

DURSA - Durham University Retired Staff Association

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 26th June 2024

The meeting was held in the Garden Room at the Poplar Tree Garden Centre with 16 members present.

Minutes

87. Introduction

In the absence of a Chairman it was agreed that Keith Orford, who has previously held the office, would take the chair at the start of the meeting. Dr Orford moved that the election of Chairman should be taken as the first item on the agenda, which was agreed.

88. Election of Chairman

John White was the only candidate for the post of Chairman, and was therefore elected unopposed. Mr White then took the chair.

89. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Mr Burman and Mrs Scarr.

90. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th June 2023 were approved.

91. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

92. Annual Report

Received: the following Annual Report

a. DURSA Activities

The Committee is continuing to organise activities. Drop-Ins are happening regularly at the Botanic Gardens Tea Room, and visits were arranged to the University Sports Centre at Maiden Castle, St Lawrence's Church in Pitlington, Harrison & Harrison in Meadowfield, St James's Church in Hamsterley and the Archaeology Department's

Dig at Auckland Palace. A Christmas Meal was also held at the Poplar Tree Garden Centre.

b. Acknowledgements

The Committee wishes to record its gratitude for the help received from the staff of DARO, and in particular Mellissa Abdu and Tracey Baker who are which our principal contacts there.

c. The Committee

The composition of the Committee has been as elected at the Annual General Meeting in 2022. The Committee has met in-person during the year with the Secretary convening the meetings as we are still without a Chairman.

d. Membership

The number of members is 559 as of May 14th 2024. There are two Honorary Members, former Chancellors Bill Bryson and Tom Allen.

e. Accounts

[See minute 93].

f. The 2025-25 Programme and beyond

For 2024-25 visits are being arranged to the Nuclear Power Station at Hartlepool, to the Aycliffe and District Bus Preservation Society, to the Wurlitzer Organ Museum at Howden-le-Wear, and to St Cuthbert's Society.

93. Accounts

- a. The Treasurer reported that the accounts showed a satisfactory picture. A balance of £613.04 was held as of June 26th in the DURSA bank account.
- b. The Treasurer proposed that a small charge of £2 be levied for all participants at DURSA events in addition to any entry fee or associated cost, which was agreed.
- c. It was also agreed that a copy of the 2023-24 accounts would be sent to the Development & Alumni Relations Office for approval.

94. Membership of the Committee

Noted: that Mrs Fall, Ms Luard had been duly proposed and seconded and were therefore elected unopposed; Mr White's election had taken place earlier in the meeting.

The composition of the **Committee for 2024-25** is therefore as follows:

Elected until 30 June 2025

Tim Burman

Keith Orford

Euan Ross

Elected until 30 June 2026

Clive Doloughan

Sharon Mavin

Francis Pritchard (Secretary)

Elected until 30 June 2027

Kath Fall (Treasurer)

Pam Luard

John White (Chairman)

95. To Amend The Constitution

Members agreed to amend the Constitution to add at section 3 “Membership shall be open to all staff who have retired from Durham University” the words “and from the Recognised Colleges, and also the spouses or partners of deceased retired staff”.

The Secretary would forward the proposed amendment to the University Secretary for the approval of University Council.

96. AOB

Clive Bowery reported that he had encountered a problem with accessing his university email account after acquiring a new mobile telephone. The Secretary agreed to take this matter up with Computing & Information Services should it be necessary.

Francis Pritchard
DURSA Secretary
26/6/24