

Registered Charity Number: 213620
Mansion House, Chiswell Green Lane, St Albans. AL2 3NS

Meeting Date	9 th September 2025	Time:	13:00 (BST)
Location	Hybrid, University of Strathclyde – Glasgow		
Present	Prof. Jane Stout (JS) – President & Chair <i>In attendance:</i> 70 (Fellows & Members) in person 12 (Fellows & Members) online		

Agenda & Minutes

ITEM 1	<u>Welcome</u> JS welcomed everyone to the AGM.
ITEM 2	<u>Minute of Remembrance</u> The President led a minute of silence to pay tribute to deceased Fellows and Members.
ITEM 3 (JH)	<u>Minutes of the AGM held on 09.09.2024</u> The minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM), held on 9 th September 2024, as available online, were approved.
ITEM 4 (GA)	<u>Proposal: Auditors</u> The fellows and members were asked to vote on the following resolution. To reappoint Knox Cropper LLP (Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor) as the Auditors of the Society in respect of the financial year ending 28th February 2026 and until the next general meeting, and to authorise Council to set their remuneration. The vote took place online using Zoom Webinar & a raise of hands for votes present at ENTO25. The President explained that it was an ordinary resolution requiring a simple majority of more than 50% of the votes cast to be in favour.
ITEM 5	<u>Proposal: Amendments to Byelaws</u> The fellows and members were asked to vote on the following resolution. To make amendments to the Royal Entomological Society Byelaws relating to the use of the common seal. The vote took place online using Zoom Webinar & a raise of hands for votes present at ENTO25. The President explained that it was an ordinary resolution requiring a simple majority of more than 50% of the votes cast to be in favour.
ITEM 5	<u>President's Report</u> Jane Stout (JS), took over as President of the Royal Entomological Society in September 2024 and supported the RES in the final year of the first three-year strategy. JS will support the RES through the first year of their new three-year strategy (2025-2028).

	JS welcomed all new and existing members and fellows and highlighted there had been a 47% increase in the RES' membership representing 80 countries since 2022. The RES had launched organisational membership to support further engagement with other societies and organisations to help achieve the aim of 'Enriching the World with Insect Science'. In 2024 the RES launched the new EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity) Committee to enable greater focus in this area. The RES is keen to engage and develop the membership and continue to support entomologists around the world. In RES publishing the journals have had a record year with the highest number of submissions. There has also been a record high in downloads (1.27 million) which is more than double the figure six years ago. JS expressed her thanks to the authors, editors and RES team for all the work they have contributed to making the journals a success. The funds the RES achieve is reinvested back into the Society and encouraged members to submit their papers. In addition to the journals the RES launched the 'Insects' book with Dorling Kindersley. Insects was a collaborative effort, being authored by 89 RES members and fellows. JS made special recognition to the editors, Dr Allan Watt, Professor Jane Hill & Professor Helen Roy. The RES also launched 'Insectarium' and supported a new 'Conservation of Dragonflies' book. The RES had made significant progress with policy and public affairs development. This resulted in a meeting with UK MPs at Westminster and the launch of the Bees, Pollinators and Invertebrates APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group) of which RES is secretariat. In 2023 the RES has a garden at the Chelsea Garden Flower Show, which had been relocated to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford and a new education programme in collaboration with Field Studies Council has been launched hoping to inspire the next generation of entomologists. JS expressed her thanks to Prof Jane Hill, Dr Joe Roberts and Professor Walter Leal who are standing down as Trustees of the RES and thanked them for their commitment and contribution to the RES.
ITEM 6	Annual Report Simon Ward (SJW), CEO of the Royal Entomological Society presented highlights from the Annual Report for 2024/25. This was available online to download and view. A summary of the 2022-2025 RES strategy was given, highlighting major activities. The successes demonstrated the increased impact and relevance of the RES undertaken in a sustainable way. Publishing • The journals have seen a record number (501) of articles published in 2024. Open access grew from 12% in 2020 to 50.7% in 2024. Journal submissions saw growth of 20.96% over the last year. • RES had several new handbooks in development.

- RES launched 'Insects' and 'Insectarium'. Insects has been translated into other languages for wider reach with 6,000 copies printed to date.
- RES were working with Dorling Kindersley on the "How to be an insect" children's book series with the launch of "How to be a Ladybird" in 2025 and "How to be a Dragonfly" launching later in 2025. Other titles in are progress, (How to be a Dung Beetle and How to be a Bumble Bee).

