

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019
Minutes of the AGM
held at Chesford Grange, Warwick, on Tuesday, 16 April 2019, at 5.45 pm

In the Chair

Professor Mike Askew – President

Present

Mr Peter Ransom – Chair of Council

Dr Jennie Golding – Secretary

Mr David Miles – Treasurer

Members of the Association (38) and non-members (2). There were sufficient members present to be quorate. Those present were reminded that only current members of the Association were allowed to vote.

Minuting Secretary

Ms Marcia Murray – Senior Administrator

1. Welcome by the President, Mike Askew

1.1 Mike Askew welcomed everyone to the 2019 Annual General Meeting. He thanked all those for their continuing work on behalf of The Mathematical Association. He was mindful of the fact that the President only got one shot at chairing an AGM and was hopeful he would make a good job of it!

1.2 To start the AGM, the President was pleased to announce the celebrations for the Primary Mathematics Challenge (PMC) now in its 20th year, and invited Peter Bailey to make his presentation on behalf of the PMC. *Appreciation was shown with a round of applause.*

1.3 **20 Years of the Primary Mathematics Challenge**

Peter Bailey reported that over the 20 years, 1.46 million papers, 876,000 certificates and 7,875 medals had been distributed to schools, also noting the peaks and troughs over the years in the number of schools participating. For this birthday year to encourage more schools to enter there is a 20% discount on the cost of each pack. PMC Management are aware of the NCETM's aspiration for all abilities to be catered for in mathematical challenges, and of the Nuffield Foundation's study of mathematical anxiety so future question papers are to be written to address these concerns. Peter Bailey thanked Tony Gardiner for germinating the idea of the MA running a primary mathematical challenge; he thanked Marcia Murray who had worked with him, Peter, since its inception in 1999. UKMT was thanked for its support particularly with the marking of the pupil OMR sheets. Peter thanked members of the PMC Management Team (Lesley Jones, Alan Slomson, Alex Voice, Colin Abell, Katherine Miller and Robyn Pickles) and the PMC Problem Team members and Alice Hall who was currently in charge of PMC administration. Peter also thanked the MA for giving him the responsibility of organising the Challenge. With great pleasure and humour, Peter 'plunged' the knife into the PMC Birthday Cake inviting everyone present to take a slice at the end of the meeting.

Mike Askew thanked Peter Bailey for the presentation and for his work with PMC. Appreciation was once again shown by applause.

- 1.4 The Chairs of Committees present were asked to identify themselves; these were: Peter Ransom (Chair of Council), David Miles (Treasurer), Jennie Golding (Secretary), Julia Brown (Membership chair), Cherri Moseley (Conference chair), Jo Morgan (Publicity and Media chair) and Bill Richardson (Editor-in-Chief / acting Publications chair).
- 1.5 Although none had been received by the deadline date of 11th April 2019, Mike Askew asked if there were any items to be taken under Any Other Business. There were none. However, Jim Simons asked whether the number of members needed for quoracy at an AGM ought to be looked at. Mike Askew said this would be an item for Council to consider.

Mike Askew invited the Chair of Council, Peter Ransom, to give his report.

2. The AGM received the report of the Council from its Chair, Peter Ransom.

- 2.1 Peter Ransom started by announcing it was his fourth report to the AGM. He thanked all those who teach, or have taught, mathematics to our young people, stating that it was not an easy job, one which at times presented many challenges, but one which is varied and interesting and, although not necessarily seen so at the time, having a massive positive impact on young people's lives; thank you for all you do.
- 2.2 Peter Ransom noted that it had been a busy and enjoyable year and that he had much appreciated the support of colleagues without whom The Mathematical Association would not flourish.
- 2.3 Council had met four times since the last AGM, in June, September, December and March. In between those meetings Standing Committee had met four times to deal with any unexpected business, or items that Council had delegated to them.
- 2.4 The MA continues to work with the other classroom facing organisations and in April 2020 there will be a joint conference with NANAMIC at Wyboston Lakes in Bedfordshire; its theme is *Exploration and Insights*. Developments regarding a single mathematics association will not be known until after the next MMSA (Meeting of the Mathematical Subject Associations) on 14 May.
- 2.5 Peter Ransom emphasised the importance of the various committees which are a vital part of the MA. Reports on the committee's activities can be found in the Annual Report, which will be published on the website later this year. At the end of 2018 monthly direct debits were introduced for subscriptions to enable members to pay their subscriptions over the year rather than in one lump sum in January. This initiative was progressed by Julia Brown, chair of Membership, with the Treasurer's and Council's approval.
- 2.6 Based on suggestions received from members in 2018 Professor Adam Clark McBride was invited to become an Honorary Member. As per the procedure for appointing Honorary Members (set by Council at its March 2016 meeting) Peter Ransom asked members for written proposals which made the case for their suggestions, to be received, preferably by email, by 15 May. Council would then consider and make its decision at the 8 June Council meeting. An "Honorary Member" can be '*any person who has made a distinguished contribution to mathematical education or who has provided outstanding service to the Association*'. Suggestions are welcomed at any time throughout the year but will only be considered each June.

