

Meeting Date:	Wednesday 5 July 2023
Time:	1:00pm – 1:35pm
Meeting Number:	77
Location:	Online via Go To Webinar
Attendees:	Jack Hannam (Chair) Sarah Garry (Executive Officer)

26 delegates attended the meeting including four non-members (office staff). Voting on the resolutions took place in advance and 44 member votes for each category were received, which met requirement for the quorum.

	Agenda Item
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed members to the 77th Society Annual General Meeting.</p>
2.	<p>Approval of Ordinary Resolution: Minutes of the AGM held on 2 August 2022</p> <p>As set out in the Society's Bye-Laws, members had been asked to vote on resolutions in advance of the meeting. 100% of members voted in favour of accepting the minutes of the 76th AGM held on 2 August 2022 and they were approved.</p>
3.	<p>Annual Report 2022</p> <p>The Society had published its Annual Report 2022 and this was distributed with the meeting papers. The President began by providing Board's overview:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Lambeth joined Board as Marketing, Communications and Policymaking Trustee at the 2022 AGM and although an EGM was held to elect a new Board member late last year, the appointment did not work out. Board had readvertised the role and expected a further EGM to take place later in 2023 • A hardship fund had been established to support members who would not otherwise be able to pay for their membership • Terms of Reference for each committee and all Society policies, were updated • The Society made a surplus of almost £85,000 from activities during 2022, mainly due to receipt of the surplus from the World Congress of Soil Science

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board had implemented a new Investment Policy, to ensure the Society’s growing surplus was maintained for members’ benefit • Council had introduced Key Performance Indicators to help the Board and Council see what progress was being made towards overall objectives. <p>Sarah provided an overview of the Society’s main operational achievements which mainly focused on the delivery of the World Congress of Soil Science. In addition the Society:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • membership had increased by 3.5% to just under 900 members up from just over 700 members three years ago • published, <i>The Fragile Skin: Soil Landscapes of the UK</i>, which was available to purchase from the Society’s website • began development of a Level 7 Soil Science apprenticeship in England • continued to deliver its core services including academic journals, Zoom into Soil webinars, Regional Groups and a fully booked Agricultural Land Classification course • became a partner of the Coalition of Action for Soil Health (CA4SH). A collaboration of over 130 organisations spanning private and public sector, governments and NGO, all focused on making a difference to soil health via policy channels • introduced members’ only pages to the website which contained resources and video content from the World Congress, alongside details of offers and benefits for members, including money off Dell laptops and access to cheaper insurance products via an arrangement with Absolute Insurance Brokers and medical insurance offers via HMCA. <p>Members were encouraged to feedback and comments or suggestions for future activities or benefits to the Society office.</p>
<i>Secretary’s Note</i>	<i>The Annual Report from the British Society of Soil Science is available via the website: https://soils.org.uk/about-us/governance/annual-reports/</i>
4.	<p>Approval of Ordinary Resolution: Trustees’ Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022</p> <p>100% of members voted in favour of the report and accounts being accepted and they were approved. The Chair thanked Anirban, the Society’s Finance Trustee, the executive team and accountants for preparing the document.</p>
5.	<p>Approval of Ordinary Resolution: To approve the appointment of the accountants for the ensuing year – HB Accountants</p> <p>Board had proposed that the Society moved accountants from HSA, which had provided services for several years, to HB Accountants. The proposed fee from HSA would increase</p>

	significantly in 2023 and had already risen significantly in the last three years. 100% of members had voted in favour of the resolution and the resolution was accepted.														
6.	<p>Approval of Ordinary Resolution: To approve amendments to the Society Bye-Laws</p> <p>A number of small amendments had been proposed to the Society Bye-Laws, which had been distributed with the papers. These were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct the name of two committees which had been renamed by Council over the last year. The Education Committee had become the Outreach Committee, and the Professional Practice Committee has become the Professional Practice and Development Committee • allow the Board to increase its number to seven or eight members, to ensure a quorum for each meeting, and remove the requirement for a Governance Trustee. <p>98% of members voted in favour of the resolution with 2% abstentions and the updates to the Bye-Laws were accepted.</p>														
7.	<p>Ordinary Resolution: To approve the appointment of Dannielle Roche as Early Careers Representative</p> <p>100% of members voted in favour of the resolution to appoint Dannielle as Chair of the Early Careers Committee and the resolution was passed.</p>														
8.	<p>Board and Council Members 2023</p> <p>2023 Board and Council members would be:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2023 Board</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Jack Hannam</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Past President</td> <td>Bruce Lascelles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>President Elect</td> <td>Paul Hallett</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marketing, Communications and Policymaking Trustee</td> <td>Dan Lambeth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PPC Trustee</td> <td>Mike Palmer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finance Trustee</td> <td>Anirban Sarkar</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2023 Board	President	Jack Hannam	Past President	Bruce Lascelles	President Elect	Paul Hallett	Marketing, Communications and Policymaking Trustee	Dan Lambeth	PPC Trustee	Mike Palmer	Finance Trustee	Anirban Sarkar
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Digital Communications Trustee	TBC
	2023 Council
Presidential Team	Jack Hannam Bruce Lascelles Paul Hallett
EJSS Editor	Jenni Dungait (ex officio)
SUM Editor	Deyi Hou (ex officio)
Executive Officer	Sarah Garry (ex officio)
PPC Chair	Eleanor Reed
Education Committee	Lois Phillipps
Grants & Awards Committee	Bruce Lascelles
Early Career Representative	Dannielle Roche
Midlands Soil Discussion Group	Iain Gould
Northern Soils Network	Chris Cattle
South East England Regional Group	Marcelo Galdos (co-opted)
South West Soils Discussion Group	Lynda Deeks
Scottish Regional Group	Nikki Baggaley (co-opted)
Welsh Soil Discussion Group	Kara Marsden
Ordinary Council Member	Ashish Malik
Ordinary Council Member	Mark Nason

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	<p>The Society had a small executive team and the Chair thanked all of the Society’s volunteers, without whom it would not have been possible to deliver the level of activities in 2022.</p>
9.	<p>To Approve the Ordinary Resolution: Honorary Membership – Bob Jones</p> <p>Members could choose to make an Honorary Member of any person who had been a full member of the Society for the preceding ten years and who had made an exceptional contribution to the objects of the Society. Members voted in advance and recognised Dr Bob Jones, with 95% of members voting in favour and 5% abstaining.</p> <p>Bob delivered a short speech to thank the Society for the award.</p>
10.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>One item of any other business was received in advance of the meeting; a reminder from the Publications Committee that the Society journals, <i>European Journal of Soil Science</i> and <i>Soil Use and Management</i> welcomed papers from the Society’s membership. Members were encouraged to reach out to either Editor, Jenni Dungait or Deyi Hou, to discuss submitting a paper.</p> <p>There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting.</p>