



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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COVERING 2024

**Monday 12 May, 2025 at 14.00 (UK time)
Held via Zoom**

Please note that, as an experiment, these minutes were produced using an AI summary of the Zoom transcript of the meeting (comments welcomed).

Attendees

Alexandra Angerhofer, Chris Campbell (Society Secretary), Stephen Clucas, Carolyn Cobbold (Membership Secretary), Sarah Hijmans, Frank James (Chair), Sarah Lang, Megan Piorko, Rob Johnstone (Treasurer), Annette Lykknes (Awards Officer), Anna Simmons (*Ambix* Secretary), Carmen Schmeichel, Jennifer Wilson

1. Chairman's Introduction (Frank James)

Frank James opened the 2025 AGM by welcoming attendees and noting that the meeting covers activities from the 2024 calendar year.

2. Apologies for Absence

Chris Campbell reported apologies from Hasok Chang, Karoliina Pulkkinen, Bruce Tillman, Amber Rozenrichter, Gerrylynn Roberts and Eduardo Ibañez.

3. Minutes of AGM for SHAC 1190304 held on 14 May 2024 (Chris Campbell)

Chris Campbell confirmed the minutes had been made available to Members via Dropbox. No corrections or comments were raised. Frank James confirmed the minutes would be signed.

4. Presentation of Trustees Annual Report (TAR) and Statement of Accounts (Chris Campbell and Rob Johnstone)

Chris Campbell noted the TAR was shared ahead of the meeting and no feedback was received. Rob Johnstone reported a general fund increase of £16,200, ending the year with cash reserves of £136,023. He highlighted key expenditure including Peter Forshaw's grant being used to support the Amsterdam PG+ERC3 meeting, and £8,000 in research awards. He also noted early membership payments. Total net reserves were £122,000. Frank James noted the importance of maintaining significant reserves given uncertainties around open access. The TAR and accounts were noted and are available on the Charity Commission website.

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

Frank James explained the election procedure and noted that five positions were open. The following were (re)elected unopposed: Frank James, Anna Simmons, Peter Ramberg, Annette Lykknes, and Sarah Lang. Sarah Lang was welcomed to Council.

6. Announcement of New *Ambix* Editor

Frank James announced that Annette Lykknes would take over as editor of *Ambix* from Bruce Moran starting January 2026. Gratitude was expressed for Bruce Moran's eight years of excellent service, for which the Society is enormously grateful. Annette acknowledged her appointment and introduced new associate editors Stephen Clucas and Carmen Schmechel, and book review co-editor Sarah Hijmans. Viviane Quirke is stepping down as an associated editor and she was thanked for her service.

7. Update on Current Activities (Frank James and Officers)

Anna Simmons provided a detailed update on *Ambix* publications and editorial changes. Rob Johnstone shared progress on updating the membership database system. Carolyn reported stable membership levels. Sarah Lang reported website updates and maintenance. Megan Piorko discussed social media updates, including migration to Blue Sky

Frank James summarized recent and upcoming meetings in Oxford, Amsterdam, and Philadelphia, along with online seminars. Anna Simmons highlighted financial support for ICHC attendees and SHAC's tribute to Bill Brock. A new lifetime achievement book award in his name was also announced. The Partington Prize deadline was confirmed as end of December.

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Meeting closed at 1435 UK time.

Dr Chris Campbell,
Honorary Secretary
6 June 2025