

# Northern branch AGM Minutes

Date: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Held on Zoom

From 7pm AGM (only members may vote)

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Ros Roberts (Secretary and acting Chair) welcomed everyone. The meeting was attended by 7 Northern Branch members, 1 member from another region and 8 non-members.

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Keith Lindsay and Stephen Todryk.

## 3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the October 2021 meeting are available on the RSB's website and were accepted.

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The committee membership introduced.

Chair: Caroline Austin

Secretary: Ros Roberts

Treasurer: Helen Page

Education Liaison Officers: Stephen Todryk; Keith Lindsey; Barbara Murphy

Industry Liaison Officer: Tom Simpson

General Committee Members: Shaun Nicholson, Patrick Randolph-Quinney, Catherine Stephenson, Ethan Hack

Rep on the RSB Branches group: Paul Beetham

Student Liaison Officer: Eve Maguinness

Co-opted member: Leonid Nikitenko.

The committee would welcome new members and officers. Anyone interested should contact [northern@rsb.org.uk](mailto:northern@rsb.org.uk)

## 5. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

There were no new nominations.

## 6. CHAIR'S REPORT

The large geographic size of the Northern region has meant that talks have continued to be via Zoom for convenience. Since the summer break, we've aimed for talks every couple of months.

We aim to encourage engagement with younger biologists (6<sup>th</sup> formers, students, early careers biologists) through our panel talks in particular. We have enjoyed a range of talks in the past year. We met in person at the Dilston Physic Garden in the summer and propose in-person events for the summer of 2023.

#### **7. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The budget for 2022-23 has been approved by RSB. Our costs are relatively low, with the main expenditure subsidising in-person visits.

#### **8. REVIEW OF NORTHERN BRANCH EVENTS OF 2021-22**

2021-2022 activities have been on Zoom and have been varied and, mostly, well attended. The visit to the Physic Garden was well attended by members and friends/families.

#### **9. FUTURE EVENTS**

A programme of confirmed events for November and December 2022 was presented.

Other potential events, including in-person visits in the summer were discussed.

It was agreed that we should continue to use Zoom for talks, and these would be about 2-3 monthly up until the summer.

It was agreed that a mix of speakers from different locations was ideal on Zoom.

Members were asked to suggest other ideas for talks.

#### **6. AOB**

Professor Nigel Brown OBE CBIol FRSB, Chair of the College of Individual Members and Member of Council, was unable to join us because of internet issues.

Paul Beetham reported back from the RSB Branches group. Our Apprenticeship talk was singled out as being of interest. He also suggested 2 potential speakers/talks and the secretary will follow this up.

The Chair thanked everyone for their support and suggestions.