

Scottish Text Society
Annual General Meeting

14 April 2016

University of Edinburgh, 50 George Square 3.03

Minutes

Present: John Archer, Graham Caie, Sarah Carpenter, Hector MacQueen, Nicola Royan, Helen Vincent, Marjory Williamson, Eila Williamson, Colin Grant

Apologies: Tony Edwards, Jonathan Glenn, James Goldstein, Janet Hadley Williams, Luuk Houwen, Alasdair MacDonald, Tim Machan, Joanna Martin, Rhiannon Purdie, Jeremy Smith, Sebastiaan Verweij

1. **Minutes of the last meeting:** these were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.
2. **President's Report.** The President reported on a good year for the Society. The Society's publications for 2015 were the *The Maitland Quarto*, ed. Joanna Martin and *The Gude and Godlie Ballatis* ed. Alasdair MacDonald. The Society held a launch event in St Mary's Kirk, Haddington for *The Maitland Quarto*: this was marked by the attendance of the current Earl of Lauderdale, and by the performance of new settings of two of the lyrics from the manuscript by Stella and Derek Birrell. An opportunity to launch the *Gude and Godlie Ballatis* was still under discussion.

In addition in 2015, the renovation of the Society's website was undertaken by Sebastiaan Verweij: Dr Verweij reported that the design was complete and he was currently transferring material to the new frame. The digitisation by the National Library of Scotland of the first three series of Society publications was completed and the material made available through the Library's website.

Further endeavours were underway to recruit more members for the Society: these include sponsoring panels at conferences, using social media and following up on opportunities for wider public engagement.

3. **Annual Report.** The AGM received the Accounts and the Annual Report for 2015. The President also thanked the Administrative Secretary, John Archer, and Marjory Williamson, the Independent Examiner for their work on the accounts.

4. **Risk assessment.** The primary risks to the Society remain the diminution of Society's capital reserves and the decline in membership. As 2016 will see the publication of only one volume, the reduction in reserves will slow for a year; membership, however, remains a key issue.

5. **Council Membership.** The AGM received the resignation of Dr Theo van Heijnsbergen for personal reasons. Council recommended that Dr Elizabeth Elliot (University of Aberdeen) be invited to accept co-option to Council, and the AGM agreed that the President should make the approach. The co-option of Dr Emily Wingfield to Council was confirmed, as was the re-election of Professor Alasdair MacDonald, Dr Janet Hadley Williams and Professor Jeremy Smith.

6. **Date of next meeting.** April 2017.