

Yorkshire branch AGM Agenda

Date: Saturday 14th November

To be held on Zoom following the Autumn Symposium.

From 15.30pm AGM (only members may vote)

1. Introduction and welcome

2. Address from Professor Nigel Brown (Council Member and Chair of College of Individual Members).

Gave an overview of the RSB council.

No face-to-face meetings before April – gives opportunities to have speaker who would otherwise struggle to attend in person meetings.

A reminder to give the office sufficient notice (6 weeks) before an event.

Nigel encourages input from Branches into the policy discussions.

Contact Nigel if you wish to pass anything on to council (nigel.brown@ed.ac.uk).

3. Apologies for absence

N/A

4. Review of committee roles

Roles of officers were re-elected without objection: Lynda Partridge (Chair), Valerie Randall (Vice-Chair), Ben Stevenson (Secretary), Graham Bonwick (Treasurer), Danae Dodge (Social Media Officer), Chris Collins (Archivist, CPD).

5. Elect new committee members

Martin Walker, Louise Robson, Beth Webb, Sarah Booth-Card.

No objections to new members.

6. Chair's report

4 committee meetings since last AGM – 1 in person and 3 virtual (minutes can be found on RSB website).

All Branch meeting series Danae gave a presentation on social media.

7. Treasurer's report

Finished the year with a surplus due to COVID but cannot be carried forward.

We have £1000 budget, and a provisional budget has been approved.

Need to pay close attention to individual events budget.

8. Event reports

Frontiers of Science – cancelled

Joint RSB and RSC Seminar – cancelled.

Summer outing – cancelled.

Autumn Symposium – Virtual.

9. Future events

No frontiers of science event next year

The RSB and RSC event reinstated so will be a virtual seminar by Dr Sarah Staniland on 28th April 2021.

Pioneers of biology events have been cancelled – hopeful for reorganisation.

We are hoping to have a summer outing but will depend on COVID situation.

Meet the committee event – will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

2021 Autumn symposium – theme ideas are welcome.

10. Social media update

Beth Webb is now helping with social media content – predominantly Instagram.

We now have an Instagram account that went live in mid-October and have gained about 59 followers due to the new material from Beth (Top tips for starting university) and Sarah Booth-Card (Halloween content) – this has been successful on Facebook resulting in an increase in followers.

Twitter followers have increased to 857.

Now working on new Instagram content about the committee.

11. AOB

Next committee meeting is planned for mid-December.