2.7 Peter Ransom noted this year's changes to Council. Two members, Jennie Golding, Secretary, and Rob Smith, Member without Office, step down. Peter Ransom noted gratitude for all they have done: Jennie for her work and commitment to a single subject association and Rob for his input into Council meetings and his help with one day events, Branches and Teaching Committee. Tom Roper's 3-year presidential cycle ends but he is nominated for the role of Secretary. Mike Askew becomes Immediate Past President and his successor Ems Lord becomes President. Hannah Fry is welcomed as the President Designate. Ray Huntley (currently a Member without Office) is nominated for chair of Publications and three new nominations for Members without Office are Jenny Field, Ed Southall and Owen Toller.

2.8 Peter Ransom concluded by saying once again it has been a great privilege and honour to work in one way or another with all the MA members and mathematics teachers. Although the Chair's work has been and continues to be time consuming, it has been enjoyable if, at times, challenging. He gave sincere thanks to all members of Council, as well as members of the committees and subcommittees who give up a great deal of their own time preparing for, travelling to and attending meetings and generally furthering the aims of the Association. Peter Ransom also thanked Marcia Murray and her staff at HQ for all their support and hard work behind the scenes; the membership owes all of these people a great debt of gratitude.

The force ($F = MA$) is strong in you all.

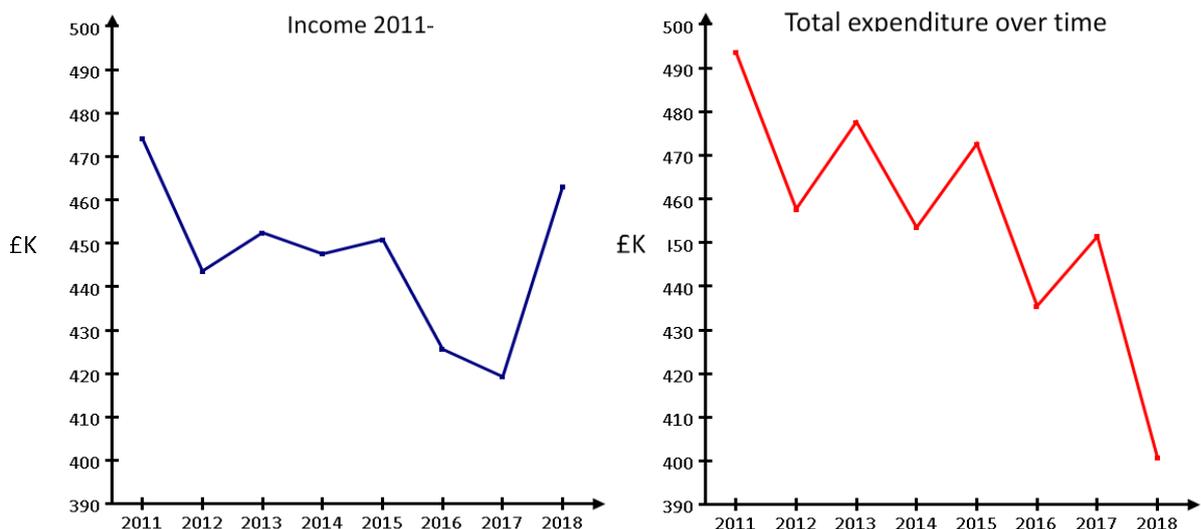
Mike Askew invited questions and with none asked, he thanked Peter Ransom for his report.

