

Utopian Studies Society

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Utopian Studies Society

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

11 July 2011

Antonis Balasopoulos welcomed members made some concluding remarks, and said that the organising committee had found it a very fulfilling experience. He thanked everyone for support and contributions. He then called for a minute's silence to remember the victims of the earlier explosion at a Cyprus naval base.

Fátima Vieira, Chair, formally opened the Annual General Meeting and began by thanking Antonis and his team, on behalf of the Society, for their hard work in organising such a successful conference, which everyone had very much enjoyed.

1. Apologies: Lucy Sargisson, Nicole Pohl, Laurence Davis, Ruth Levitas, Alex-Alban Gomez.
Present: 7 committee members and 53 ordinary members.
2. Minutes of the AGM held in Lublin, 10 July 2010. Unanimously approved on a motion by Annette Magid, seconded by Jorge Da Silva.
3. Matters arising None
4. Finance: Treasurer's Report 2010/11. Jim Arnold referred to financial statement available at meeting. Approved unanimously on a motion by Lyman Sargent, seconded by Tom Moylan. Jim also advised members that he proposed to stand down as Hon. Treasurer at the AGM 2013, and hoped that a volunteer could be found to take over this role.
5. Election of Office Bearers and Committee:
Current Office-bearers and Committee members are as listed below. Their term of office ends in 2012. [NB In accordance with decision taken at AGM 2010, Alex Gomez stood down and Artur Blaim was co-opted]. Jorge Bastos Da Silva nominated Pavla Vesela, seconded by Teresa Botelho. Pavla agreed to stand, and was unanimously elected to the committee.
6. Conference Plans
 - a) 2012 Tarragona Pere Gallardo confirmed dates as 4-7 July 2012 and provided a brief update on plans. More information will be available in September.

b) 2013 New Lanark (Greg Claeys/Lorna Davidson) dates confirmed as 1-4 July 2013

[N.B. ICSA will hold its conference in Findhorn, Scotland 26-28 June 2013]. Noted.

In response to a suggestion from A.Milner, it was agreed to consider inviting Iain M Banks as a conference speaker.

c) 2014 Pavla Vesela offered to organise the 2014 conference in Prague. This was welcomed, and it was agreed that she would discuss plans further with the committee in due course

7. Publications, E-Journals, Websites, etc. Fatima Vieira provided an update on recent e-publications, and advised that a Society for Utopian Studies was being established in South America. It was agreed that the USS website was very basic, and in need of updating. Jill Belli is co-ordinating changes to the SUS website, and will keep USS in touch with developments. However, noted that a dedicated conference website was established each year by the organising institution. Secretary reminded everyone to let her know if they changed e-mail address, so that the mailing list could be kept up to date.
8. Any other competent business. None

Chair: Fátima Vieira

Secretary: Lorna Davidson

Treasurer: Jim Arnold

Committee Members:

Antonis Balasopoulos

Artur Blaim

Greg Claeys

Laurence Davis

Pere Gallardo

Vincent Geoghegan

Ruth Levitas

Tom Moylan

Nicole Pohl

Lucy Sargisson

Jorge Bastos da Silva

Pavla Vesela

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