The One Hundred and Seventy-second Annual General Meeting of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, held on Friday 15 July 2016, at the Royal Institute of British Architects, The President, Dr Bradley Viner, was in the Chair.

Members of RCVS Council, VN Council, other members of the profession and guests were present.

The Acting Registrar, Eleanor Ferguson, reported that the notice of the meeting had been published by the RCVS in its newsletter and website as well as the veterinary press. The agenda was sent to every member in the June 2016 edition of RCVS News.

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
The minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 10 July 2015, which had been made available online, were confirmed and approved as a correct record.

2. Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2015
The President formally presented the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2015.

3. Questions
As no questions were raised, the President moved the adoption of the Annual Report and the Statement of Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2015. This was agreed.

4. Council elections: new members and retirements
The Registrar read the report of Electoral Reform Services relating to the election of Councillors, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Christopher Barker</td>
<td>2,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Amanda Boag</td>
<td>2,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kit Sturgess</td>
<td>2,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Melissa Donald</td>
<td>2,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Stephen May</td>
<td>2,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lucie Goodwin</td>
<td>2,307</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Registrar declared that those named were elected Members of Council for a period of four years.

The President announced that at the University of Bristol, Professor Jo Price had stepped down and was replaced by Professor Richard Hammond as a new appointee.

At the University of Cambridge, Professor Michael Herrtage and Professor James Wood were re-appointed to Council for a further term of office.

At the University of Liverpool, Professor Susan Dawson and Dr Keiron Salmon were re-appointed to Council for a further term of office.

At the University of London Professor Stuart Reid was appointed for a further term of office.
Mr Nigel Gibbens, Chief Veterinary Officer of the UK, was also reappointed by the Privy Council for a further term.

The President then formally welcomed Melissa Donald and Lucie Goodwin as newly-elected Members of Council.

The President bid farewell to the four retiring Members of Council — Dr Barry Johnson, Professor Jo Price and Dr Richard Stephenson.

**VN Council**
The Registrar reported that two new members – Matthew Rendle and Racheal Marshall - had been elected to VN Council for four-year terms.

Liz Cox, as Chair of VN Council, then welcomed Matthew Rendle and Racheal Marshall to VN Council.

Ms Cox then thanked retiring members Penny Swindlehurst, Lizzie Figg and Kathy Kissick, the previous chair of VN Council.

5. **Date of next AGM**
The next AGM will take place on Friday, 7 July 2017.

6. **Meeting of the RCVS Council to elect President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer**

**Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence had been received from:
- Professor David Argyle
- Dr Karen Braithwaite
- Professor Gary England
- Mr Nigel Gibbens
- Dr Chris Gray
- Professor Richard Hammond
- Mrs Andrea Jefferay
- Mrs Rachel Jennings
- Dr Barry Johnson
- Mr Tim King
- Professor James Wood

**Declarations of interests**
There were no additional declarations of interest.

**Matters for Decision by Council**

**Approval of the Presidential Team and Treasurer for 2015-2016**
The Registrar asked Council to approve the appointment of the new Presidential Team and Treasurer for 2016/2017 as follows:

- President: Dr Chris Tufnell
- Vice-President: Dr Bradley Viner
- Vice-President: Professor Stephen May
- Treasurer: Ms Amanda Boag
The new Presidential Team and Treasurer were approved.

**Date of Next Meeting**
The date of the next Council meeting was confirmed as being on Thursday, 29 September 2016 (to be held in Committee). The next public meeting of Council was confirmed as being on Thursday, 10 November 2016.

7. **Presentation of the Queen’s Medal**
Professor Randolph Harvey Richards CBE MA VetMB PhD MRCVS was presented with the Queen’s Medal.

The Registrar described the Honour, awarded to a veterinary surgeon for a lifetime of outstanding contributions to the profession, and who had dedicated their career to working above and beyond the call of duty in the fields of veterinary medicine or science, or related areas.

Professor Richards thanked the College and his nominators for the award and said a few words about his career.

8. **Presentation of Veterinary Nursing Golden Jubilee Award**
The Veterinary Nurses Council’s Golden Jubilee Award, the highest honour that can be awarded to a veterinary nurse, was presented to Louise O’Dwyer BSc (Hons) MBA DipAVN (Surgical) DipAVN (Medical) RVN. Louise thanked the College and her nominators for the award.