3. The report of the Treasurer, David Miles.

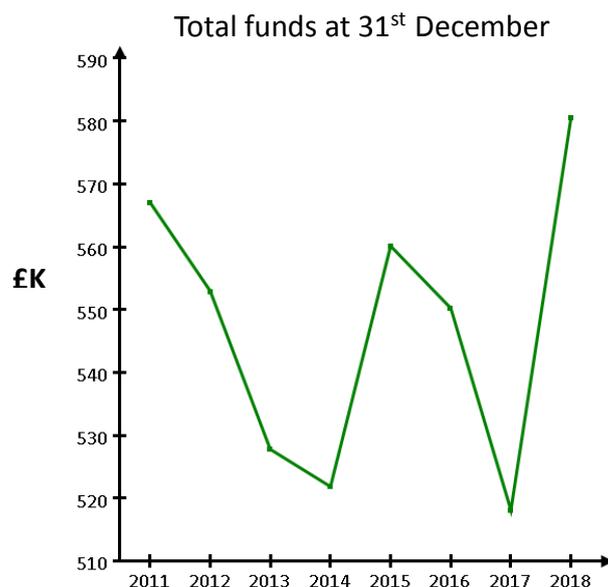
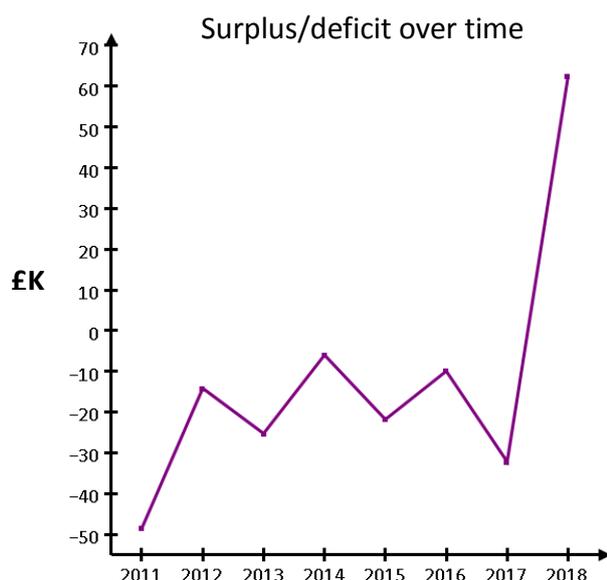
3.1.1 The 2018 accounts had been made available to MA members via an email containing a web link. Hard copies were also available at this meeting. David Miles noted that as a charity with a gross income of between £25,000 and £500,000 and total assets before liabilities of less than £3.26 million, the MA is eligible for an independent examination rather than a full audit. On initial advice from UHY Hacker Young (auditors) and with the approval of Council, this option has been taken up since 2016 with a pleasing reduction in auditor's costs.

3.1.2 Using a PowerPoint Presentation, David Miles reported on the financial outcomes for a period of eight years, 2011 to 2018.

Income and Expenditure



Surplus, Deficit and Total Funds at year ends



3.1.3 The surplus for 2018 is £62K and the MA's total funds are £581K. David Miles pointed out that the full worth of the MA is not accounted for; mainly due to the MA library's considerable size and content (circa 12K items), the cost to regularly value each item is prohibitive, therefore only an estimated insurance value is used. David Miles also noted that as far as the MA is concerned, the point of the proposed single subject association was not financially driven.

3.1.4 Reporting on the auditor's Financial Statement, David Miles focused on the: Statement of Financial Activities (pg.12), Balance Sheet (pg.13), Notes to the Financial Statements (pgs.18-19).

