

Report

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 11 MAY 2002

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh at noon. The retiring President, Dr G. Halliday initially took the chair in the presence of 70 members.

Apologies for absence were read out and the minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting, published in *Watsonia* 24: 131–132, were approved as a correct record and signed by the President.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

This had been circulated to members and the President went through it, commenting on the achievements of the Society during the past year, noting with especial pleasure that Atlas 2000 had been handed over to Oxford University Press in May 2001 and that publication, together with extra research work commissioned by DEFRA, was scheduled for July 2002. He expressed his and the Society's great gratitude to all who had contributed.

Dr Halliday said also that he had enjoyed his term of office as President and warmly thanked the Society for its support during the past two years.

The Honorary Treasurer presented the financial part of the Report; summary accounts had been circulated to all members, full sets of accounts had been available by post and were now available at the meeting.

He reported that the Society's finances were in good order; this was, in part, the result of the excellent response of the membership to the Gift Aid campaign, for which he expressed his thanks to the Membership Secretary; however, less happily, the foot and mouth disease epidemic had meant that field work projects, which were to have been financially supported by the Society, had not taken place.

The Membership Secretary had again reported a slight decrease in membership. The Annual Report of the Society was adopted unanimously.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Mr R. D. Pryce was unanimously elected President.

Mr Pryce began by expressing his own and the Society's thanks to Dr Halliday, the retiring President, for his service to the Society during the previous two years. He then thanked the meeting for electing him, stating that he intended to serve the Society as President for three years.

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr A. O. Chater had been nominated by Council; his election was unanimous.

RE-ELECTION OF HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY

Miss A. Burns was nominated by Council, her re-election was unanimous. The President thanked her for her work for the Society during the preceding year.

RE-ELECTION OF HONORARY TREASURER

Mr M. E. Braithwaite, nominated by Council, was re-elected unanimously. He was warmly thanked by the President for all his good work on behalf of the Society.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF EDITORS, INDEXERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES

The President warmly thanked the Editors, Indexers and Representatives of Committees for all their hard work.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

In accordance with Rule 11, nominations had been received for Professor R. M. Bateman, Dr C. M. Cheffings, Mrs C. L. Coleman and Mr J. P. Woodman. Profiles had been circulated and would be published. The election of these new members of Council was accepted unanimously.

ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS

The President stated that this year's nominations for Honorary Membership were for Mr C. R. Boon and Mr P. Hackney; the sponsors were, respectively, Mr R. G. Ellis and Dr G. Halliday. Mr Ellis' appreciation of Mr Boon was, in his unavoidable absence, read out by Miss A. Burns and Dr Halliday's of Mr Hackney was given at the meeting. Both appreciations will be published in 'News'. The proposals for Honorary Membership were accepted unanimously.

RE-ELECTION OF HONORARY INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The President expressed the Society's gratitude to Mr J. H. Coats, CA, for his exemplary examination of the Society's Accounts. His re-election was accepted unanimously.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 12.45 pm.

AILSA BURNS
Honorary General Secretary