

Subterranea Britannica Annual General Meeting 2022 – Minutes

23 April 2022, Canada Water Theatre, London

The meeting was opened at 10.00 by the Chairman, Tim Wellburn, who welcomed all those attending, especially so many new members. 63 members were present. Tim passed on the sad news that Malcolm Tadd had recently died; he (and his wife Barbara) had been a stalwart of Sub Brit for many years – running the Newsletter, the Day Meetings, the Weekends and Secretarial duties – quite a character and we owe him huge thanks.

1. Apologies were received from:
Tony Radstone, Robert Barnes, Janet Owers, Stephen Guest, Ian Jackson, Hugh Mackenzie, James Jenkins, John Poole, John Burgess, Alisdair Kergon, Jay Curtis, Nick Johnson, Adrian Lee, Richard West, Rhiannon Green, John Shere, Chris Wall, Ed Waters, Hayley Clark
2. The Minutes of the AGM 2021 held online on 27 March were published to all members in **Subterranea** #57, August 2021. It was proposed by Jason Holdcroft-Long and seconded by Nigel Wall that the Minutes were a true reflection of the meeting; the proposal was accepted by those attending with 3 abstentions.
3. Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021. This has been published to all members on Sub Brit's web site. Tim highlighted a few of our achievements of 2021:
 - Strong financial position
 - Membership at year-end = 984: up 3% on 2020 year-end
 - 12,400 subscribers to social networking channels
 - 13 'In the Dark' Webinars - available free to public
 - Three new issues of **Subterranea** magazine & wide-ranging Members' Forum
 - Autumn Conference and Site Visits at Sywell
 - Membership Survey to guide future development of the Society. Tim apologised that the developments as a result of the Survey had not been finalised and published yet – these should be in the next edition of **Subterranea**.
 - Subterranea editions 49-52 added to our publicly accessible archive
 - All other Sub Brit publications - dating from January 1975 - added to this archive. This is a huge achievement.
 - New grant of £2,700 to British Cave Rescue Council approved for casevac equipment. In addition grants have been made to Maidstone Girls School Air-Raid shelters, Reigate Caves for a new rear entrance and to Grassington Moor.
4. Accounts 2021: Sub Brit's Accounts have been signed off by the Committee and Independent Examiner and have been filed at Companies House and the Charity Commission. They are also on Sub Brit's website.
5. Elections of Officers and Committee. Tim highlighted the changes since the last AGM:
 - Co-opted:** Dave Maguire, coordinating Subterranea content;
James Buller, coordinating our Social Media;
Jay Curtis, liaising on organising Trips
 - Changes:** Neil Iosson is standing as Vice Chairman, to replace Richard West
Richard West will remain as Membership Secretary.
 - Standing down:** Bob Templeman, who was thanked for his many years of service to the Committee,
Chris Gray, Jason Hughes and Nick Gould (co-opted).

The motion that nominations for Sub Brit's Committee be considered '*en-bloc*' was proposed by Bob Clary and seconded by Mike Moore. The motion was carried unanimously.

6. The motion to elect the following Committee members was proposed by John Lill and seconded by Roger Gosling. The motion was carried unanimously.

The elected Committee for 2022/23 is:-

Tim Wellburn	Chairman
Neil Iosson	Vice-Chairman (Website content)
Linda Dixon	Secretary
Tony Radstone	Treasurer
Richard West	Membership Secretary
James Buller	Member (Social Media)
Phil Catling	Member (SB Meetings)
Jay Curtis	Member (Grants and Visits)
Martin Dixon	Member
Dave Maguire	Member (Subterranea content and Visits)
Richard Seabrook	Member (Technology)

Tim finished by outlining some of the events underway in 2022:

- Site Visit to Reigate Caves (February)
- "Inventive Vents" Bus Tour (March)
- Site Visit to Courtauld Industrial Group of 16 Air Raid Shelters, Halstead (March)
- Site Visit to Air-Raid Shelters at Maidstone Grammar School for Girls and Hollingbourne Zero Station (April)
- SB AGM & Spring Meeting & Visit to Crossness Pumping Station (April)
- First 'In-the-Sump' Online Members' Informal Meeting (28 April at 18:30)
- Site Visit to Orford Ness Atomic Weapons Research Establishment (initiated by SB Member David Gordon) (May)
- Maginot Line Study Weekend (May)
- Repeat Site Visit to Orford Ness (Organised by SB Member Dave Thomas) (June)
- Site Visit to Wartling Rotor Radar Station (July)
- Dumpy Level, Dover & Capel Battery (October) (With a repeat visit to be arranged)
- Edinburgh Study Weekend (15-17 October)
- ...and more in the pipeline

The Meeting officially closed at 10.20, and was followed by the Spring Meeting.