3.4.1 On the Balance sheet (Pg.13) - David Miles noted that included under tangible assets was the property at 259 London Road and as it had not been valued since 2011, Council had decided to have a revaluation made in 2019.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
	Total	Total
	£	£
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	56,495	19,691
Charitable activities	398,234	392,826
Investments	2,443	916
Other	6,009	5,872
Total income and endowments	463,181	419,305
Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities	400,678	451,431
Net income/(expenditure)	62,503	(32,126)

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	326,376	333,288
	326,376	333,288
Current assets		
Stocks	21,757	23,294
Debtors	66,071	38,433
Cash at bank and in hand	222,949	186,709
	310,777	248,436
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(56,524)	(63,598)
Net current assets	254,253	184,838
Total assets less current liabilities	580,629	518,126
Charity Funds		
Restricted funds	6,500	6,500
Unrestricted funds	389,929	326,826
Revaluation reserve	184,200	184,800
Total charity funds	580,629	518,126

3.1.4.2 (Pg.18) - David Miles explained there were a number of reasons for the significant increase in 2018's income: notably a generous legacy from John Chick's estate, substantial income increase for the Gazette's collaboration with Cambridge University Press, income resulting from the BCME conference, and the inclusion this year of the outstanding balance on late PMC order payments.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2018**

Income from donations and legacies		
	2018	2017
	£	£
Donations including gift aid	56,495	19,691
	<u>56,495</u>	<u>19,691</u>
Income from charitable activities		
	2018	2017
	£	£
Members' subscriptions	121,032	144,759
Gazette	74,018	45,059
Editorial board	20,271	21,686
Publications	39,127	51,115
Annual conference	42,564	39,510
Primary Maths Challenge	87,893	76,629
Professional development income	10,785	12,079
Branch income	2,544	1,989
	<u>398,234</u>	<u>392,826</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2018**

Investment income		
	2018	2017
	£	£
Bank interest received	2,443	916
	<u>2,443</u>	<u>916</u>
Other income		
	2018	2017
	£	£
Rent receivable	6,009	5,872
	<u>6,009</u>	<u>5,872</u>

3.1.4.3 (Pg.19) – David Miles explained the positives and negatives connected with decreasing expenditure: fewer book sales - less book reprint costs, and declining membership equates to reduced costs on print, paper and post. Reduced expenditure for Professional Development was due to lower venue charges largely because of fewer delegate registrations. Savings achieved under administration were as expected. Expenditure under Council and Committees was in line with expenditure for the years when Council do not hold a Blue Skies Weekend meeting.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2018**

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2018	2017
	£	£
Publicity expenses	3,529	4,037
Membership	6,383	7,015
Editorial board	110,588	110,919
Publications	22,630	39,175
Headquarters administration	52,462	48,038
Annual conference	1,691	35,796
Branch expenses	5,077	6,070
Council and other committees	13,218	18,468
Staff costs	144,520	143,064
Staff costs recharged to PMC	(10,714)	(10,301)
PMC expenses	40,958	35,853
Professional development	7,948	9,992
Library management fund	613	1,176
Website expenses	1,775	2,129
	<u>400,678</u>	<u>451,431</u>

3.1.8 Questions were invited from the members. There were two from Julian Gilbey.

3.1.8.1 Julian Gilbey asked whether the Gazette income from CUP was likely to be repeated in following years. Bill Richardson, an MA representative on the CUP collaboration group, clarified that the increased income in 2018 was largely due to income for access to the Digital Archive which had been fully activated in 2018. Prediction of whether the income would be repeated in 2019 was tricky, however, as there were only 13 subscribers in 2018 it is likely that other institutions would subscribe.

3.1.8.2 Julian Gilbey observed that the text used for the MA's gift aid notices could be reworded to avoid confusion over any claimed personal tax relief on their subscriptions. David Miles said he would look into this more fully.

With no further questions the President thanked the Treasurer for his comprehensive and optimistic report.

3.2 The 2018 independently examined accounts to be received by the members.

With no further comments or questions the 2018 independently examined accounts were received and accepted by the members.

3.3 Nomination of the Independent Examiners for 2019

The Treasurer asked that Hacker Young be engaged to conduct the 2019 Independent Examination. The motion was proposed by Tom Roper and seconded by Rob Smith. The motion was carried nem. con.

4. Election of Officers and other Members of Council

4.1 The election of the President for 2019–2020

Mike Askew was pleased to confirm that Ems Lord is now the President and as such handed over the metaphorical presidential baton to her.

4.2 The election of the President for 2020–2021

Mike Askew announced that Hannah Fry now becomes the President Designate and will be the President for 2020–2021.

The above two elections are Council's decision and AGM approval is not required.

