



SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

SVEPM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NO. 45 MINUTES

Date: Thursday 26 March 2026
Time: 11:35 – 13:00 (GMT)
Location: London

91 members attend the AGM

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received by the Honorary Secretary: Liza Rosenbaum Nielsen, Maarten F. Weber, Jane Murray, Keith Howe.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting No. 44 held in Berlin on Thursday 21 March 2025

No amendments proposed. Acceptance proposed by Lis Alban and seconded by Ann Lindberg and it was accepted by the assembly.

3. Matters arising (not otherwise on the agenda)

None.

4. President's report

The President reported that we have a Society which is in very good health, with good attendance at our conference last year in Berlin of 224 attendees, and this year, with 300 delegates here in London.

Size of conference: 283 paying attendants, 300 registrations total. Online option was not offered.

25 countries represented from 6 continents: UK (140), France (26), The Netherlands (19), Italy (16), Sweden (8). Representatives also from the USA, Estonia, Colombia, South Korea, Australia, Canada, UAE, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, and Greece

110 abstracts submitted for 21 presentations plus the two invited speakers. 98 posters, including 25 poster pitches.

The president explained how the abstracts and workshops are scored for the benefit of the new members.

The president thanked the plenary speakers, Christine Middlemiss and Lisa Boden; the organizers of the 7 workshops; the local organizers, RVC, APHA, PCO (conference collective); the sponsors, delegates and committee members.

The posters will also be made available on the website. Prizes for posters were supported by the Society as well as the Best Junior Oral Presentation prize in memory of Roger Humphry (sponsored by SRUC) – we thank these sponsors for their support.

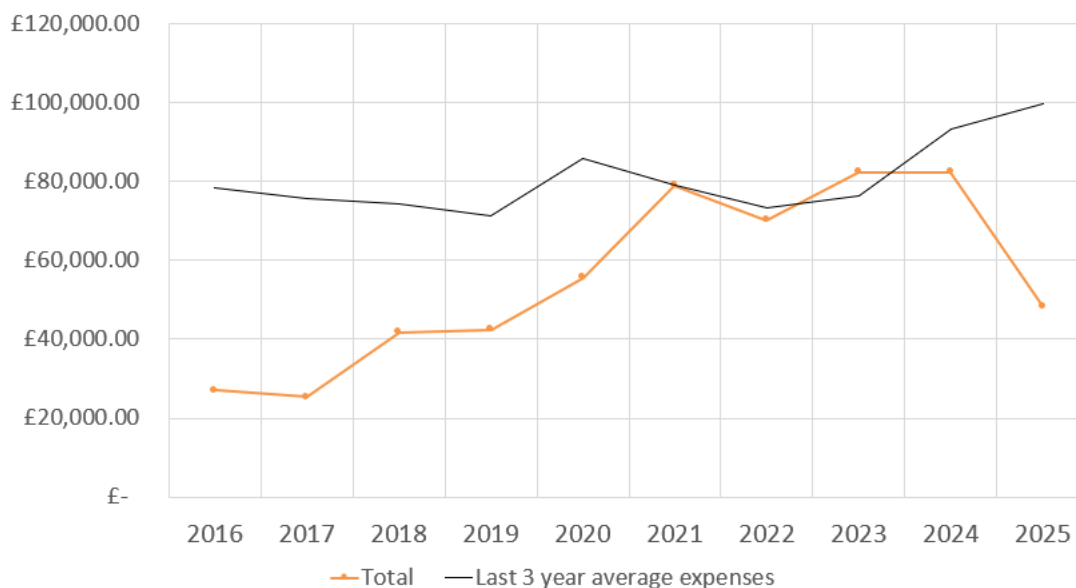
- Income:

- Membership income increasing with £749.05: £7,505.22
- Perfect break even on Berlin conference

- Expenses

- Down payment of London conference venue causes overall loss: £37,920.00
- WABA: £837.71
- Credit card charges are rising

Charges	2023-2024	2024-2025
Bank	£244.58	£171.99
Credit card	£44.53	£182.66



Berlin conference was a perfect break even. Other costs this year was helping WABA – World Animal Biosecurity Association - to be established as a society as it aligns with the aims of SVEPM. Expenses related to WABA pertain to administrative costs required to initiate the society. This is one-off cost agreed by the committee.

As per question of the members, for the future the committee proposed that future decisions on this (who to support) should be done by the committee.

Payment of the membership can be done by bank transfer or credit card.

The society is in good financial status and the money balance has stabilised in the last years. In this last year the funds have decrease due to down payment for the London conference that should be recouped due to the good attendance of at this conference. The society needs to keep reserves in case something goes wrong so it can cover the expenses of a conference that can be cancelled. The treasurer proposed to keep reserves around £80,000.

