

CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

1109th (Annual General) Meeting scheduled to be held on 28th March 2020 but postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Minutes and documents related to the actions taken to deal with the Society's business. Notice of the AGM and the usual postal vote for Officers and Council proceeded as normal.

On 28th March the Hon General Secretary checked the postal votes received against a list of paid-up members and counted the postal vote. As the number of postal votes received exceeded the number required for the election to be valid, the votes were counted and checked All candidates were successfully elected.

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| President | Dr MJ Willing |
| Hon General Secretary | Miss RE Hill |
| Hon Membership Secretary | Ms BM Eastabrook |
| Hon Treasurer | Mr N Light |
| Hon Editor (Journal) | Ms AM Holmes |
| Hon Editor (Magazine) | Mr P Topley |
| Hon Nonmarine Recorder | Dr B Rowson |
| Hon Marine Recorder | Mr S Taylor |
| Hon Programme Secretary | Dr S Payne |
| Hon Conservation Officer | Mrs M Cousins |
| Hon Webmaster | Dr P Lightfoot |
| Council member | Mr PD Barfield |
| Council member | Dr PJ Cosgrove |
| Council member | Dr RC Honnor |

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (of 6th April) 2019: to be approved at a future AGM.

Matters arising: None

Nomination and election of new members: No list was requested

Given that there was and still is no prospect of holding the Annual General Meeting due to the coronavirus pandemic, it was proposed and agreed by Council to hold a membership vote to deal with issues not dealt with on the due date. This election was held with the options of voting either by post or electronically. The advantage of accepting electronic votes is that this enables members who are shielding, self-isolating or wishing to avoid the risks of going out, will be able to take part safely. A notice and a link to the voting papers was sent out by CIRCA Ltd, Cambridge, either by post or where possible using members' email addresses. All reports, the changes to the rules and the accounts were made available via the Society's website www.conchsoc.org. By whatever means the votes were received, they were all checked against a list of paid-up members. At this stage it was still anticipated that the postponed AGM would be held on a suitable date, hopefully later in 2020, to ratify the Rule Changes and deal with any other deferred business such as signing the minutes of the 2019 AGM. The following votes were held:

- (1) Approval of the Report and Accounts provided by the Hon Treasurer and signed off by the Examiner of the Accounts. This is necessary so that the accounts can be included with the Annual Return to the Charity Commission. Proposed by Peter Topley Seconded by Ben Rowson
- (2) Approval of the remaining Officers' Reports as listed on the AGM paperwork
Proposed by Imogen Cavadino Seconded by Robert Cameron
- (3) Election of the Examiner of Accounts Mr R C Honnor
Proposed by Tom Walker Seconded by Mags Cousins
- (4) Approval of the Rule Changes listed in Item 3 on the AGM paperwork
Proposed by Rosemary Hill Seconded by Nick Light

As the number of valid postal votes received and checked against the list of paid-up members after the closing date of 1st May 2020 exceeded the number required for the election to be valid, the votes were counted and checked. All resolutions (1) election of examiner of accounts, (2) Treasurer accounts and report, (3) remaining Officers' reports and (4) changes to rules 8,10,11,13 and 19 were approved. One member was against all resolution but all other votes were in favour. The result was declared via the Society's website.

A speaker had been booked to give a talk in lieu of a Presidential Address. Instead it is planned that this talk will be given at the next Annual General Meeting.

This summary to act as minutes of the AGM was prepared by Rosemary Hill on 30th October 2020.

Chairman.

Appendix 1:



(Reg. Charity No. 208205)

PROGRAMME FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND BALLOT PAPER FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2020

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 28th March 2020 at **14:00h** in the Angela Marmont Centre of the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, South Kensington, London, SW7 5BD.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Rule changes
3. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Nomination and election of new members
6. Report of the Council by the Hon. General Secretary
7. Report of the Hon. Treasurer (Financial statement)
8. Report of the Hon. Membership Secretary
9. Report of the Hon. Non-marine Recorder
10. Report of the Hon. Marine Recorder
11. Report of the Hon. Conservation Officer
12. Report of the Hon. Programme Secretary
13. Health and safety report
14. Announcements and correspondence
15. Members' exhibits
16. REFRESHMENTS
17. Address: Prof Robert Cameron *'At a Snail's Pace: How a New Naturalist got written.'*
18. Election of the Examiner of the Accounts
19. Results of the postal ballot
20. Any other business

Item 3 – Rule changes

Rule 8 The Society shall be governed by a Council consisting of the President, the voting Vice-Presidents, the Society's Officers and **between six and nine elected** Ordinary Council members. All members of Council and Trustees shall be indemnified for any loss of the Society's property arising from acts, mistakes or omissions made in good faith and with reasonable supervision or proper advice. *(Note: section in bold = revised wording to replace previous)*