Awards & Grants

- The RES launched Small Project Grants in 2024 which achieved 39 applications. Four were selected for funding.
- The Higher Education Bursary expanded with funding being provided to Harper Adams University and the University of Reading.
- The Conference Participation Funding was used to support attendance to conferences including ENTO24 & ICE2024.
- The Wigglesworth award was awarded to May Berenbaum will be providing her talk at ENTO25.

Policy and Public Affairs

- The RES has been working with consultants to develop the policy and public affairs strategy. This included engagement with Parliamentarians and departments such as DEFRA.
- In 2025 the Bees, Pollinators and Invertebrates APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group) launched at Westminster. RES is undertaking the role of secretariat.

Events

- ENTO24 was the RES' largest conference with the highest number of attendees.
- The RES and the Events Committee continue to develop the events hoping to reach wider audiences.
- Student Forum continues to grow each year; this has been well attended.

Conservation

- The RES has a team working on conservation science. They have achieved funding from the Prince of Wales Charitable Fund and Natural England for Species Recovery work. The team had secured a new project working in Denmark over the next four years.
- The RES continue to look for funding opportunities to support this work and build the team.

Partnership & Collaborations

- The RES continue to collaborate with companies such as Seedball, Teemill, Shrieking Violet and Pattern Books to diversify the society's income.
- The RES has partnered with Aardman Animations and their character 'Lloyd of the Flies'.

Membership

- Membership has seen growth of 47% since February 2022. The RES now has members in 80 countries. Organisational membership had been launched.

Registered Charity Number: 213620
Mansion House, Chiswell Green Lane, St Albans. AL2 3NS

	Head Office Relocation • The RES has been based in St Albans since 2008. The location had issues with accessibility which was a factor taken into consideration for relocating the office. The RES has purchased a new office based in Old Street, London. • It is expected that the office will officially relocate in 2026. • The office (Mansion House) will be going on the open market in September 2025.
ITEM 7	<u>Financial Report</u> Attendees were led through the accounts by Dr Gia Aradottir (GA), Treasurer of the Royal Entomological Society. The RES are fortunate to be in a financially secure position. This enables the RES to increase their activities and diversify income with reduced risk. The income from publications has seen an increase compared to the last financial year, this is due to the excellent work from Emile Aimé (Director of Publishing), editors and all those involved with the journals. The RES has seen a decrease in expenditure by £100k showing good cost controls and careful consideration on spend all while taking on additional staff members and working with consultants. The RES has net assets of £21m, with the investments contributing £13m. The investment income is used every year to support awards, grants and other required expenditure. Barclays Private Bank manages RES investments with the aim to grow the portfolio by inflation (CPI) +3%. In the last 12 months the value has fluctuated due to global politics and economics but continues to perform well. The Finance Committee continue to stay up to date with governance, regular review of the risk register, reserves policy so the reporting to the Charity Commission is clear showing good governance for the RES. The RES has appointed JS2 as new chartered accountants who will provide financial and operation support. They are working alongside the CEO (Simon Ward) and financial consultants to support their transition. GA expressed her thanks to the RES Staff, Steven Lee (Director of Finance & Operations), Committee Members, Fellows and Members for their continued support.
ITEM 8	<u>Proposal: Auditors – Results of Voting</u> Knox Cropper Auditors reinstated for financial year 2024/25 – approved Voting as follows: • 80 yes • 0 no • 1 abstain

Registered Charity Number: 213620
Mansion House, Chiswell Green Lane, St Albans. AL2 3NS

	Change to Byelaws, voting as follows: • 71 yes • 0 no • 1 abstain
ITEM 9	<u>Trustee Elections 2024</u> Prof Jane Hill concludes her role as Past President of the Society. In addition Dr Joe Roberts and Professor Walter Leal are stepping down from their roles of Trustees. JS thanked them for their support of the RES. • Prof. Allan Wall was elected as President-Elect. • Dr Gia Aradottir was elected as Treasurer. • Dr Richard Harrington was elected as Trustee and Chair of Events Committee. • Dr Shaun Winterton was elected as Trustee and Chair of Publications Committee. • Dr Heather Campbell was elected as a Trustee and Chair of the Education and Training Committee. • Dr Liam Crowley was elected as an Early Career Trustee. • Ms Anastasia Uglow was elected as an Early Career Trustee • Mr Moses Musonda was elected as Trustee. Thanks were given to members for nominating and voting. If you are interested in being a Trustee of the RES there will be roles available to apply for next year.
ITEM 10	<u>Date of Next AGM</u> <u>TBC – ENTO 2026</u>

SIGNED: NAME <i>Title</i>	
--	--