

## **Minutes of the AGM of Society for the History of War**

16:00, Saturday 11 September 2021

Held via Zoom

**Present: Peter Wilson (President), Matthew Ford (Secretary), Catherine Fletcher (Treasurer), Leighton James (Membership), Erica Charters, Rupert Cuyler (Digital), Dan Todman, Guillaume Piketty (EU Engagement Co-ordinator), Philippa Woodcock (Conference Co-ordinator and Blog), Olaf Meuther, Samuel Kruizinga.**

### **Agenda:**

1. Agree the AGM minutes from 2020
2. President's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. To consider SHoW next steps
5. To confirm future SHoW Events
6. Any Other Business

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Review and Agree Minutes from 2020 AGM Meeting**

MF welcomed everyone to the AGM and received approval of the 2020 AGM Minutes.

#### **2. President's Report**

PW noted the difficulties created by the pandemic. Nevertheless, he stressed that the Society had been able to meet the challenges of the COVID pandemic by holding online events and that it had managed to meet its minimum activity level of holding a conference and an ECR event. On behalf of the Society, he formally thanked University College, Dublin, Professor Robert Gerwarth and his team for hosting the *Civil Wars* conference and for all their hard work in organizing the event.

PW thanked Rupert Cuyler for his efforts in improving the website.

PW thanked Diane de Vignemont and Jan Tattenburg for their work improving the social media presence of the Society.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

The committee discussed the state of the membership and the financial position of the Society. Catherine Fletcher (CF) noted the impact of the COVID pandemic on the normal activities of the Society. The lack of events has resulted in a largely static financial position. The Society retains a reserve of £3000 to underwrite future in person events. £750 was allocated to support ECRs for archival work. CF also noted that membership renewals had been changed to renew by default.

LJ reported that the Society had a membership of 41 as of July 2021. RC suggested he and LJ be given access to the full financial records of the Society at a predetermined dates to facilitate the reconciliation of membership and finances. CF agreed and suggested the end of the financial year as the predetermined date.

**Action Point: CF to provide LJ and RC with financial records at end of financial year.**

### **4. To consider SHoW's next steps**

The AGM discussed future SHoW events and website content.

We agreed to see if we might also find ways to offer content from GP's Sciences Po seminar series to SHoW members.

### **5. To Confirm Future SHoW Events**

MF indicated that Australian colleagues were keen to hold future online events in collaboration with SHoW. He raised the possibility of holding a workshop or a panel with Australian academics interested in the history of war.

GP stated that plans for the Sciences Po conference, *Private Wars*, had been shelved due to the pandemic, but there still existed a desire to hold an event. In the meantime, GP raised the possibility of recording or live streaming his regular seminar series via the SHoW website.

RC reported that the above was possible on a technical level and raised the question of whether the website should have a members' area. PW noted that it was crucial that the Society maintain some form of log or record of its events.

CF reported that she was organizing an online early career symposium in January 2022. The theme was 'weapons'. This could be badged as a SHoW event with support from the Society.

Samuël Kruizinga (SK) and MF raised the possibility of an event in Amsterdam in conjunction with the Dutch Political History Network. They proposed an in-person conference. SK indicated that his School was willing to underwrite certain costs and suggested, University of Amsterdam, the Hague or the Military School at Breda as potential venues. The suggestion received unanimous approval. SK suggested a date of 18-23 April 2022 for the conference.

**Agreed: MF to liaise with SK regarding the proposed conference.**

## **6. A.O.B**

There was no other business.

MF thanked everyone and drew the AGM to a close.