently as required to further the attainment of the Objects of the Society.";
- b. Rule 19 be amended as follows: "For the convening of the Annual General Meeting, the Honorary Secretary shall give due notice of at least fourteen [14] days to Members.";
- c. Rule 21.2 be amended as follows: "For the convening of any Extraordinary General Meeting, the Honorary Secretary shall give due notice of at least twenty one [21] days to Members."; and
- d. Rule 24.2 be amended as follows: "Where any notice is required to be given by Rules 19 or 21.2 above, such notice may be sent by e-mail."

#### **11. Any Other Business**

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

The President described the arrangements for the ensuing cocktails and noted that the photos being shown had been provided by Mr Peter Stuckey, from the Guizhou trip.

The Hon Secretary then thanked Mrs Gillian Bickley and Ms Ivy Ho for their substantial assistance to the society over the year and to him in particular, all to unanimous acclaim.

No further business being raised, the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was then declared closed by the Hon Secretary at 7.38pm. The AGM was followed by cocktails.

Confirmed by the President: .....  
(Mr Michael Broom)

Date: 25th April 2018