Rule 10 The Society's Officers shall consist of a General Secretary, a Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Journal Editor, Recorder for non-marine Mollusca, Recorder for marine Mollusca, Editor of Mollusc World or its successor publication, Programme Secretary, Conservation Officer, Webmaster **and Publications Services Manager**, all of whom shall be elected annually. All Officers shall be unpaid. *(Note: section in bold = additional wording to be added)*

Rule 11 Ordinary Council Members shall be elected for a period of three years, and on the expiry of this term shall not be eligible for a further twelve months for re-election to the same position **unless there are insufficient other candidates willing to stand**. A vacancy arising through premature retirement of an Ordinary Council Member shall be filled by ballot or by co-option of Council. *(Note: section in bold = additional wording to be added)*

Rule 13 Ballot papers shall be sent to Members within Great Britain and Ireland **only if there are more nominations than vacancies for any post, be it Officers or Ordinary Council Members. In the event that a ballot is held, ballot** papers shall be returned in a sealed envelope signed on the outside by the voting Member and with their name in block capitals beneath the signature and addressed to the Hon. General Secretary and arrive before the Annual General Meeting. *(Note: section in bold + additional wording to be added and that 'to the Scrutineers c/o' has been deleted.)*

Rule 19 The Journal, Mollusc World or its successor publication and other publications shall be published periodically under the direction of Council, whose decision concerning publication shall be final. **The Council shall appoint a Publications Committee to advise on all publications.** *(The bold sentence to be deleted)*

OFFICERS' REPORTS

If you have access to the internet, please check the Society web site a week before the AGM and read these online if at all possible to save time at the meeting.

Council members

According to the Rules of the Society, the Council will consist of 9 members plus the President, the above Officers and the Vice-Presidents. Each Council Member will be elected to serve for a term of three years. (In the case of premature retirement, a new Council member will be elected or co-opted to complete the unfinished term).

The following have served for one year: Prof RAD Cameron, Ms ICN Cavadino, Mr IJ Killeen

The following have served for two years: Mr R Carr, Dr C Gleed-Owen and Dr TM Walker

The following have served for three years: Mrs M Cousins, Mrs H Shaw and Mr TJ Tamblyn

The following have been proposed to serve for the next three years: Mr PD Barfield, Dr PJ Cosgrove and Dr RC Honnor

Three candidates are to be elected to serve as members of Council. Information on the candidates for Council may be found below. Members should vote by putting a cross against the candidates of their choice.

Candidates for Council

1st candidate **Mr PD Barfield**

Peter Barfield wishes to be considered for election to the Council of the Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland as an Ordinary Member. Although he has only recently joined the Society he has very much enjoyed the few meetings he has attended. He would be happy to make a contribution to the running of the Society. As with other new members of the Council he hopes to bring an alternative perspective, perhaps most particularly in respect of marine related issues, this being his area of greatest interest and expertise.

2nd candidate **Dr PJ Cosgrove**

Peter Cosgrove has surveyed over 1,200 Scottish watercourses for freshwater pearl mussels, including undertaking both national surveys and Site Condition Monitoring of all of Scotland's designated sites where they are a feature. Peter is a recognised authority on freshwater pearl mussel research and conservation. His advisory work has included developing, testing and publishing standard survey methods, advising on reintroduction and raising awareness of wildlife crime in relation to pearl mussels under the guise of a project called 'Mollusc of the Glen'. Peter is keen to see evidence-based conservation and research supported by the Society and is standing for Council in that capacity.

3rd candidate **Dr RC Honnor**

Rupert Honnor originally joined the Conchological Society as a junior member in approx. 1973, encouraged by Celia (his sister) and Tom Pain, and attended many indoor and field meetings over the years. Rupert did a B.Sc. in Biochemistry, and further Ph.D. at UCL in London. Rupert did a post-doctoral fellowship at NIH in Maryland, USA, returned to work at Newcastle University, before changing career to IT development at British Airways, from which he has recently retired. Rupert's interests in molluscs have evolved into a passion for (marine worldwide) limpets, which inspired him to travel widely around the world. Rupert has been on the council before, and has served as Programme Secretary previously.

Voting procedure

The voting paper is enclosed in this mailout. It should be detached and returned in a sealed envelope. Please do not enclose any other documents or correspondence inside the same envelope as your voting paper. The member **MUST SIGN ON THE OUTSIDE OF THIS ENVELOPE**. Any envelopes which are not signed on the outside will be discarded unopened. Please also print your name under your signature; this will make it easier for the Scrutineers to decipher your signature.

The signed envelopes should be returned to:

The Scrutineers

C/o Miss R E Hill

447B Wokingham Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire RG6 7EL

Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland

Voting Paper for 2020

The undersigned are proposed for the respective posts for 2020-2021. Members should vote by marking a cross against the name desired. They may, at their own option, cross out any name but may not substitute any other name.

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| Council member | Mr PD Barfield | |
| Council member | Dr PJ Cosgrove | |
| Council member | Dr RC Honor | |