The Royal Society of Medicine.

Senior Fellows Forum (SFF) – Retired Fellows Society (RFS).

Annual General Meeting (AGM).

15TH June,2023.

The meeting was held in a Hybrid format. The papers were displayed

for attendees to view before the event commenced.

1.Apologies.

No formal apologies were received on the day but two committee members, David Shanson and John Skipper had previously informed the Secretary regarding absence.

2.Minutes of the AGM, 17TH February,2022.

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3.Matters arising.

No issues were raised regarding the report.

The Chairman outlined the new name of the Group, SFF, which will convert formally at the commencement of the new Academic year.

4.Chairman’s Report.

‘It is my privilege to report on the group’s activities and progress following our last AGM on 17th February 2022; rescheduled from 17th June 2021 due to the pandemic.

Your committee considered that the group’s description as the Retired Fellows Society didn’t accurately reflect the lifestyle of many members and a deterrent to attracting a younger membership. Accordingly, a proposal to rename as the Senior Fellows Forum was put to an EGM on 20th October2022 and unanimously approved. Thereafter the proposal was approved by the Academic Board and finally by the Council of the RSM ON 28TH March 2023.

We are now officially the Senior Fellows Forum (SFF)of the RSM and the website and our Journal will be updated accordingly. During the transition period the website and e mail contact will remain unchanged. The August edition of our Journal will be renamed and all other changes in place for the new academic year commencing in September 2023.

In view of the change of name it has been necessary to revise and update our constitution. I’m most grateful to our subcommittee, especially our Hon Treasurer, Mr Ian Stephen who have undertaken this task. The revised and updated constitution has been scrutinised and approved by your committee. Subject to the membership’s endorsement at the AGM the revised constitution will be submitted to the Council of the RSM for final approval.

We are seeing a pleasing improvement regarding in person attendance at our events and the value of remote attendance for those living outside London or for other reasons which inhibit in person uptake. We remain committed to offering remote attendance given our overall demographic. However, the efficiency of our infrastructure has not recovered following the pandemic and arguably, was already failing for a number of reasons beforehand. Therefore, your committee has been looking at restructuring our administration with the support and agreement of the senior executives at the RSM. Our aim is to provide more efficient and simpler bookings for our internal and external events including post lecture lunches. We also hope that our restructuring will facilitate our wish to significantly increase membership which has been falling but accelerated by the pandemic.

We offer an exciting array of lectures and external events due to the hard work and enthusiasm of our Internal and External organisers. However, we are always grateful for suggestions for speakers and visits from our membership. We are also always interested to hear from members who might wish to join our committee.

I’m greatly indebted to our committee and executive officers for their support and encouragement since I took office in February 2022.I must particularly thank and commend both my predecessor Dr Richard Lansdown who held the group together during the pandemic and Dr David Murfin who has served two terms as Honorary Secretary. They both retire from the committee at the AGM. However, the committee hopes that the AGM will endorse our proposal that Dr Murfin be elected as Vice – Chairman for the next academic year. Our constitution also allows for a retiring Officer to serve in an ex – officio capacity for a further year and Dr Lansdown has agreed to this so we can continue to benefit from his considerable knowledge of the workings of the group.

Finally, I must acknowledge the enormous amount of support that we receive from the administration at the RSM. They are subject to many pressures exacerbated by the pandemic. We couldn’t function without them’.

The Chairman outlined the procedure for the imminent name change of the Group. He also confirmed that agreement had been obtained for the SFF to recognise and appoint Honorary Fellows. It is hoped that the procedure will commence from the AGM next year.

5. Treasurer’s Report.

The figures supplied by the Finance Department were somewhat confusing and contradictory. Mr Stephen found the provision of figures for the AGM challenging. It was his intention to request an urgent meeting with the new Director of Finance and Operations. Mr Stephen intended expressing frustration with ongoing problems to Mr Mills and hoped that the financial information supplied will undergo improvement.

The outcome for the 12 months 2020 – 21 showed a deficit of £5,740.08. The Treasurer described this result as unacceptable and needs solving. This will inevitably mean charges to members must increase. The improvement in membership numbers over the recent past may improve things. The Society Balance at the 30th September 2022 was £27,325.66.

There were no questions to the Treasurer following the rather disappointing financial situation – his report was accepted.

6. Committee Membership.

The present committee names were presented to the attendees. His chairman’s report to the AGM invited applications to the committee through the due process.

Chair – Dr Jeffrey Rosenberg.

Vice – Chairman – Dr David Murfin.

Hon.Secretary – Group Captain John Skipper.

Hon. Treasurer – Mr Ian Stephen.

Hon. Editor – Dr Catherine Sarraf.

Hon. Archivist – Dr David Shanson.

Internal Meetings Organiser – Dr Jane Reeback.

External Meetings Organiser – Mrs Sue Weir.

Camera Club Representative – Dr Michael O’Brien.

Ordinary Members.

Dr Julian Axe.

Dr Judith Foy.

Mr Michael Kelly.

Mr Harvey White.

Dr Isobel Williams.

Ex – Officio member.

Dr Richard Lansdown.

7.Any other business.

None to report.

8.Date of next AGM.

A provisional date suggested - Thursday the 20th June,2024.