A - Apologies for absence

Hilary McGowan

B - Minutes
The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the MA held on Thursday 8 November at 1400 in the auditorium of the Belfast Waterfront were put to the meeting for approval. Heledd Fychan proposed, seconded by Iain Watson, that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Carried.

C - Annual Report and Accounts of the Museums Association

D - Report on financial position
Heather Lees, the MA’s treasurer, gave a brief overview of the key financial points for the 2018/19 accounts. Unrestricted income decreased by just under £52k; largely due to less income from the MA conference in Belfast in 2018 compared to Manchester in 2017. Restricted income decreased by just over £80k; due to no funding for the Transformers programme. The Endowment increased by just under £3k. Employment, direct costs, grants and bursaries and trustees’ expenses expenditure were all less, due to staff changes and not running the Transformers programme. Membership numbers significantly increased and continue their upward trend. Income was budgeted for a small income growth in membership, and events income increasing with the Brighton conference. Other income has increased due to investment income, with a similar profile to the 2018/19 accounts. Hayley Merchant proposed, seconded by Karen Perkins, that the Annual Report, Accounts and Financial Report be formally received. Carried.

E/F - Individual and Institutional membership subscriptions
The MA’s membership numbers increased by just over 18% since 2017/18.
The MA proposed to increase individual membership subscription rates by 2.55% from 1 April 2020. Gabrielle Heffernan proposed, seconded by Gillian Findlay that individual membership subscription rates are increased. Carried.
The MA proposed to increase institutional membership bands and subscription rates by 2.55% from 1 April 2020. Nick Merriman proposed, seconded by Diane Lees that institutional membership bands and subscription rates are increased. Carried.

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