



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS: MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE EAST INDIA CLUB, 16 ST JAMES'S SQUARE, LONDON AND ONLINE ON 8 JUNE 2022 AT 18.00 BST

The Vice-Chairman, Adrian Steger, opened the meeting in the absence of the Chairman Sophie Ibbotson, who was delayed and arrived for the second agenda item. A total of 100 members were present in person and online.

Chairman's report

The Vice-Chairman presented the Chairman's report for 2021. The text is available from the RSAA office.

Treasurer's report

The Treasurer, Andrew Cartwright, presented his report for 2021. The text is available from the RSAA office.

Questions

One member suggested that the accounts should in future include details of the Society's investment portfolio. The Treasurer agreed.

One member asked about the board's approach to managing debts, which seemed to be increasing. The Treasurer said that the board was careful and prudent in its management of the Society's finances. Debts had not significantly increased. Additional expenditure in 2021 had all been paid in year. The CEO confirmed this. The only debts carried over were on the income side of the accounts in late and underpaid membership subscriptions.

One member asked if HMRC had been consulted about the board's decision to discontinue Gift Aid claims on membership subscriptions. The Treasurer said that there had been consultations with analogous societies and with the RSAA's accountants. The CEO added that Gift Aid could be claimed on donations but not on subscriptions for which services were received beyond 25% of the value of the subscription. The retail price of the journal, which all members received, was £230, far exceeding HMRC's 25% limit.

Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts

It was proposed and agreed that the Annual Report and Accounts for 2021 be adopted.

Appointment of Independent Examiners

It was proposed and agreed that Prentis & Co of 115 Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1XE be reappointed as Independent Examiners for 2022.

Election of members of the board

Gerald Dorey was appointed as a trustee, and Vanessa Easlea and Adrian Steger were appointed to second terms, all unopposed.

The meeting concluded at 18.40.