

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Sedgwick Museum (FOSM)

Charity Number 1091393

Tuesday 11th June 2024 at 6:15pm in the Watson Gallery and on Zoom

The meeting was opened at 6.15pm by the Chair, Margaret Sanderson, with 17 people attending plus 2 people on-line.

Apologies had been received from Gidon Bahiri and Freya Normington, Brian Smart and Yuko Wilkinson.

1. Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the AGM held on 20th June 2023. Proposal for acceptance of these minutes was made by Mary-Anne Enoch and seconded by Roger Gray and duly signed.

2. Election of Committee for 2023-2024

Mike Smith had asked to stand down to spend more time with family, and was thanked for his tremendous work as Membership secretary.

Nicky Hughes had accepted a position on the committee with a view to taking over the task of Membership secretary from Penny Coggill. Apart from the above all other standing committee members had agreed to stand again. Proposed by Rosie Welling, seconded by Gill Mallet, all were re-elected en-bloc with no dissensions. MS had confirmed in advance that she could only remain for one more year but had been prepared to do this, and was still willing to remain as Chair if she possibly could now.

3. Executive Committee: Honorary Officers and Committee Members

All members of the Executive Committee (Ex Comm) must be paid-up members of FOSM. All Honorary Officers serve as Trustees of FOSM.

The following FOSM members were elected / re-elected:

Honorary Officers

President:	Peter Friend
Chair:	Margaret Sanderson
Vice Chair:	Mike Tuke
Minute Secretary:	Penny Coggill
Treasurer:	Mary-Anne Enoch
Membership Secretary:	Penny Coggill

Committee Members

Gidon Bahiri
Freya Normington
Paul Conyers
Nicky Hughes

Ex-Officio, Museum Director: Liz Hide

Support Group for Executive Committee

Organisation of departmental talks / events: Alex Liu

4. Finance Report

The treasurer, Mary-Anne Enoch, had provided copies of the accounts for the year in advance and at the meeting.

Income and Expenditure

The total income was £32,617. Full details are provided in the table below.

The large sum this year was due to member payments for the Iceland field trip (£14,000) held in June 2023, and the Isle of Man field trip (£12,300) due to take place in June 2024.

Some members increase their dues with a donation, so the subscription + donation income, including advance payments for 2024-25, was £2,156 for 150 paid memberships.

The hybrid (Zoom/in-person) talks generated £876: 19 members donated £682, and £194 was collected at the door. The mean donation was £36, and the range was £4 to £150. More than half (10) of members gave £25, the suggested annual donation. The expenses for the talks amounted to £114, generating a 'profit' of £762.

The total expenditure was £25,383. Full details are provided in the table below.

The income & expenditure for social events/field trips straddled several tax years. It should be noted that the cocktail party (3/23) and Sedgwick Dinner (3/24) broke even, however the Xmas Party (including the raffle) made a profit of £395. The Iceland trip generated £772 in donations.

Museum Donation

FOSM now gives the Sedgwick Museum a donation at the start of the financial year to facilitate the Museum's forward planning. The donation for 2023-24 was £6,000.

Bank/Building Society Balances at 31/03/24:

Barclays current account: the starting balance was £13,561. The closing balance was £20,600; of this £11,250 was on hold for the Isle of Man trip, leaving a working balance of £9,350.

Cambridge Building Society: the closing balance was £13,314. Annual interest was £294.

FOSM Income and Expenditure 1/4/23 to 31/3/2024

	2022-23	2023-24
Income		
Subscriptions + donations	2,419.00	2,156.00
Talks donations	688.00	876.00
Xmas Party/Cocktails P arty 3/23	1,037.00	730.00
Sedgwick Dinner 3/24		1,540.00
Shetland trip	143.15	
Iceland trip	2,200.00	14,000.00
Isle of Man trip		12,300.00
HMRC Gift Aid	709.42	720.38
Interest Camb Build Soc	68.07	294.41
TOTAL INCOME	7,264.64	32,616.79

Expenditure

Donations to Sedgwick Museum	4,000.00	6,000.00
Talks	25.00	114.34
Xmas Party/Cocktail Party	249.18	833.29
Sedgwick Dinner		1,566.00
Shetlands trip	5,000.00	
Iceland trip		15,428.32
Isle of Man trip		1,050.00
Geol Assoc fee/insurance	40.00	391.06
Admin, postage, stationery	42.91	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9,357.09	25,383.01
BALANCE	(-2092.45)	7,233.78
Bank/Building Society Accounts: Closing Balances 31/03/2024		
Barclays current account		20,600.00
Cambridge Building Society savings account		13,314.00

The treasurer reported that the social events in 2023/24 had both broken even.

The interest rate was now a more healthy 2.9%.

The membership, standing at 156, was a little down on the year before.

She proposed bringing the Cambridge Building Society monies into the Current account and passing them to the Museum.

The proposal to accept the accounts and the Building Soc recommendation was made by Paul Conyers and seconded by Margaret Sanderson, and agreed by all present, who then expressed a huge vote of thanks to Mary-Anne for her stalwart work in keeping the finances in order.

5. Chair's report

The Chair gave a brief report, thanking everyone on the committee for all their work, particularly Alex Liu for all the varied and interesting talks, and then members for creating such a unique organisation.

She confirmed that there was no entry fee for the evening as it was the AGM.

She noted that this would be her last year as Chair as her 6 years were up. She expressed her view that it would be preferable for the next Chair to have connections in the Department.

Production of the next issue of the Trilobite was on-going.

MS thanked Mike Tuke for organising the trip to Bawdsey and King's Dyke, Rosie Welling for her exhibition of Pebbles, and Gidon and Freya for their wonderful trip to Iceland.

MS thanked Liz Hide for arranging all the zoom activities and meeting rooms.

6. Future events

- Isle of Man trip: Mike Tuke reported that since 21 people had applied the trip could go ahead – taking a maximum of 20 people. The guide would be a trained geologist who knows the island well and will take us on different trips. All island transport by coach has been arranged, and places at a hotel have been reserved. Individuals will have to get themselves to the island.

7. Museum Report

- Liz Hyde gave the report for the year for the Sedgwick Museum.
- In brief, the museum was bouncing back, with enough funds and an excellent group of supporting staff and volunteers to feel able to carry on with new exhibitions and ideas. Particular people to thank were Sarah Hammond for her work on the newsletter, and Sally for increasing their public engagement programme.
- The microfossil activity was going well, as had the Earth Traces soundscape exhibit.
- The Butterfly Effect exhibit would be up for a year and was gaining national coverage.
- Thanks to the special extra money she would be able to fund 4 people for 2-4 week placements in addition to the 5 normal summer placements, equating to 18 student weeks in both front- and back-of-house.
- Liz sincerely thanked the Friends for the monetary gifts that enabled all of this.

8. AOB

There being no other business or questions,
the meeting closed at 6.37pm.

Penny Coggill

Minute Secretary