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PROCEEDINGS OF
THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF HELLENIC STUDIES 2012–2013

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at 4.15pm on Saturday 13th June 2013 in the Woburn Room, Senate House, Malet Street, London. The President, Professor Chris Carey, was in the chair and welcomed members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were passed and signed. The following amendment to the minutes was agreed: the 2012 nominations were adopted with enthusiasm by a show of hands with one dissenting voice.

Professor Carey discussed the activities of the Council and Committees during the past year. The Society's events had reflected a holistic conception of Greek culture, from the Greek Bronze Age (Bull Leaping) to the present (Reception of Greek Tragedy), from the Hellenistic Age (Alexander and his Successors) to Modern Greek History (Byron's Greece). Members were reminded that every effort was being made to video events which could be accessed via the Society's YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/HellenicSociety1879>). Professor Carey highlighted the Society's new website, a more attractive and interactive site than its predecessor (www.hellenicsociety.org.uk). He assured members that the Society would continue to build upon its outreach and membership provision to improve the offering to members outside of London. Looking forward, Professor Carey noted that the Memorandum of Understanding with the University of London was due for renewal in July 2014; he anticipated a lively discussion lay ahead.

Dr David Thomas (Honorary Treasurer) presented the 2012 Accounts. He began by reminding members that donations and legacies continue to be vital to the activities of the Society. A recent donation of £3,700 from the estate of the late John Spencer and a further ten per cent of his estate, circa £60,000, towards the purchase of books for the Joint Library had been most gratefully received.

Dr Thomas reported that in 2012 the Society had net incoming resources (prior to gains on investment assets) of £89,282 as compared to £118,982 in 2011, a fall of £29,700 reversing the underlying improvement in net incoming resources seen for the previous three years. Part of the £89,282 surplus is accounted for by capitalised acquisitions of books and periodicals for the library. Deducting net additions to tangible assets and adding back depreciation, the surplus is £19,147, which more closely corresponds to the underlying cash position on the Society's ordinary activities. The equivalent figure for 2011 was a surplus of £65,821, giving a fall in surplus in 2012 of £46,674. The principal cause of this fall in surplus was a rise in library space costs from £13,572 to £39,870, an increase of £26,298, as a result of the fact that 2012 was the first year fully to reflect the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding between ourselves, the Roman Society and the University of London. The full impact of the University of London's demands has long been anticipated by the Society and has now finally taken effect.

Other negative factors included: £12,646 of website costs (principally the redesign of the site, and therefore largely non-recurring); £9,987 fall in the Society's portion of library donations after adjustments (2011 saw the first fruits of an appeal for the library); £3,224 rise in investment management fees paid (2012 was the first full year of the Society's contract with Rathbone Investment Management); £3,110 fall in subscription income received from members as a result of continued attrition to the membership base.

Partly offsetting the negative factors were principally: £16,839 rise in receipts from Cambridge University Press as a result of greatly increased sales of the digitized archive of *JHS* and *AR*, which more than outweighed a fall in current year sales; £3,384 rise in investment income.

Dr Thomas noted that without the £27,282 of income from the sale of the digitized journals, the Society would have run at a non-negligible deficit. Whether the Society succeeds in achieving a surplus in 2013 is likely to depend on the size of the income from this source, which is very difficult to predict. Gains of £83,131 were made on the Society's investment portfolio (2011: loss of £24,454), a good performance. These gains mean that at the end of 2012 investments stood at £1,155,757. The Society's investments therefore continue to give adequate financial reserves for the medium term, even if deficits turn out to be unavoidable in the short term.

Dr Thomas did not propose an increase in membership subscriptions for 2014.

Professor Brian Sparkes proposed the adoption of the 2012 Accounts, seconded by Mr Robert Tatam. The accounts were unanimously adopted. Professor Carey thanked Dr Thomas and Ms Doyle for their work throughout the year.

The following nominations were proposed by Professor Chris Carey:

for election as Vice-President: Dr Pantelis Michelakis;

for re-election as Vice-Presidents: Professor Pat Easterling, Mr Brian Gilmore, Mr George Lemos, Professor Robin Osborne, Professor Christopher Rowe, Professor Ken Saunders, Professor Malcolm Schofield and Professor Brian Sparkes;

for election as Members of Council (to serve 2013–2016): Professor Douglas Cairns (University of Edinburgh), Dr Myrto Hadjimichali (University of Cambridge), Professor Ahuvia Kahane (Royal Holloway), Professor Irene Lemos (University of Oxford), Mr Adrian McAra (University College School), Dr Andrew Shapland (British Museum) and Dr Tracey Rihll (Swansea University);

for re-election as Auditors: Larkings Chartered Accountants, 31 St George's Place, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1XD.

The nominations were unanimously adopted. The proceedings were drawn to a close.

SOCIETY EVENTS 2012–2013

Tuesday 13th November 2012: 'Jumping to Conclusions. Bull-leaping in Minoan Crete', Dr Andrew Shapland (British Museum).

Tuesday 19th March 2013: panel discussion on 'Greek Tragedy in the Modern World', Dr Pantelis Michelakis (University of Bristol), Dr Fiona MacIntosh (Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama, Oxford) and Professor Miriam Leonard (University College London).

Wednesday 5th June 2013: 'Byron's Greece', Professor Roderick Beaton (Kings College London).

Saturday 15th June 2013: 'Alexander and the Gods – and the Early Successors', Robin Lane Fox (New College, Oxford).