Another cost for this year and next year is related to the work about the history of the society.

It was proposed by the committee to maintain the membership fees and the assembly agree to keep the membership fees.

The Honorary Treasurer thanked the auditors, Fraser Menzies and Kristien Verheyen.

The report acceptance was proposed by George Gunn and seconded by Hans-Herman Thulke.

7. Election of auditors

The committee proposed two auditors who have agreed to be nominated:

- Fraser Menzies – acceptance proposed by Marnie Brennan and seconded by Gerdien van Schaik.
- Andy Patterson – acceptance proposed by James Wood and seconded by Ioannis Magrouras.

8. Election of officers and committee members

The following automatic changes will happen at the end of the conference:

- Fernanda Dórea will become Senior Vice-President
- Luís Carmo will become President
- Timothée Vergne retires from the post of Senior Vice-President, opening one committee position. The president thanked him for his time in the committee.

The following changes are proposed by the committee:

- Egil Fischer is proposed as new Junior Vice-President
- Ilias Chantziaras is proposed as Honorary Treasurer
- Carla Gomes is proposed to continue as Honorary Secretary.

Egil Fischer's acceptance as JVP was proposed by Annouk Veldhuis and seconded by Thibaud Porphyre.

Ilias Chantziaras' acceptance as Honorary Treasurer was proposed by Ioannis Magrouras and seconded by Marco De Nardi.

Carla Gomes' acceptance as Honorary Secretary was proposed by Koen Mintiens and seconded by Anne Lindberg.

Voluntary Tellers: Lis Alban and Gerdien van Schaik volunteered to count the votes.

Katja Schulz is seeking re-election. This meant that two seats are open on the committee, following the retirement of the SVP. Three nominations were received: Katja Schulz, proposed by Jana Schulz and seconded by Fernanda Dórea; Jasmeet Kaler, proposed by Fernanda Dórea and seconded by Inge Santman-Berends; Esben Østergaard Eriksen, proposed by Ane Nødvedt and seconded by Ingrid Toftaker. The three got a chance to introduce themselves to the membership and say a few words about why they would like to take part in the committee. Katja and Jasmeet were voted in. Both of them were welcomed as members of the committee.

9. Production and editing of the proceedings

The President commented on the timeliness of the production and editing of proceedings, thanks to the JVP (Luís Carmo) and SVP (Timothée Vergne). The President thanked the current keeper of antiquities (Marnie Brennan).

The special issue papers (8 submitted and all 8 have been accepted) had final decisions. The editorial will soon be published.

The President thanked Hans-Herman Thulke for finalizing the proceedings' printing process with Amazon.

This year's PVM special issue: 7 papers submitted and currently under review.

The President thanked authors, reviewers, and editors especially Luís Pedro Carmo, Carla Gomes, Fernanda Dórea, Egil Fischer, Timothée Vergne, Inge Santman-Berends, Ilias Chantziaras and Ane Nødvedt as guest editors and Katja Schulz as guest Editor-in-Chief. He also encouraged members to engage as reviewers and encouraged submissions.

10. Information on future conference venues

The next conference will take place in Torino; local organisers are Cristiana Maurella, Laura Tomassone, Aitor Garcia-Vozmediano. The conference will take place on 17th-19th March 2027.

The 2028 annual meeting will be organized in Barcelona, Spain, local organiser Alberto Oscar Allepuz Palau and Giovanna Ciaravino.

The President encouraged members to consider hosting in the future.

11. Nomination of life member

Ann Lindberg and George Gunn were awarded a life membership, and Fernanda Dórea and Sue Tongue/Inge Santman-Berends came on stage to say a few words in their honour, respectively.

12. Any other business

Rebecca Hibbard have been meeting with the founders of the society, and the proceedings were considered as important for life members. Therefore, a suggestion was made to send a printed copy of the proceedings to the life members. This will be discussed during the post-conference meeting by the committee. They can be included in the author list for Amazon.

AP1: Discuss sending a paper copy of the proceedings to life members.

The President remembered members that Professor Peter Ellis passed away in May 2025. Peter Ellis was one of the three founding members of SVEPM, together with Gareth Davies and Michael Thrusfield. He served as the second President of the Society and was instrumental in laying the solid foundations that continue to support and shape SVEPM today. His vision, commitment, and leadership were central to the development of the Society in its earliest years.

Another member who has died was Roger Humphry.

13. Date and venue of next meeting

Next AGM: 18th of March 2027 in Torino, Italy.