

WESTMORLAND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE 45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held on Wednesday 21st February 2018 at the Abbot Hall Social Centre, Kendal

In the absence of the President, the Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed approximately 30 members.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Graham Leslie, Clive Boulter, Mike Coates, Helen James, Gwynneth Lindley-Jones, Vic Parsons and Dennis Pook.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2017 were taken as read. There were no matters arising.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

a. Financial Report

The Treasurer reported that there had been a deficit last year after several years in surplus. Another deficit was likely this year but there was a wide margin of error in his forecast. Spending on room hire had increased because of the need to hire alternative, and more expensive, accommodation when the Abbot Hall SC had been shut. The Society had over £5,000 in reserve.

b. Cheque Signatory

The Treasurer said that Bob Entwistle was to understudy the role of Treasurer for the following year with a view to taking over in 2019 and he recommended that he be appointed as an additional signatory of the Society's bank and building society accounts. This was agreed unanimously by the members present.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary reported on the need to find alternative accommodation for lectures during the protracted buildings works at the AHSC, but that the building was now much improved with a new heating system and redecoration. The heavyweight tables had also been replaced.

The lectures had been varied and of a high standard and had included topical subjects such as climate change and fracking. There had also been a varied range of field trips including a long trip to the Ayrshire coalfield to visit the Spireslack open cast coal mine with our new President.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

The Chair reported that new summer and winter programmes had been prepared and would be circulated with the Proceedings next month. The summer programme included a visit to Mull which had been well supported although there were a couple of places still available.

The first workshop had been held in January with Audrey Brown discussing igneous rocks. This had been very successful with twelve attending, and a second was due to be held the following week with Clive Boulter on the subject Rocks of the Lake District.

The practise of inviting speakers to a meal before lectures had become established with an even spread of committee and ordinary members attending. She also mentioned that the committee were looking into the new data protection regulations which came into effect later in the year. Ann Allwright had continued to look after the website which had now extended its scope and Audrey Brown had been responsible for the Society's Facebook page.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

a) **President.** The Chairman announced that Dr Graham Leslie, from BGS Edinburgh had agreed to become the Society's new President, following the retirement of Dr Emrys Phillips last year.

b) **Secretary.** Brian Kettle had offered his resignation as Secretary but agreed to carry on filling the role until a replacement could be found.

c) **Field Trip Secretary.** Mike Coates had completed his five year term but had agreed to fill the post for a further year.

d) **Committee Member.** Kath Alty completed her three year term but there were no other nominations.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the Abbot Hall Social Centre on Wednesday 20th February 2019 at 7.45pm.