

A - Apologies for absence

None.

B - Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the MA held on Thursday 3 November at 1400 at the ACC Liverpool and via our chosen conferencing platform were put to the meeting for approval. William Tregaskes proposed, seconded by Victoria Ryves, that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Carried.

C - Annual Report and Accounts of the Museums Association

D - Report on financial position

Steve Miller, MA trustee, gave a brief overview of the key financial points for the 2021/22 accounts. Unrestricted income fell slightly, due to a reduction in membership income impacted by the effects of the pandemic on our membership numbers, and increases in other income, particularly from events.

Restricted income fell significantly, mainly due to having received £600k from UKRI and AHRC in the previous year, which was then distributed. Other restricted funds increased including the receipt of Culture Recovery Fund support.

Membership income fell by 17%, reflecting the fall in numbers due to the pandemic. Because of the way we account for membership with deferrals, this reduction reflects the membership decline in 2020/21, with numbers actually growing in 2021/22, which in turn will realise a moderate increase in income in 2022/23.

Publications income increased due to moving to a bi-monthly Museums Journal, having paused printed issues at the height of the pandemic in 2020/21.

Events income significantly increased, having returned to running paid-for events, which were cancelled or offered free during the pandemic.

Professional development income also increased as more members re-engaged.

Employment costs slightly increased. This was due to making redundancies countered by the end of support from the furlough scheme.

Direct costs increased due to returning to running in-person events, and producing one more issue of Museums Journal than the year before (we printed 5 issues in 20/21 and 6 in 21/22).

Grants expenditure increased significantly, chiefly due to the distribution of £600k UKRI and AHRC funds.

Depreciation decreased.

Trustee expenses increased with the return of some travel and in-person meetings.

Ffion Fielding proposed, seconded by Nivek Amichund, that the Annual Report, Accounts and Financial Report be formally received. Carried.

E/F - Individual and Institutional membership subscriptions

Recognising the effects of the cost of living crisis, the MA proposed to freeze individual membership subscription rates for the third year in a row for 2022/23. Hannah Mather proposed, seconded by Stella Byrne that individual membership subscription rates are frozen. Carried.

Recognising the effects of the cost of living crisis, the MA proposed to freeze institutional membership subscription rates for the third year in a row for 2022/23. David Juler proposed, seconded by Rebecca Blackburn that institutional membership subscription rates are frozen. Carried.

G - Auditors

It was recommended that Kingston Smith be re-appointed as auditors to the association until the conclusion of the next general meeting of the association at which accounts are laid before members and to authorise the board to fix the remuneration of the auditors. Christine McLean proposed, seconded by Rachael Rogers, that Kingston Smith be appointed auditors to the MA. Carried.