

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Sedgwick Museum (FOSM)  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020 via Zoom on-line at 6:30pm**

The meeting was opened by the Chairperson Margaret Sanderson at 6.30 at which **46/36** members were present on-line

Apologies had been received from Richard and Cate Barnett

**Matters Arising**

The minutes were signed as a true record.

**Election of Committee for 202/21**

All committee members were re-elected en-bloc with no disputes. Proposed by Mary-Anne Enoch, seconded by Margaret King.

**Executive Committee: Honorary Officers and Committee Members**

All members of the Executive Committee (ExComm) must be paid-up members of FOSM and serve as Trustees of FOSM.

The following FOSM members were elected / re-elected:

**Honorary Officers**

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| President:            | Peter Friend       |
| Chairperson:          | Margaret Sanderson |
| Vice Chairperson:     | Mike Tuke          |
| Secretary:            | Penny Coggill      |
| Treasurer:            | Mary-Anne Enoch    |
| Membership Secretary: | Mike Smith         |

**Committee Members**

Gidon Bahiri  
Freya Normington  
Peter Franklin  
Carol Franklin  
Ex-Officio, Museum Director: Liz Hide

**Support Group for Executive Committee**

Organisation of departmental talks / events: Alex Liu

**Treasurer's Report for 2019 – 2020**

Mary-Anne Enoch gave a short report to accompany her full attached listing of the accounts for the year. She firstly pointed out that despite a negative balance at the end of the year, the finances were sound, the negative balance resulting from the fact that funds were largely received in the previous year with expenses being paid in the current year..

The Brecklands and Alps field trips had made overall profits of around £250 each, donations for talks amounted to £450 and the Christmas Party made £227.

The amount donated to the Museum for the Stockholm folding chairs and the 8 LED up-lights was ~£6000.

The closing balances at 31/3/202 were £7487.86 in the Barclays current account and £22,896.39 in the Cambridge Building Society giving an overall balance of £30,384.25.

There were 158 paid membership subscriptions during 2019-2020: 73 single concessions; 12 couple concessions; 49 individual; 23 family and one young person.

The treasurer then gave a brief report on the present state of FOSM finances, now 7 months into the 2020-21 tax-year. The current Barclays balance was £13,920; of this £4775 was on hold for the Shetlands trip, and £5,293.04 was Peter Friend's Nineveh grant. Therefore, the working balance was £3,852. The balance in the Cambridge Building Society was £22,930.

Due to Covid cancellations/postponements of events and field trips the main source of income this year had been from the 139 paid membership subscriptions. The Society was fiscally sound; however, being a charity with the aim of financially supporting the Museum, the treasurer suggested that member donations for the talks should be urged.

The £5293.04 in the Nineveh Fund was to be transferred to a suitable fund to be set up by Peter Friend as it was for his specific departmental activities.

Mary-Anne was thanked heartily by Margaret Sanderson for these accounts.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Margaret King and seconded by Peter Friend.

### **Membership Secretary's Report 2019-2020**

Mike Smith reported that there were currently 205 memberships representing 241 individuals. Over the year 3 had cancelled, 5 had lapsed with no correspondence and 6 had died, leaving a loss of 14 over the year but 8 new individual memberships had been gained - so a fairly stable membership. The take-up of paying subs by Standing Order had been good, and he had been able to follow up those using other methods of application.

### **Chair's Report 2019-2020**

Margaret Sanderson had circulated a copy of this in advance; Richard Barnett had asked about the new Friend's website which Liz Hide clarified as being now accessible via the Support tab from the Sedgwick Museum website.

### **Museum Report 2019-2020**

Liz Hide was firstly thanked by MS for the excellent Friend's visit she had arranged at the beginning of November that was much enjoyed and appreciated. Liz then thanked the Friend's for the gifts this year of the 20 Stockholm stacking stools that had been much used and the 8 LED lighting - yet to be fully utilised due to Covid-19.

Despite the two lock-downs they had had two periods of opening when they had welcomed families with autistic children amongst others, and having set up a booking system and prepared the space for social distancing they had been fully booked. She was hoping to open again before and for Christmas, and in addition to have a lick and collect facility available for gifts from the museum shop.

During periods of closure they had not been idle, and though only two staff members of 15 had been furloughed staff had answered the many enquiries that came in, and had carried on with the selected moving of specimens to the new site. Much on-line engagement for children and families, with activity-packs, on-line drawing and special material for deprived children through City Council support had been created.

Douglas Palmer had been involved in the Filming of the show about Mary Anning shortly to appear.

Margaret Sanderson thanked Liz for this full report and added that the museum had been selected as a runner-up in the Family Friendly Museums award.

### **Any other Business**

Margaret Sanderson had to report the unhappy accident that had befallen Jean Currie a former President and long-term committee member. After a long stay in hospital, she was now being cared for in a Home.

MS expressed the combined thanks of everyone to Liz Hide and Alex Liu for both finding such engaging speakers and for enabling the use of the departmental Zoom account for transmission of the on-line lectures.

Mike Smith requested some form of supplement for the postage expenses for information sent to those without internet.

The meeting closed at 18.52pm.

Penny Coggill, Minute Secretary 05.12.2020