

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SGR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2026 (6.15 PM, ONLINE)

32 members present: Andrew Jenkins, Andrew Lohmann, Andrew Simms, Anthony Goodchild, Bruce Cadbury, Carl Rowlands, Charalampos Tsoumpas, Charles Wicksteed, Christopher Sykesud, Colin Holden, David Somervell, Emily Heath, Gillian Smith, Herbert Eppel, Hugh Hubbard, Jan Maskell, Jane Wernick, John Finney, John Grayson, Keith Baker, Lewis Akenji, Marion Hersh, Michael Weller, Paul Marchant, Philip Webber, Saffron Fisk, Steve Ballard, Stuart Parkinson, Susi Arnott, Tim Foxon, Tristram Wyatt, Vanessa Spedding.

Unable to attend: Nico Edwards, Philip Inglesant, Fiona McOwan, Margaret Forbes, Christine Green.

1. Opening Remarks

Jan Maskell (Co-Chair of the SGR Board of Directors) opened the SGR 2026 Annual General Meeting by welcoming all the attendees, and thanked the conference speakers and organisers.

2. Minutes of SGR AGM 2025

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

3. Annual Report and Accounts (1 March 2025 – 28 February 2026)

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:

- Three main reports on Sports & Climate - two on football, one on winter Olympics – particularly focusing on high carbon sponsorship and aviation-related emissions. Lots of media coverage – reached a wide audience internationally. Campaigners have been using our research to push for a sponsorship ban, similar to the tobacco advertising ban of the winter Olympics in 1988.
- Two military greenhouse gas emissions reports – one on spending rises and the other on reporting, which have also been influential.
- Jan Maskell published a book on work psychology and the climate crisis and led workshops on 'carbon conversations' as part of the Closing Loops project.
- Laura Shewan worked on the Military Influence on STEM Education project.
- Staff and directors participated in numerous protests, wrote articles, and gave talks.
- SGR transitioned away from Twitter and is increasingly using BlueSky.

Emily Heath (Finance & Membership Manager) presented a summary of the annual accounts. Income over the year was approx. £81k; a small decrease compared to the previous year. Grant income increased significantly, but most other income streams decreased. The previous year's appeal had been particularly successful due to donations being doubled by MRT. Some of the 2025 appeal income was not received until the next (2026-27) financial year.

Expenditure for the year was approx. £78k; a 19% increase compared to the previous year. This was due to having lots of active projects with staff costs - e.g. our Military Influence on STEM Education project, which started in Sept 2025. We no longer have an office so no rent was paid in 2025-26.

There was a surplus of approx. £2.5k over the year. Overall SGR ended the financial year with a balance of approx. £47k; a healthy level of reserves.

In response to a question from Herb, Emily and Stuart said that SGR's main grant funders this year were the Marmot Charitable Trust, the Martin Ryle Trust, The Network for Social Change Charitable Trust, the National Lottery Climate Action Fund, and the New Weather Institute.

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.

Marion Hersh, Fiona McOwan and Philip Inglesant served as Advisors over the past year, and all had confirmed their willingness to continue. Nobody else had 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 Andrew Simms and seconded by Christopher Sykesud that all three be elected as Advisors for the coming year, and this was unanimously agreed.

5. Update on Recent/Current Activities

Stuart reported on recent and current activities (March-October 2026), including:

- Our military climate greenwash report got a lot of interest from campaigners and researchers.
- Report on FIFA promoting polluters - e.g. Aramco and airlines sponsoring the World Cup. The BBC invited us to check their calculations on for an article on aviation emissions at the tournament.
- Laura organised and chaired a webinar on 'Militarism and the politics of education'. Several videos of careers interviews reflecting on this topic will be launched soon.
- Jan has led more carbon conversations and discussions at local screenings of the People's Emergency Briefing.

- The media coverage of our World Cup research findings was huge and quite overwhelming! Included outlets that don't normally cover our work - e.g. Mirror. Our report became the standard reference for reporting on how extreme heat is affecting football and other sports.
- Numerous talks, events, and SGR support for campaigns led by other organisations.
- Abi Truebig is working on completing the Military Influence on STEM Education project.
- Keith mentioned anti-nuclear work that he and others in SGR have been actively supporting.

Questions were invited, and Bruce asked whether 'carbon footprint' (a concept originally popularised by BP) is the correct term to be using. Stuart explained the distinction between ecological footprint and carbon footprint, and argued that it is still a useful metric when looking specifically at climate impacts, including Scope 1-3 emissions. Keith added that ecological footprinting is more complex and can't always be measured within the constraints of time and funding.

6. Recruiting a new Executive Director

Stuart is stepping down from this role, having been in the post since 2003.

We have started advertising for his successor, and the deadline for applications is 9 November.

Stuart will still be on the Board of Directors and will remain involved in a research capacity.

Jan and Phil expressed their thanks to Stuart for his long service and excellent leadership of SGR, which was echoed by many others present.

The meeting closed at 6.52 pm.