



The Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry (1190304)

**MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COVERING 2022**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at 14.00 (UK time)**

**Held via Zoom**

**Attending:**

Charlotte Abney Salomon, Alexander Angerhofer, Malika Basum, Imogen Brightmoon, John Brooke, Chris Campbell (Society Secretary), Carolyn Cobbold (Membership Secretary), Frank James (Chair), Rob Johnson (Treasurer), Sarah Lang, Bruce Moran, Tara Nummedal, Megan Piorko, Jenny Rampling, Gerrylynn Roberts, Zoe Screti, Anna Simmons (Ambix Secretary), Umberto Veronesi, Jenny Wilson, Nicholas Zumbulyadis

**1. Chairman's Introduction (Frank James)**

Frank welcomed those present – the second AGM under the new arrangements.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Bill Brock, Hasok Chang, Danielle Fauque, Marcia Ferraz, Ana Goldfarb, Didier Kahn, Annette Lykknes, Isabel Malaquais, Tillmann Taape

**3. Minutes of AGM for SHAC 1190304 held on 29 June 2022 (Chris Campbell)**

The minutes were agreed without additions or corrections.

**4. Presentation of Trustees Annual Report (TAR) and Statement of Accounts (as independently examined) for 2022 (Chris Campbell and Rob Johnstone)**

There were no questions to Chris and the meeting noted the TAR

Rob went through the accounts that had been circulated ahead of the meeting.

Twenty members have yet to pay their subscription. Jenny Rampling commented that editions of *Sources* are soon to be published - free to members - anyone who has yet to pay their subscription should do so soon!

The accounts were noted.

Both the TAR and the Society's accounts have been lodged with the Charity Commission. Rob and Chris apologised for submitting these ahead of the meeting – we will strive to get the timings right next year.

**5. Elections for Council and to be a Trustee of SHAC (Frank James)**

Frank reminded the meeting that under the constitution one-third of Council should retire each year. The following five members are standing down but prepared to be re-elected:

Frank James (Chair), Rob Johnson (Treasurer), Anna Simmons (Ambix Secretary), Pete Forshaw, and Hasok Chang.

A sixth member, Stephen Clucas, is standing down permanently.

Jenny Wilson has been nominated to Council as an Officer with responsibility for SHACs various award schemes.

All six were re-elected by acclamation.

## 6. Update on current activities (Frank James)

Bruce Moran spoke on *Ambix* – the February edition was late in production but has now been distributed. The May edition is ready to go. August is a special edition, and the November edition is beginning to take shape. Production arrangements with the publishers Taylor and Francis is changing from ‘number of pages’ to minimum number of articles’ per year.

Bruce added that he was very pleased with the quality of submissions.

Anna Simmons reported on the Society’s arrangements with Taylor and Francis. Two new agreements have been signed – one relating to the publication of *Sources* (already mentioned by Jenny Rampling). Printed issues will be distributed to members and will also be available on open access. The second agreement relates to changes to *Ambix* mentioned earlier – from ‘number of pages’ to ‘minimum number of articles’ per year. This reflects the requirements of libraries who wishing to ensure value for money now ‘measure’ journals by ‘number of articles’.

Anna mentioned that the 2023 Partington Prize was awarded Dr Armel Cornu of the Science History Institute for her entry *Senses and utility in the New Chemistry*.

Megan Piorko is collecting approximately twenty *Ambix* articles relating to Eastern Europe for the forthcoming ‘Thirteenth International Conference on the History of Chemistry’ to be held in Vilnius

Frank James commented that there have been two very successful in-person meetings: one with the Society of Apothecaries and the second at University College London centring on conservation and chemistry. Attendances at in-person meetings has declined across many societies post-Covid, as ‘one-line’ attendance has become more popular. This may change as memories of the pandemic recede.

The Society’s Spring Meeting will take place in Vilnius.

The Autumn meeting is likely to be held in Oxford, Cambridge or London and will focus on 18C chemistry and alchemy.

Josh Werrett (the new post-graduate representative) is organising a conference with the working title, ‘Uncovering the Secrets of the Universe – Alchemy and Chemistry for Antiquity to the Present Day’.

Carloyn Cobbold (Membership Secretary) reported that membership numbers in all categories are holding up well.

## 7. Any Other Business

There being no other business, Frank closed the meeting by thanking all for attending – adding a special thanks for the work done on behalf of the Society by its Officers.

Dr Chris Campbell  
Honorary Secretary  
9 June 2023