

UNIVERSITY OF KEELE

Staff Common Room

AGM

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 27th May 2015, 5.15pm

The Common Room, Keele Hall

01/15 Apologies for Absence. Peter Andras, Marilyn Andrews, Caroline Baggaley, Margaret Bird, John Butcher, John Easom, Rosemary Fricker, Peter Grannell, Margot Griffith, Lynne Harris, Tobias Hogbin, Clare Holdsworth, Jonathan Hutchins, John Johnson, Brenda Jones, Mihaela Kelemen, Peter Lawrence, Hazel Russell, Debbie Steventon, Aswathy Surendran, Chris Wain.

In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Peter Lawrence, the meeting was chaired by Anna Truman, the Committee Secretary.

Present : Anna Truman (in the Chair), Elsie Ashley, Gerald Stratton-Ashley, Philippa Calver, Stephen Clifford, David Cohen, Andy Fear, Jacqui Kinsey, John Kolbert, Bev Newton, Terry O'Neill, Adam Stanton, Ella Tennant, Arthur Tough, Paul Truman,.

02/15 The **Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting of 28th May 2014 were **agreed** as a correct record.

03/15 Matters Arising on the Minutes.
None other than those appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

04/15 Chairman's and President's Reports

The Chairman of the meeting, Anna Truman, spoke to a written report from Peter Lawrence as follows: "This year has seen the SCR engaging in its usual round of activities – chess tournament, wine and whisky tastings, Burns Night dinner and so on, as well as the inauguration of the Keele Experiment Feast, a night of good food and wine and music to celebrate the special character of the university. This year was also the first without the annual Christmas dinner, now made relatively redundant by the myriad of dinners held across the campus. The absence of this dinner may have accounted for the larger than usual attendance at the Burns Night dinner, a hugely successful and enjoyable occasion.

Throughout the year we have held meetings with university officers to discuss the role of the SCR and how it might play a more important role in the provision of the university staff's and Keele community's social needs. These discussions are as yet to be completed with agreed proposals concerning a number of issues which might result in the wider use of our room and bar facilities to the further enhancement of the SCR. The Committee itself had an extra meeting to discuss a vision for the SCR and we will hear about this later.

I have as usual probably left a lot out. This is my last report before I leave the committee to new and younger members, whom I am sure will fashion an SCR fitting for Keele in the 21st century. It has been a pleasure to serve as chair and to be assisted by such excellent colleagues. Finally, my apologies for absence today." Favourable comment was made on the Experiment Feast, which had been created by Anna Truman. There was no President's Report, as the post was currently vacant.

05/15 Treasurer's Report

Accounts for 2013-2014. For a statement of the account see the minute book. Stephen Clifford reported that a second year of losses had led the Committee to end all subscriptions to newspapers, which surveys suggested were read by 5 or 6 members, at the cost of about one third of all subscription income. This should eliminate the deficit for the current year, when Bar income was also expected to be up. It was noted that the accountants seemed incorrectly to have shown the net book value at 31

July 2013 as the same as 2014, and less than 1 August 2014. This was corrected and the proposal that the accounts, as amended, be accepted was **carried** unanimously.

06/15 Election of Committee for 2015/2016

The motion that the Committee's nominations for the SCR Committee be accepted *en bloc* was **carried** unanimously.

President	No nomination this year
Chairman	Mrs Anna Truman (Music)
Secretary	Dr Lynne Harris (Life Sciences)
Treasurer	Mr Stephen Clifford (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
Assistant Secretaries:	
Room Bookings	Mr Stephen Clifford (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
Social	Dr John Butcher (Life Sciences)
Membership	Miss Margaret Bird (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
Membership Communication & Webmaster	Mr Adam Stanton (Computing)
Treasures	Dr Philip Kivell (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
Games	Mr Chris Wain (Planning & Academic Administration)
Rambles	Dr Terry O'Neill (Associate Member)
Wine Stewards	Dr David Cohen (Retired Member)
	Mr Stephen Clifford (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
	Mr Adam Stanton (Computing)
Members	Professor Marilyn Andrews (past President)
	Professor James Elder (past President)

07/15 2015/16 Vision and Objectives

Anna Truman explained that during the year the Committee had been working on a draft Vision and Mission Statement for the future of the SCR. (For paper, see Minute Book.) The Mission Statement would be punchier and more succinct than the Vision presented to the meeting, and was still being worked on. The Committee's aims were to:

- Maintain a central dedicated space and substantially increase numbers of members accessing it over 2 years
- Apply to the Keele key fund for an update and refurbishment of the rooms and furniture by November 2015
- Develop Breakfast Room use as a morning meeting room, including garden use in Spring & Summer
- Deliver a Concert and a Theatre visit, two rambles and family activities as well as the existing programme
- Continue to promote the ethos and traditions of the SCR and of the University
- Soon confirm a date for the 2015 Experiment Feast
- Support the founders' principles and extend right to join to all Postgraduate Research Students from this AGM, as the Committee had already begun to do
- Make a substantial contribution to the activities of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences in Keele Hall (KCoLAS), sharing our social space
- Promote the heritage of Keele and the SCR's Treasures, by displaying them at events.

In questions it was established that this Vision had not yet been put to the University, pending a mandate from the AGM; no direct talks had been held with the KPA only through the intermediary of University officers; there was support for coffee being available in the Breakfast Room, possibly through an agreement with Catering; the valuable floor in the Breakfast Room would need appropriate protection; members supported a more specific target for increased use of facilities, returning to the original Committee concept of doubling in 2 years; Bar furniture should be included in any updating and refurbishment; and there was support both for sharing social space with KCoLAS and for evening opening of the Bar.

With the agreed amendments, it was **resolved** to take forward the Vision and Objectives presented in the Committee's work in 2015/16.

08/15 Any Other Business

There was none.

**09/15 The Date & Time of the Next Annual General Meeting were agreed as:
WEDNESDAY 25th MAY 2016, 5.15 p.m.**

The meeting finished at 5.55 pm.

Stephen Clifford

Minute Secretary to the AGM, 29.5.15

<http://www.keeleScr.org/agm14min.pdf>