1. Nomination of Chairman

On the proposal of C Orchard, M Case was elected as chair of the meeting nem con. M Case asked the meeting to approve the presence of Society staff members. This was approved nem con.

2. Welcome from the President

C Orchard welcomed Members to the AGM. He noted that his term of office as President had come to an end and that Mike Spyer would be formally taking over after the AGM. He also noted that P Kumar was standing down as Meetings Secretary and that Mike Collis was retiring as Chief Executive.

3. Stand in memory of deceased Members

M Case asked those present to stand in memory of Members who had died in the previous year.

4. Minutes of the AGM held on 9 July 2009 and matters arising

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record. This was approved nem con.

Blue Riband Prize
PK confirmed that the application procedure for the prize, now renamed the Physiological Society Poster Competition, makes clear that there is a pre-selection procedure, which is considered necessary given the high number of submissions. He said that pre-selection has increased the quality of entrants and that more prizes were now available.

5. Election Results

The election of Jonathan Ashmore and Theodor Burdyga as new members of Council was noted.

6. Honorary Members

The election by Council of Dafydd Walters, Salvador Moncada, Nicholas Standen and Peter Stanfield as Honorary Members was noted.

7. Annual accounts and reports of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2009

R Dimaline provided a brief verbal report on the state of The Society’s finances. He noted that publications income remains by far the largest source of revenue and said that The Society’s investment funds are now almost back to 2007 levels following the downturn of the last two years.

He said that a favourable currency exchange relating to The Journal has led to large operating surplus of £773K and Wiley-Blackwell reports indicate that this exceptional financial performance will be broadly maintained in 2010 & 2011. He said that as a result of this, trustees wish to increase spending on charitable activities and have outlined 5 possible areas for additional investment, which are:

- Pump Priming Grants
- Public Engagement
• Outreach to Schools
• Meetings
• Summer Student Bursaries

R Dimaline said that trustees would be asking Members for additional ideas and input.

R Thomas said he would like to see more scientific meetings. P Kumar said that trustees were hoping to double the number of Themed Meetings held each year from 2012.

R Thomas said, in light of this increased income, he would like to see attendance fees abolished. PK said that fees were needed as an alternative revenue stream should the financial position change and that the money was being used directly to improve all aspects of meetings.

A Member asked about travel grants for young physiologists. M Collis said that travel grants are being increased and extra funding will be available for the IUPS meeting in 2013.

8. Membership Subscriptions for 2011

R Dimaline reported that for the second year running there would be no increase in subscription fees.

9. Auditors

The appointment of haymacintyre (Chartered Accountants) as the Auditors of The Society until the next general meeting and authorisation of Council to fix their remuneration was approved nem con.

10. Matters for discussion

R Thomas said that he still felt that Members should be able to have matters for discussion pre-circulated on the agenda, not just on the website, even though they do not carry the same weight as formal motions. It was agreed to review the procedures for future AGMs.

R Thomas said that he had concerns about the limited amount of space at poster sessions. P Kumar said that space is determined by the venue and Manchester, as a custom-built site, was more spacious than many others. He said that for this reason The Society will now consider professional conference venues along with traditional academic institutions for future Society Meetings.

L Donaldson suggested an undergraduate poster prize and that Affiliates could be involved the judging. L Robson said she would take this to the Education Committee.

11. Date of next Annual General Meeting

During Physiology 2011 at Oxford in July 2011