



# 76<sup>TH</sup> BIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## MINUTES

16.30, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London & Virtual

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**Chair:** Gerry Webb (President)

**Present:** 22 Fellows of the Society (5 in person) (29 proxy forms were received)

In Attendance: Elizabeth Anderson

### 1. Welcome

Gerry Webb welcomed all to the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. Gerry Webb and Elizabeth Anderson explained how the virtual tools would work. Proposers and seconders would be sought and online voting run via the Crowdcast system.

### 2. To receive and approve the minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

The President sought agreement for the minutes of the 2020 AGM. They were proposed by Mark Hempzell and seconded by Colin Philp, and unanimously accepted in the vote, with 48 in favour and one abstention.

### 3. To receive the Reports of the President and of the Council for the year ended 31 August 2019

The President summarised his report.

Upon being put to the meeting, a resolution to receive the Report of the President and of the Council was proposed by Robin Tucker and seconded by Mark Hempzell and approved unanimously by 51 votes and no abstentions or votes against.

Robin Brand asked about the financial situation, which had seen an operating loss. Elizabeth Anderson responded that this had been mainly related to Covid 19, and loss of key income streams included rental, events, and magazine sales when retail outlets were closed in the UK. We were addressing how to best diversify the income of the Society, including fundraising, event attendance and engaging with industry.

### 4. To Receive the Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020

The President introduced a Resolution to receive the Report of the Auditors and the Audited accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020.

Upon being put to the meeting, a resolution to receive the Report of the Auditors and the Audited Accounts was proposed by Griffith Ingram, seconded by Mark Hempzell and approved unanimously by 50 votes with no abstentions.

## **5. Council Elections**

The President reported that four Council vacancies had arisen. Three of the members were seeking re-election, one of whom was co-opted (Victoria Southgate), and there were no other valid nominations.

The re-appointment of Alistair Scott, Rod Woodcock, Chris Welch and Victoria Southgate was confirmed.

## **6. Reappoint the Auditors**

The President highlighted the proposal to appoint Hedley Dunk, based in Dartford, Kent as the auditor. The resolution to reappoint the Auditors was proposed by Colin Philp and seconded by Robin Tucker. The resolution was put to the Meeting and approved by 51, with no abstentions or votes against.

## **7. To receive and approve a paper regarding changes to the Society's Memorandum and Articles**

The President highlighted the changes that were put forward, and a paper had been circulated to all Fellows setting out the revisions and rationale.

The resolution was put to the Meeting and approved with 46 votes, and five abstentions.

## **8. Authorisation of Council to take out a loan**

The President sought a contingency vote from the Fellows for the Society to take out a loan of up to £100,000 if required in light of ongoing Covid pressures. The resolution was approved by 47 votes, and four abstentions.

## **9. Concluding Remarks from the President**

The President highlighted that Covid had continued to be a difficult factor for the Society, but the Events Committee and Technical Committee were working on meetings and opportunities for members to come together. He thanked the CEO for her work in keeping the Society running and its growing staff team. He offered his thanks to the membership for their support in ensuring that Society could be a rising voice in the sector.

The meeting then closed at 17.25.