



THE LEARNED SOCIETY OF WALES CYMDEITHAS DDYSGEDIG CYMRU

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY – CELEBRATING SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVING THE NATION
YR ACADEMI GENEDLAETHOL – YN DATHLU YSGOLHEICTOD A GWASANAETHU'R GENEDL

Annual General Meeting, 20 May 2020

AGM/2020/02

Agendum 3

Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol, 20 Mai 2020

CCB/2020/02

Agendwm 3

Annual Report and Accounts, 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019

The Society's Bye-Laws and Regulations require our audited accounts and annual report to be presented at the AGM. Fellows are therefore invited to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for the period **1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019** (the Society's ninth accounting period).

The Report and Accounts can be downloaded from the Society's website:

www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/corporate-documents/

Hard copies are available on request.

The draft accounts were prepared by the Society's Accountant, Heather Beynon, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to registered charities (FRS 102).

The accounts were then submitted to the Society's Independent Financial Examiner, Baldwins, for consideration in September 2019. Baldwins carried out its examination under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. This ensured that the accounts provide a "true and fair view", in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Baldwins had no concerns about the accounts, and they came across no other matters in their examination to which attention should be drawn in this report.

The report and accounts were approved by Council on 16 October 2019. They were signed on behalf of the Society and its Trustees by the President and the Treasurer, and subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission. The narrative report and a summary of the accounts were incorporated in our published 2018-19 Annual Review.

Fellows are asked to adopt the Annual Review and accounts.

Appointment of Independent Examiners and the fixing of their Remuneration 2019/20

To maintain public confidence in their work, the law requires most charities to have an external scrutiny of their accounts.

The Society's Bye-laws state the following:

17. Auditors or Independent Examiners

17.1 *The accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by auditors or independent examiners who shall be appointed by and whose duties shall be regulated by the Council.*

17.2 *No persons shall be appointed as auditors or independent examiners unless suitably qualified.*

The Society's accounts were previously audited *pro bono* by PricewaterhouseCoopers, as a consequence of their auditing work for the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. Prior to preparation of our 2018-19 accounts, UWTSD appointed KPMG as their new auditors. Both PricewaterhouseCoopers and KPMG subsequently advised us that they could no longer audit our accounts *pro bono*.

The Finance Committee established that due to its size, a full audit of the Society's accounts is not required; the smaller-scale **independent examination** is sufficient. The Finance Officer investigated the cost of contracting an independent financial examiner. The best price received was from Baldwins and, on 5 June 2020, the Finance Committee recommended that the Society contract Baldwins to carry out the examination of the accounts. Council accepted this recommendation.

Baldwins agreed to carry out the independent assessment at a cost of £1905 +VAT.

<p>Fellows are asked to approve the reappointment of Baldwins as the independent financial examiner for the financial year 2019/20, at a cost of £1,905 + VAT.</p>

Amanda Kirk
May 2020