

## **The Arthur Ransome Society**

### **Minutes of the 86<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Trustees, held via Zoom on 29 May 2021**

**Present:** Peter Wright (in the chair)  
Jules Blue  
Krysia Clack  
Barry Gouldbourne  
Susan Gouldbourne  
Marc Grimston  
Linda Hendry  
Brian Key  
Iain Khan-Gilchrist  
John Pearson  
Kirstie Taylor  
Elizabeth Williams  
Peter Willis  
Diana Wright

The meeting was held immediately after the IAGM and Members' Forum.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

An apology had been received from Amanda Ardagh-Walter. A technical problem prevented Michael Glover from participating in the meeting.

#### **2. Appointment of a regional Board member**

Amanda was standing down from the Board under the six year rule. The Board appointed Jules Blue as the new Midland region Board member.

#### **3. Minutes of Board meeting of 13 March 2021**

These were approved as a true record of that meeting, subject to a minor amendment to point 19, on the installation of a blue plaque at a house once occupied by AR in Gunter Grove, Chelsea.

#### **4. Matters arising from the IAGM and Members' Forum**

The Board considered that these two meetings had been successful, especially in permitting a wider spread of geographical participation than at 'physical' events. The Society should aim at profiting as much as possible from this advantage of the online format.

More generally, the Board should discuss at its next meeting how the promotion of TARS might be improved.

#### **5. Proposal for an online TARS membership management system**

The Board considered a report from Peter Wr and Diana recommending that TARS should

introduce an online membership system, while keeping the existing 'manual' system in operation for those new and existing members who preferred to use the latter. There was general support for the proposal, but attention was drawn to the possible dangers of abuse of an online system and the problems it might present in the context of data protection requirements. The Board recognised these possible difficulties but considered that if they arose it would be possible to resolve them. The Board agreed, with one contrary vote, that the project should proceed; it would review progress at its next meeting.

## **6. Other business**

The Board would consider at its next meeting a suggestion from Paul Flint that it should consider improving arrangements for the conservation and, if possible, display of AR's medical chest.

Susan proposed, and the Board agreed, that a children's map-drawing competition should be added to the existing proposal for a children's writing competition.

## **7. Date and place of next meeting**

Saturday 9 October 2021, a 'physical' meeting, to be held in Birmingham.

John Pearson  
Secretary

1 June 2021