Scottish Text Society
Annual General Meeting
Friday 12 April 2024, 13.15, Teams
Minutes

Present: Kate Ash-Irisarri, Sarah Carpenter, Kees Dekker, Elizabeth Elliot, Jonathan Glenn, Janet Hadley Williams, Pamela King, Sandra Lindsay, Nicola Royan (President), Helen Vincent, Eila Williamson, Marjory Williamson.

Apologies received from: Tony Edwards, Joanna Kopaczyk, Tim Machan, Sally Mapstone, Joanna Martin, Rhiannon Purdie, Sebastiaan Verweij and Emily Wingfield

1. **Welcome:** NR welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Minutes of the meeting April 2023:** There was one correction to the minutes, namely that Pamela King had been omitted from the list of those present. Otherwise they were accepted as a correct record.

3. **President's report:** Nicola Royan reported on the activities of the Society over the past year:

    a. **Publications:** The Society's last publication had been the final volume of the *Eneados* in 2022, a significant edition which had been well received. The volume for 2023, Henry Adamson, *The Muses Threnodie*, ed. David Parkinson, was undergoing final checks before its submission to Boydell and Brewer for production. The volume was expected to be available by the end of the first half of 2024. As editor, David Parkinson has embedded public and local engagement as part of his editing process, so there would also be exciting opportunities to develop this after publication. It was not currently clear which edition would be the volume for 2024, but members would be informed as soon as this became clear. Additionally in 2023, the Society saw the return of Barbour's *Bruce* and Hary's *Wallace* into print: these were now single volume reprints of McDiarmid and Stevenson's edition of the *Bruce* and McDiarmid's edition of the *Wallace,* available both as hard copy and as ebooks.

    b. **New initiatives and work to be undertaken**: over the past few years, Council has become increasingly aware of the need to support younger scholars in the development of skills necessary to editing, and also of the need to engage them in the management and renewal of the Society. To this end, at the International Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Scottish Languages, Literatures and Cultures, held in St Andrews in July 2023, there was a masterclass in editing, delivered by former Society vice-president Professor

Alasdair MacDonald and an editor for the Society, Professor Ralph Hanna. In addition, Council will recommend to the AGM today that the Society accepts in principle the recruitment of two early career researchers to Council, to enable Council to benefit from their perspectives and to provide professional and scholarly opportunities for the early career researchers**.** Alongside a concern for those at the beginning of their careers, Council will also seek the AGM's approval to develop a means of recognition of service to the Society. The complete plans will be brought to the AGM in 2025.

c. **Management and recognition of service to the Society.** Having said goodbye to John Archer, our previous administrative officer in 2023, in 2024, it is time to say goodbye to our independent examiner, Marjory Williamson. After many years of service and critical friendship, Mrs Williamson has decided to retire. Council would like to record its deep thanks to Mrs Williamson for all her work and support.

   Mrs Sandra Lindsay has now taken over completely from Mr Archer and is working to ensure we have all the right permissions and information from our members for use of their data, in particular now that delivery companies now require telephone numbers.

   The President will start a process to find a replacement Independent Examiner.

4. **Annual report:** The meeting accepted the annual accounts; the full report is pending.

5. **Risk assessment:** The meeting accepted the President's recommendation that the Risk Assessment needed to be reviewed in the light of discussions about council membership and succession planning. It was agreed that the revisions should be completed in draft by July and will be discussed at the next Council meeting in September.

6. **Council membership**
   a. **Renewals:** The meeting agreed to confirm the renewed Council membership of Professor Jonathan Glenn, Professor Pamela King, Professor Tim Machan, Professor Katherine Terrell, and Dr Sebastiaan Verweij.

   b. **Confirmation of agreement to invite nominated new members:** The meeting agreed to accept the President's recommendation that appointments to Council should be delayed until work currently underway on role profiles for Society officers had been completed. The initial drafts of this work will be undertaken before the next Council meeting in September.

7. **Any other business:** There was no other business. Professor Royan thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

8. **Date of next meeting:** April 2025.