

The Agricultural Economics Society
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 4323127

Minutes of the 90th Annual General Meeting of
The Agricultural Economics Society
held on Tuesday 30th March 2021 @ 11.45 (UK time)
Online via MS Teams

In the absence of the caretaker President, Caroline Saunders, Stephen Ramsden opened the meeting at 11.45hrs and thanked everyone for attending.

1. Apologies for absence
Apologies had been received from Caroline Saunders and Brian Revell.
2. Members who have passed away since the last AGM (President)
The Executive had been informed that Ian G Simpson, Richard Pearce, and Yves Surry have all passed away since the last AGM. Richard (Dick) Dancey, AES President 1993-94, who passed away in 2011, was also remembered. A minute's silence was observed.
3. Minutes of the 89th Annual General Meeting (President)
The minutes of the 89th Annual General Meeting held on 14th April 2020 were approved, proposed by Paul Wilson and seconded by Paul Caskie.
4. Matters Arising (President)
There were no matters arising.
5. Election of Officers and Executive Committee (President)
The Chair reported that Yiorgos Gadanakis retires from the Executive having reached the end of his four-year term of office. Grant Davies and Mike Bourne (Defra) are stepping down as ex-officio members of the Executive and are replaced by Emma Bentley, with John Curnow continuing to represent Defra in liaising with the AES.

Wilfrid Legg and Derek Shepherd agreed to serve for a further year as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, respectively. Janet Dwyer becomes President (2021-22) following the AGM and Jonathan Brooks becomes President Elect. Following retirements and changes in positions on the Executive there was 1 vacancy on the Executive for which there was one nomination and Atanu Ghoshray was duly elected. Emma Dillon was co-opted for 1 year. Tim Lloyd and Neil Chalmers remain in ex-officio roles.

6. <u>Treasurer's</u>	<u>Report</u>
The Hon. Treasurer headlined the Society's accounts for 2020 as follows:	
2020 subscriptions	£18,66
2020 royalties	£107,002
Other income	£75,378
Overall surplus:	£116,327

The market value of the investments as at 31.03.2021 was £182,449. The 'other income' relates to job adverts on the AES website, benefits from the new Wiley contract and the Blandford/Hassapoyannes Prize Essay endowment of £55,000. Approval of the 2020 accounts were proposed by Neil Chalmers and seconded by Ken Thomson. The Society's

accountant, Ellacotts LLP in Banbury was reappointed. The Treasurer reported that the Society remains solvent and in a good position with regards to its reserves. The Chair thanked the Hon. Treasurer for his report.

7. Report of the Executive Committee (Chair of Executive)

The Chair of the Executive delivered his report via a PowerPoint presentation, which will be made available on the AES website and annexed to the Minutes of this AGM.

Membership in 2020 was 448. The Annual Conference in 2020 did not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but there were 65 participants for the online Defra-AES one-day Conference in December 2020 *Strengthening resilience in the food supply chain*. The next one-day conference will be in December 2021, but the topic is not yet decided.

Future annual conferences are planned as follows: 4th – 6th April 2022, hopefully at K U Leven, Belgium and the 2023 at Warwick University, UK.

Concerning submissions to the JAE: Submissions: 528 (354 last year), turn-around: median = 8 days. Impact Factor: 1.5 in 2015, 2.53 in 2019. Most cited in 2020: Manda, 2016, *Adoption and Impacts of Sustainable Agricultural Practices*. Most downloaded in 2020: Iyer, 2019, *Measuring Farmer Risk Preferences in Europe*. The Chair thanked the editorial team and all those involved in the refereeing process and congratulated the Editorial team for its contribution to increasing impact factor over recent years.

Concerning submissions to EuroChoices: Submissions: 46, from 172 authors in 19 countries
Special issues: Resilience in European Agriculture, Covid-19 Impacts on Agri-Food Systems
Full text downloads grew strongly to circa 48,000 (48%). 2021: 20th anniversary with three special editions. The Chair thanked the editorial team, advisory board, referees and Michelle Stevenson (Editorial Assistant), and congratulated the team for the growing number of downloads.

The AES Awards for Excellence and prizes. Professor Richard Tranter was awarded the prize for Outstanding Contribution to the Society. The Prize essay was awarded to Le Ngoc Lan, PhD candidate School of Agriculture and Environment University of Western Australia (UWA) *Auctions for buying back groundwater for environmental purposes: which design performs better?*, which will be published in the JAE. Poster prizes were awarded to Corinna Hempel (Technical University of Munich) and Fanny Le Gloux (INRAE). Krijn Poppe, (WUR and Chair of the *EuroChoices* Advisory Board, was granted Honorary Membership of the Society on a proposal by the Executive Committee. The best Ph.D presentations, which were announced at the end of the Conference, were awarded to Yabin Da (Texas A&M University), Maria Rodrigues (University of Glasgow), Annika Tensi (Wageningen University) and Nicholas Tyack (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland).

8. Votes of Thanks

The Chairman thanked Hon. Secretary (Wilfrid Legg), Hon. Treasurer (Derek Shepherd) the out-going members of the Executive (Yiorgos Gadanakis, Grant Davies and Mike Bourne) the incoming president (Janet Dwyer), Frederic Ang (Programme Secretary) and Neil Chalmers for continuing the ex-officio role of Social Media Manager, the EAAE and IAAE Liaison Officer

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(Tim Lloyd) and the AES Administrator (Katy Thorne). He also thanked both editors of the Society's journals (David Harvey and John Davis).

9. Any _____ Other _____ Business _____
There was no other business.

10. Welcome to the incoming President (Janet Dwyer) and invitation to deliver her Presidential Address. The Presidential Address is entitled 'Policy analysis for rural resilience – expanding the toolkit'.

The President closed the meeting at 13.00hrs and thanked everyone for their virtual attendance.

The deadline for items for the next AES Newsletter is 2nd July, to the Honorary Secretary please.

The dates for the next AES Annual Conference are planned for 4th – 6th April 2022, K U Leuven, Belgium.

Signed _____ Date _____