4.3 Nominated by the Council for election:

Chair of Council	Peter Ransom
Secretary	Tom Roper
Treasurer	David Miles
Chair of Branches	Keith Cadman
Chair of Conferences	Cherri Moseley
Chair of Membership	Julia Brown
Chair of Professional Development	Sue Southward
Chair of Publicity and Media	Jo Morgan
Chair of Publications	Ray Huntley

Chair of Teaching Committee
Editor-in-Chief

Mel Muldowney
Bill Richardson

The above Council nominations were proposed by Lynne McClure, and seconded by Jane Imrie. The vote was carried by 37 for, one abstention.

4.4 Members without Office:

Nominations have been received for Jenny Field, Ed Southall and Owen Toller and in the absence of other nominees, a ballot was not required.

With completion of the election notices, Mike Askew invited a round of applause to welcome the new members of Council.

5. **Matters arising from the Annual General Meeting 2018.**

There were no matters arising to be reported on.

6. **Council affairs, including reports by Chairs of Committees.**

- 6.1 The Editor-in-Chief, Bill Richardson, reported that he was well-pleased with the MA's excellent journals, and thanked the individual editorial teams for their hard work and continued dedication to their journals.
- 6.2 As the acting-chair of Publications Bill Richardson reported that it had been a difficult year of rebuild for the committee but that the publication of several books had been achieved. He felt sure that Ray Huntley, his successor, would be able to do a good job. Bill Richardson recalled that in the past it had been suggested that the Editor-in-Chief and the Publications chair could be rolled into one 'job' but now having experience of doing both jobs, he confirmed that it was an onerous workload and responsibility for one person to have.
- 6.3 Jo Morgan, chair of Publicity and Media, commented that she would have liked to have done more work but that her busy work schedule prevented this. She thanked David Miles for his continued work on the Twitter account and all those who have manned the stands at events throughout the year and also HQ staff for their continued support.
- 6.4 In the absence of the chairs of Branches and Teaching Committee, in his role as vice chair of Branches, Rob Smith, announced that on 29th June there was to be a convergence of a Leicester Branch meeting and Teaching Committee meeting, both would be held in rooms at the Leicester University. Afterwards Mike Price (MA Librarian) had arranged access to the MA's Special Collection in the David Wilson Library for those with entitlement through their MA membership. Rob Smith also noted that other regional Branches were holding events. It was confirmed that the Teaching Committee Open Meeting would be held tomorrow, 17th April at 6pm and that all conference delegates were welcome to attend.
- 6.5 Cherri Moseley, chair of Conference, reported that her first two years in the role had been nice and easy, as it had been a BCME conference in 2018 and the 2019 conference had been handled solely by the ATM and as such she expressed her thanks to Heather Davis, the ATM's chair of General Council. There would, however, be hard work hard required for the 2020 Annual Conference which is to be held at Wyboston Lakes in Bedfordshire. Cherri Moseley confirmed that a pattern for joint conferences beyond 2020 was unknown, largely

due to what might or might not happen regarding the formation of a single mathematics association.

- 6.6 Julia Brown just wished to inform that MA membership rates had been kept the same for the last three years and that the introduction of a monthly direct debit scheme was aimed at making it more financially attractive for teachers to join.
- 6.7 Under Council Affairs Peter Ransom, Chair of Council, reported on the little-known work of the MA Librarian, Mike Price, and the MA Archivist, Mary Walmsley. He informed the AGM that the maintenance of the contents of the Library and the archival materials was a considerable workload voluntarily done by both because of their loyalty and commitment to the MA.
- 6.8 Thanks was also given to David Crawford who had been the MA's representative on the UKMT's Council for four years but whose role would no longer be required as the UKMT was in the process of changing its articles of association.
- 6.9 Peter Ransom gave his thanks to Bill Richardson for stepping up to be the acting-chair of Publications, also noting that Bill does a tremendous amount of work for the MA and is an invaluable source of information.

To show thanks and appreciation the President invited applause for each of the named volunteers and the chairs at the point they were mentioned.

7. Any other business.

- 7.1 None received.
- 7.2 With no further business to transact Mike Askew thanked everyone for attending the AGM reminding them to enjoy a slice of the splendid PMC cake before they left.

The meeting closed at 6.40 pm.