

SGR's Annual General Meeting 2026

Wednesday 14th October, 18.15-18.45 (BST)

On Zoom (using same link as for conference)

Agenda

1. **Opening Remarks** Dr Jan Maskell, Co-Chair
2. **Minutes of SGR AGM 2025[#] and Matters Arising**
3. **Annual Report and Accounts 2025 – 2026**
 - Dr Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director
 - Dr Emily Heath, Finance & Membership Manager
4. **Election of Advisors to the Board of Directors***
5. **Update on Recent/Current Activities**
 - Dr Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director
6. **Recruiting a new Executive Director**
 - Dr Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director

Questions are very welcome on any part of the agenda!

[#] **Item 2:** Draft minutes of last year's AGM are available on the Conference 2026 page at www.sgr.org.uk/events/ or on request from the SGR office.

^{*} **Item 4:** SGR members are invited to express interest in the role of Advisor by the deadline of Monday 5 October, for election at the AGM. Other Advisors may be co-opted by the Board at other times. Advisors are invited to attend SGR's quarterly Board meetings (which are usually held on Zoom in the late afternoon), and to participate by email in discussions about SGR campaigns and activities (including whether/how to support campaigns led by other organisations). Advisors may in due course be invited by the Board to become Directors.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SGR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2025 (6.15 PM, ONLINE)

25 members present: Alan Cottey, Andrew Lohmann, Andrew Simms, Charles Wicksteed, Christopher Sykesud, Clare Hamon, David Chillingworth, David Roberts, David Somervell, David Sterratt, Eileen Braben, Emily Heath, Frank Jackson, Gillian Smith, Hugh Hubbard, Jan Maskell, Jo Wright, Keith Baker, Michael Weller, Nico Edwards, Paul Hadfield, Phil Webber, Stuart Parkinson, Susi Arnott, Tony Goodchild.

Unable to attend: Marion Hersh, Philip Inglesant, Fiona McOwan.

1. Opening Remarks

Jan Maskell (Co-Chair of the SGR Board of Directors) opened the SGR 2025 Annual General Meeting by welcoming all the attendees, and thanked the conference speakers and organisers.

2. Minutes of SGR AGM 2024

The minutes were agreed as a correct record (proposed by Keith Baker, seconded by Andrew Simms). There were no matters arising.

3. Annual Report and Accounts (1 March 2024 – 28 February 2025)

Stuart Parkinson (SP) (Executive Director) presented a summary of SGR's main outputs over the year, more of which can be found in the [Annual Report](#) available on the SGR website. Highlights included:

- 'Dirty Tackle' report – first in-depth assessment of the global carbon footprint of football, including induced emissions from airlines and sponsorship.
- Climate change and the military – more work on emissions and greenwash, including a book chapter;
- Lots of media coverage including in New Internationalist, Ecologist, Guardian;
- Our research on military emissions was quoted in a submission by the State of Palestine to the International Court of Justice climate hearing, and the issue raised in a judge's final statement;
- The High Court rejected the Cumbria coal mine proposal to which we (and many others) had objected at public inquiry;
- New Communications Assistant, Rowan Harris - doing a great job on social media!

Emily Heath (Finance & Membership Manager) presented a summary of the annual accounts.

Income over the year was approx. £84k – a 35% increase compared to the previous year, mainly due to a very successful appeal (with donations doubled by MRT, plus £2.5k of delayed income

from the previous year's appeal). More income also came from grants and general donations than last year, while subscriptions from members and supporters declined slightly. Expenditure for the year was approx. £66k – very similar to the previous year. There was a surplus of approx. £18k over the year. Overall SGR ended the financial year with a balance of approx. £45k, restoring a healthy level of reserves equivalent to about 9 months core operating costs.

The accounts were accepted unanimously, having been proposed by Andrew Simms and seconded by Nico Edwards.

Questions were invited from participants. David Somervell commented that SGR's output is very impressive - especially considering its relatively small budget - and asked how many staff SGR has. Stuart explained that during 2024/25 SGR had 5 part-time staff, ranging from 0.5 to 3 days per week each, equivalent to 1.4 full time staff overall. In addition, many voluntary hours are contributed by staff, directors and advisors. After some discussion it was agreed to consider at the next board meeting whether to include this information in future Annual Reports.

4. Election of Advisors to the Board of Directors

Several Advisors are invited to SGR Board meetings in a non-voting capacity and participate fully in discussions about SGR's activities. They can either be elected at an AGM or co-opted by the Board at other times.

Fiona McOwan and Philip Inglesant served as Advisors over the past year, and confirmed their willingness to continue. Marion Hersh also volunteered by the deadline given in the AGM invitation to members. All three had provided personal statements which were available to members on the conference/AGM webpage. It was proposed by Nico Edwards and seconded by Jan Maskell that all three be elected as Advisors for the coming year, and this was unanimously agreed.

5. Update on Recent/Current Activities

Stuart Parkinson reported on recent and current activities (March-October 2025), including:

- More reports on football's carbon emissions and greenwash – focusing on [UEFA](#) and [FIFA](#);
- A review of 11 recent studies on [rising military spending and the impact on emissions](#)
- Phil Webber updated our popular resource on [‘Nuclear weapons: a beginners guide to the threats’](#)
- SGR staff and directors had our first in-person meeting since before the Covid-19 pandemic – a Strategy Day in Lancaster.
- A new staff member, Laura Shewan, was recruited to work 2.5 days/week for 9 months on a new campaign on the militarisation of science education. She wrote a blog about [protesting at the DSEI arms fair](#).
- Phil Webber recently wrote an article on [new \(US\) nuclear weapons at Lakenheath](#).
- More media highlights were briefly mentioned, along with numerous talks, events, and SGR support for campaigns led by other organisations.

Questions were invited from participants.

David Somervell asked whether SGR has links with Demilitarise Education, and Stuart confirmed that we do support each other's campaigning, and that Laura Shewan is liaising with DEd to develop our new project on militarisation of science education.

Frank Jackson asked what international links we have. Stuart mentioned several examples in the US and EU, including Scientists4Peace. Other directors gave additional examples: Keith Baker said that SGR is a founding member of [Ocean Rights](#) which is part of a global coalition; Nico Edwards highlighted her involvement in the [Global Week of Action for Peace and Climate Justice](#).

David Roberts mentioned that he has published an article on the possibility of asteroid collisions with the Earth, and the lack of monitoring of space objects.

The meeting closed at 6.50 pm.