

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Devon and Cornwall Polar Society held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 at 19.30 hours at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Plymouth**

Present: 25 members of the Society

Item No	Description	Action
1. Apologies	Apologies were received from Jean Scholar, Anne Cleife, Chris Andrews, John Blackborrow, Bill Newton, Nic White, Antonia Reynolds, Andrew Simkins, Henry Guly, Mary Cleveland, Hon Alexandra Shackleton and Victoria Rickinson.	
2. Minutes of last meeting	The minutes of the 2015 AGM held on 24 March 2016 were read and agreed.	
3. Chairman's Report	<p>We held our usual two Society meetings at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, had a visit to the University Marine Centre at QAB and our first overseas trip. At the March meeting we were pleased to welcome our patron the Hon Alexandra Shackleton who gave a talk on her grandfather. In October, we had an impromptu Q&amp;A session with veteran BBC personality Tony Soper. It was a delightful evening of memories of the early days of the Bristol natural history unit and he was able to tell us of his recent experiences aboard a cruise ship voyage along the NW Passage. In June Paul Coslett arranged a fascinating visit to the University Marine Centre when Matt Brown (recent base commander at Halley) showed us the work he does on training students in diving and then, with a film, explained the story of the building of Halley VI which quite astounded us all. In October, Fiona Brijnath of Arcturus Travel organised a trip to the Athy Shackleton weekend in Ireland where we were able to see the newly unveiled Shackleton statue. The weekend was a wonderful experience and several vowed to return in a couple of years when the museum is remodelled to house the cabin from the <i>Quest</i> where Shackleton died in 1922.</p> <p>During the course of the year the committee resolved not to establish a charitable body</p>	

	<p>because of the complications of the regulations and we have resolved to mark Captain Scott's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday in Plymouth on 6 June 2018.</p> <p>Membership has remained steady and we are pleased to welcome some new members from outside Devon and Cornwall. Finances remain reasonably healthy.</p> <p>The committee is happy to stand for another year but we still feel some changes are needed to bring in new ideas.</p> <p>Many thanks to all the committee for their hard work and support over the course of the year and to our loyal members who attended our events.</p>	
4. Treasurer's Report	The members were all in receipt of a copy of the DCPS Financial report as at 28 February 2017 which stated we had a credit balance of £1940.	
5. Membership Secretary	Membership Secretary stated that the current membership stood at 51 paid up members plus 7 honorary members that included the 4 Patrons.	
6. Election of Officers and Committee for 2017/8	<p>The Chairman stood down and the President thanked the Chairman and Committee for all their hard work during the year. It was agreed unanimously by the membership that the current officers could stand in their present format for a further 12 months. Don and Val Kerr were co-opted on to the committee. Proposed by Bob Jay and seconded by Mike Tarver. Dennis Wilkins our present President retired and John Killingbeck who has had an illustrious career in Antarctica was voted in this was proposed by Don Kerr and seconded by Tony Rose. The constitution was amended to include two new posts to carry out the additional work for Scott 150 a Vice Chairman and a Minute Secretary. Julie Ellis and John Woodward were duly elected this was proposed by Tony Rose and seconded by John Killingbeck. All proposals were agreed by the floor.</p>	
8. AOB.	Barry Gray informed the meeting that he was proposing to walk coast to coast across Antarctica	

	<p>unaided this was due to start in 2018, before that he will be part of a team following the route of the Cockleshell Heroes.</p> <p>Paul Argyle displayed his pictures of the Historic huts in the Ross Ice shelf plus an original picture of the Terra Nova leaving Port Lyttleton in New Zealand.</p> <p>The Chairman reminded everyone that there would be a lunch for all DCPS members who wished to attend to commemorate Captain Scott's birthday on the 6 June 2017 at the Royal Western Yacht club at Queen Anne's battery.</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.00 and was followed by talk By Brad Borkan on Extreme Decisions in Antarctica.</p>	