

**Draft Minutes**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**2019**

The AGM was followed by a social event.

- Time: 18:30 Wednesday 23 January 2019
- Venue: Conway Hall  
25 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4RL
- Chair: Nicholas Jarrold
- Present: David Davison, Tihana Borovčak, Žjelka Tomljenović, Tony Brand, Robert Dolata, Suzanna Dolata, Nicholas Auger, Lana Đurđa, Jelena Milić, Dušica Hoban, Natalia Lavini, Michael Smith, Rochelle Gavarnich, Ksenia Wilding, Alan Wilding, Maša Unsworth, Brian Edwards, Boris Marelić, Toni Donati, Flora Turner, Tomislav Vlahutin, Ivana Lović, Disana Mamić, Paul Jenc, Eric Turner, Snježana Maclean.
- Apologies Snježana Torbarina Slijepčević, Stefania Grbčić, Celia Cviic, Paul Crawshaw, Božena Zorić, Vlatka Hlupić, Chris Russell, Edward Pivcevic, Gvozdan Vukašin
- Attachments Papers were circulated 1 week before the meeting with printed copies available at the meeting.

**AGENDA**

- | Item | Action  |
|------|---|
| 0.   | The AGM was combined with a Social Event for which the Committee had brought food and refreshments.<br><br>Opening the meeting at 18:40 Nicholas Jarrold, Chair of the BCS Committee, thanked all with New Year Wishes. Highlight events of 2018 were the sold out Annual Dinner, the klapa Nevera visit, Gabrijela Kocjan's talk in the House of Commons facilitated and introduced by Tulip Siddiq MP. Nicholas mentioned his diplomatic role, greeting on behalf of the Government and the British-Croatian Society, the Croatian Prime Minister on the occasion of his visit to the UK.<br><br>He gave warm thanks to the Ambassador Igor Pokaz and his staff for facilities and their excellent support to the Society that routinely surpasses that given to other bilateral Societies. He thanked the Committee for their organising energy, members for engaging with events, sponsors and patrons. |
| 1.   | Minutes of the AGM 2018: proposed by Snježana Maclean, Seconded by Paul Jenc and APPROVED.  |
| 2.   | Report on the year 2018: Robert Dolata Secretary took the meeting through the main points of the written Report and summary of the year, highlighting the viewing of Croatia games during the football World Cup and klapa Nevera visit.  |
| 3.   | Membership Report: Suzanna Dolata Membership Secretary set out the  |

Membership changes over the year: There are 173 subscriptions, covering 224 individuals. Over the year 88 renewed membership, 49 are new members and 13 have lapsed.

4. Accounts David Davison Treasurer presented the key figures comparing cost with previous years.

The accounts presented cover the period from 1 April 2017 to 3 March 2018. The figures provide a close match to those of the preceding year with no major shifts in any direction.

The turnover was £10,317.00 with a gross profit of £296.00 and an operating loss after expenses of £490.00. The events costs of £8,804.00 do show a considerable increase on those of the previous year of £5,971.00. These reflect the increase in the activities of the Society, but in particular the inclusion of a second ticketed social event (in addition to the usual major expense of the Annual Dinner). This additional event was the Reception held at the Athenaeum for the departing Ambassador HE Dr Ivan Grdešić.

The main social event of the year, the Annual Dinner (held at the London Rowing Club) and the one representing the great financial risk to the Society should it go wrong, cost £3,519.50 and made a surplus of £480.00. An additional figure was raised in the raffle for AMAC-UK. These figures are very comparable with those from the preceding two Annual Dinners.

The total funds held today (The AGM date 23/01/19) in the Barclays and PayPal accounts is £4,257.00. This is slightly above the agreed operating reserve of £2,000 - £3,000 but it should be noted that the Society has committed to fund set up and refurbishment costs of the Croatian Supplementary School (Saturdays) to the value of £1,000 and this sum has not yet been called upon.

A discussion followed David's report about raising money for charitable causes by for example setting a higher membership fee. It was explained that the membership fee is set and had remained unchanged at a level that enables events to more or less break even, with additional charges for special events. The Society is cultural, not a fund raising charity operation. Fees were considered comparable to similar bilateral Societies, and will be kept under review.

5. Communication: Tihana Borovčak presented figures concerning the reach of the Society through diverse media: Facebook 2,000 – 2,400 followers, 1,000 – 1,600 group, Instagram 171, Twitter 423. Tihana also mentioned 30-35 journalist inquiries during the football World Cup and facilitating 10 – 15 journalist interviews.

6. Appointment of Trustees and Committee Members:

The AGM APPROVED reappointment of the Trustees and Committee Members named on the Agenda sheet. Members were invited to put

themselves forward for Committee work.

7. AOB there being no other business the meeting closed at 19:20 followed by an informal Social.

Member of the Committee held a brief standing meeting to one side during the Social to transact routine business.

The below named persons were brought forward from the 2018 AGM and were re-appointed at the 2019 AGM. New committee members are always welcome.

**Trustee Committee Members**

Boris Marelić  
David Davison  
Flora Turner  
Nicholas Jarrold  
Paul Jenc

Peter Elborn  
Robert Dolata  
Suzanna Dolata  
Tony Brand  
Željka Tomljenović

**Committee Members**

Snježana Maclean  
Tihana Borovčak  
Alan Wilding  
Nicholas Auger  
Stefania Grbčić

RFD 31/01/19