

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12 February 2025

The President, Professor Philip Ind in the Chair

Present: Dr Helen Graham, Dr Jenny Dove, Ms Marilyn Davey, Dr Malcolm Stodell, Professor Philip Steer, Dr Alison Twigley, Ms Marilyn Davey, Dr Chris Meadows, Mr Robert Maurice-Williams and Dr David Mummery

In attendance: Cdr Mike Flynn (Exec Sec)

Apologies: Professor Robert Douglas, Ms Catriona Head.

ITEM ONE – INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

1. The President introduced the meeting, welcomed the new Councillor and noted the apologies.

ITEM TWO -- MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

2. The Minutes of the last meeting held on 11 October 2024 had been circulated with the meeting papers. The Minutes were approved, signed, and will be posted to the website.

ITEM THREE – MATTERS ARISING

3. There was one item arising from the Minutes:
 - a. Para 9 – Christmas Function The Executive Secretary reported that the low take-up of the Christmas Lunch had required the function to be re-designed. It had been presented as a drinks and canapes party. The function had been a success and the musician had added to the convivial and enjoyable atmosphere. The Executive Secretary presented the financial breakdown of the function and Council agreed that those who attended should receive an £8 credit towards a future function. Council further debated options for 2025 and attendance levels in general.

ITEM FOUR – FINANCE

4. The Executive Secretary presented a comprehensive view of the Society's investments, analysing the fluctuations in funds since 2019. He noted the effects of the pandemic, the Stone legacy and the requirements for drawdowns which he has had to take to ensure operating funds were sufficient. He explained the breakdown of the investment funds and the restrictions on the two separate funds. **Council were content with the investment funds.**
5. The Executive Secretary then presented the budget statement for the end of January 2025. This included a drawdown of some £6k to maintain the cashflow. He stated that he had only requested £6k such that any further requirements could be taken once the funds had recovered.

6. The operating costs were examined by Council and a question raised regarding the shortfall of subscriptions income against the forecast. The Executive Secretary explained that, since July 2024, a thorough examination of the membership database had revealed some 60 or so members who had not paid their subscriptions. After being contacted and reminded twice, their subscriptions were not forthcoming and they had been removed from the Society membership. This resulted in the shortfall of income for subscriptions. **Council noted the budget statement and were content with the operating funds.**

ITEM FIVE –MEMBERSHIP STATUS

7. The Executive Secretary presented the membership status to Council as follows:

Number of Paying Members	74
Of which new since Jul 24	4
Associate Members	2
Returning Members	6
 Honorary Members	 1
New members Elected since Jul 24	6
Of which have paid	4
 Gift Aid Contributors	 39

Council noted this update and discussed options for the increase in membership. The Executive Secretary reminded Council that there were flyers available and asked that they take some for private distribution.

ITEM SIX – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10. There were two brief items of other business:

- a. The Executive Secretary reminded Council that flyers were available (see above).
- b. The Executive Secretary confirmed that all Schools and Universities had been contacted to initiate the process of bursaries and prizes for 2025.

ITEM TEN –DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

11. **The next meeting of Council will take place on 14 May 2025.**

Professor Philip Ind
President