9. **Presentation of Honorary Associateship**
An Honorary Associateship was presented to:
Professor David Lane MSc PhD FCIPD FCP FBPsS CSci

10. **Presentation of Honorary Fellowships by Election**
Honorary Fellowships were presented to:
Professor Martin Hugh-Jones MA VetMB PhD MRCVS
Mr Ian Wright MA VetMB DEO DipECVS MRCVS

11. **Presentation of Fellowship**
A Fellowship was presented, in absentia, to:
Professor Michael Reichel DVPH MVSc DrMedVet FACVSs PhD DipECVPH MBA MRCVS

12. **Presentation of Diplomas**
Diplomas were presented to:

- **Diploma in Animal Welfare, Science and Ethics**
  Dr Peter Stewart Fordyce BVetMed PhD MRCVS

- **Diploma in Cattle Health and Production**
  Dr Michael William Reynolds BVM&S MRCVS

- **Diploma in Small Animal Surgery (Orthopaedics)**
  Mr Myles Benjamin Walton BVSc MRCVS

13. **Presentation of Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Small Animal)**
Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Small Animal) were made to:

Kelly Mary Bernadette Atkinson RVN
Sarah Louise Blake RVN
Kelly Louise Bole RVN
Katie Louise Bonsor RVN
Melanie Jane Broughton RVN (in absentia)
Claire Louise Carter RVN
Nicola Victoria Cheadle RVN (in absentia)
Emma Louise Cottey RVN (in absentia)
Stephanie Ruth Cox RVN
Adele Emma Duckworth RVN (in absentia)
Sarah-Jayne Evans RVN
Mhairi Fergusson RVN
Hannah Lucy Goddard RVN
Louise Ruth Elizabeth Gower RVN (in absentia)
Louise Grieve RVN
Gemma Harker RVN
Shoned Hawksworth RVN
Karin Elisabet Hole RVN (in absentia)
Kerri Ann Jackson RVN
Angela Dawn Jonas RVN
Arianne Sian Morris RVN
Steven Murphy RVN
Laura Jane Peters RVN (in absentia)
Shelly Marie Postlethwaite RVN
Karlene Diane Price RVN
Marie Skjetne RVN (in absentia)
Adrian Eric Smith RVN
Terri Camella Smith RVN (in absentia)
Caroline Barbara Stevens RVN (in absentia)
Nicola Jayne Stokes RVN
Elaine Charis Tappin RVN
Lucy Elizabeth Thompson RVN
Julie Anne Thorpe RVN
Jenifer Hazel Turner RVN
Amy Louise Underdown RVN

14. Presentation of Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Equine)
Diplomas in Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Equine) were made to:

Lynn Irving RVN
Catherine Mary Lane RVN (in absentia)

15. Presentation of books to the RCVS Knowledge Library from the British Small Animal Veterinary Association
Each year, the BSAVA kindly gives the RCVS Knowledge Library a copy of all of the books that the association has published in the previous year, plus a selection of books given in memory of Noel Ormrod, who died tragically during his term as Senior Vice-President of BSAVA in 1967.
On behalf of the RCVS Knowledge, Interim Director Corrie McCann received the books from Professor Susan Dawson, BSAVA President.

16. **Chief Executive & Secretary’s address**
Mr Nick Stace, Chief Executive, then gave a speech in which he said that the College would react to both the issues and the opportunities raised by ‘Brexit’ through a new taskforce. Nick also said that digital technology and innovation was an area in which both the College and the profession needed to get a better hold. He also said that the College needed to help tackle the ‘culture of fear’ in the profession that stems from the unrealistic demands placed on the medical and caring professions that they will get everything right 100 per cent of the time.

He then handed over to the outgoing President Dr Bradley Viner for his address.

17. **President’s address**
In his address, Bradley highlighted the many achievements of his year in office, including the launch of the new Fellowship, which led to dozens of applications from prospective Fellows, the relaunch of the Practice Standards Scheme in November 2015 and the ongoing Vet and VN Futures projects, which culminated in the publication of the Vet Futures Action Plan and VN Futures Report earlier in July.

Before handing over to the guest speaker Bradley thanked his family, fellow Council members and RCVS staff for supporting him during his year as President.

18. **Talk from guest speaker Adam Little DVM**
This year's guest speaker was Canada-based veterinary surgeon Dr Adam Little DVM (who runs a consultancy called the Exponential Vet which helps the veterinary profession harness disruptive digital technologies for the benefit of clients, patients and their businesses.

The overall theme of Adam's talk was on how the profession can prepare itself for the changes it faces and embrace new technology – rather than being left behind.

For example, he cited how the rise in wearable technology gathering health data could be a vital diagnostic tool for veterinary surgeons and how the increasing use of 3D printers is driving innovation forward – even allowing one dog in the United States to receive a new pair of prosthetic front legs.

19. **Introduction of new President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer**
The President said a few words of thanks about the departing Vice-President Professor Stuart Reid

He then introduced Dr Chris Tufnell as President.

Dr Tufnell, Dr Viner, and Professor May each formally assumed their new offices, as President, Senior Vice-President and Junior Vice-President respectively.

The new President said a few words about new Vice-President Dr Viner, thanking him his calm authority, humour and wisdom College throughout his term as President, and presented him with a Past-President’s badge.

The President welcomed Professor May as new Vice-President.
The President made some remarks in acceptance of the office, and outlined several areas that he would like to prioritise during his presidential year. These included delivering the priorities set out in the Vet Futures Action Plan, exploring bringing veterinary paraprofessionals into the College’s regulatory remit, driving forward the College’s international profile and dealing with blame and fear culture in the profession.