

UNIVERSITY OF KEELE

Staff Common Room

AGM

MINUTES

FRIDAY 25th May 2018, 5.30pm

University Common Room, Keele Hall

01/18 Apologies for Absence: Adam Stanton (Chairman of the Committee), Caroline Baggaley, John Butcher, David Cohen, Ted Evans, Phil Kivell, Terry O'Neill, James Pritchard, Frank Rutten, Robert Smith.

Present: Rachel Bright (Secretary, in the Chair), Stephen Clifford (Treasurer), Chris Adams, Marilyn Andrews, David Ballantyne, Margaret Bird, Rebecca Bowler, Sarah Roberts, Jacqueline Tickle, Chris Wain, Nick Wright.

02/18 The **Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting of 26th May 2017 were **agreed** as a correct record.

03/18 Matters Arising on the Minutes.

05/17: The Agreement with the University had largely worked as hoped, with a few continuing discussions on who was responsible for which expenditure. The Operations Group did not yet include other Keele Hall users, and the Committee was pressing for this.

08/17: Almost no resignations had resulted from the increased subscriptions, income from which had had a major effect on our finances.

04/18 Chairman's Report

The Chair of the meeting, Rachel Bright, read a Report from Adam Stanton, as follows:

"Over the last year we have once again seen the Staff Common Room grow and thrive as a uniting organisation that exists independently of the corporate structure of the University. Thank you to the members of the SCR committee for their hard work over the last year.

Their efforts have continued the upward trajectory of our activity, and once again I am glad to see the involvement of many new staff, research students, and their friends and families in the events and meetings that have taken place throughout the year. The SCR has brought together different disciplines, different professions, and different generations, and we are rightly proud of the links we continue to forge between all corners of the Keele community.

Our October New Staff Buffet attracted many fresh faces, a number of whom are now regulars at our social events. Members also enjoyed a fantastic Burns Night Supper in January. The rest of the social programme comprised several wine tastings, a whisky tasting, the ongoing chess tournament, several lectures and a coach trip in association with the North Staffs Classical Association, and what is now the traditional tour of Joules Brewery. We have also just had a first joint event with Friends of Keele. The busy Friday night bar openings, staffed by volunteers, have continued to provide members with an opportunity to socialise and network with other colleagues. Thank you to everyone involved with these evenings.

We end this year in a very healthy financial position, and I am looking forward to the year ahead with genuine excitement. I am confident that our new committee has the vigour, enthusiasm, imagination, and resources to consolidate our successes, bring forward creative and exciting events and activities, and strengthen the SCR's position at the heart of University life.

Finally, thank you to all members for your support over the last twelve months and for your continued support in the future."

05/18 Treasurer's Report

Accounts for 2016-2017. For a statement of the account see the minute book. Stephen Clifford reported that there was again a healthy surplus this year, thanks largely once more to the Friday night bar sales, as there were no overheads. The benefits of ceasing newspaper purchases continued to be seen. The effect of the new subscriptions, and reduced Bar overheads, would not be seen until the next accounts, but he could report that the SCR was £3.4k up on the same point a year ago, the healthiest financial position he had ever reported. These accounts were the last prepared by Slaters, and he thanked them for their help and support over many years. Following a tender exercise, Birkins had been appointed as their successors, at a lower fee, but Slaters had gained the KPA's business at the same time. The proposal that the accounts be agreed and adopted was **carried** unanimously.

06/18 Election of Committee for 2018/2019

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

President	No nomination this year
Chair	Dr Chris Adams (Life Sciences)
Secretary	Miss Sarah Roberts (SAS: Quality Assurance)
Treasurer	Mr Stephen Clifford (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
Honourable Keeper of the Bar	Dr Nick Wright (Astrophysics)
Hon. Wine Stewards	Dr David Cohen (Emeritus, c/o SCR) Mr Stephen Clifford (Retired Member, c/o SCR) Dr John Butcher (Life Sciences) Dr Adam Stanton (Computing and Mathematics)
Social	Dr Rebecca Bowler (English)
Membership	Miss Margaret Bird (Retired Member, c/o SCR)
Communications	Professor Marilyn Andrews (Emerita, c/o SHAR) Dr Jackie Tickle (Life Sciences)
Treasures	Dr David Ballantyne (American Studies)
Games	Mr Chris Wain (SAS: Planning)
Rambles	Dr Rachel Bright (History)
Members	Dr James Borg (Computing and Mathematics) Dr Terry O'Neill (Associate Member) Ms Ella Tennant (Language Centre)

The following members retired from the Committee: Dr Philip Kivell, Dr Cora Xu. Phil Kivell was thanked for many years service in a number of roles to the SCR.

07/18 Any Other Business

Rachel reported that the Committee was looking into the possibility of contributing, perhaps with the KPA, to funding a Master's Student researching the history of Keele organizations, such as the SCR and KPA, using an oral history approach where possible, producing leaflets about the organizations covered, etc. A minimum £500 would be needed. With a fundraising campaign and University support, a PhD Studentship might become possible. A number of supportive comments were made, mention was made of old SCR records stored in the Library, and it was unanimously **resolved** that members present enthusiastically supported further exploration of the idea by the Committee.

The proposal that we show our appreciation for all Adam Stanton had done as Chair, Rachel Bright as Secretary and John Butcher as Keeper of the Bar, was greeted enthusiastically. All continued in different roles on the Committee.

08/18 The Date & Time of the Next Annual General Meeting were agreed as:

Friday, 24 May 2019, 5.30 p.m.

Stephen Clifford, Minute Secretary to the AGM, 30.5.18

<http://www.keeleocr.org/agm17min.pdf>