A description of those proposed changes to the constitution, which were approved by postal ballot on 2nd September 2013

‘Postal ballot’ has been replaced throughout by ‘ballot’, as has ‘ballot paper’. These changes affect paragraphs 37, 40, 56, 57, 58, 59, 65, 66, 67, 71, 72, 90 and 92.

Paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) have been amalgamated and changed to explicitly permit the award of fellowships.

Paragraph 4 has been amended to allow for an extra class of Student Members. This will allow, in Paragraph 14, the classification of Student Members as non-voting members.

Paragraph 7 has been amended to remove the defunct reference to Council electing members and to include the new class of members.

Paragraph 8 includes the new class of Student Members and facilitates electronic application by removing the requirement to sign the declaration. The reference to election is changed in line with the change to paragraph 7.

Paragraph 10 has been changed to allow applications for institutional membership to be processed administratively using processes set by Council.

Paragraph 11 has been changed to explicitly permit free membership. The terminology ‘subclasses’ has been introduced here because ‘classes’ are defined in Paragraph 4 and there are proper subsets of the class of Ordinary Members (such as retired members and early career members) for which Council sets reduced annual subscriptions.

Paragraph 12 has been changed to permit greater flexibility to determine subclasses eligible for reduced subscriptions.

Paragraph 13 has been changed to allow all Honorary, Ordinary and Sustaining Members to vote, whether or not they are resident in Australia. This is consistent with the practice of other societies. Paragraph 59 has been similarly amended.

Paragraph 14 introduces different voting rights for different classes of member. This will enable large numbers of student members to be admitted without the possibility that they can gain access to the Society’s assets.

Paragraph 15 has been made less specific and more in tune with modern record keeping.

Paragraph 25 makes explicit the possibility of, for example, members of the New Zealand Mathematical Society being members of ANZIAM.

Paragraph 33 increases the possible number of ex-officio, co-opted or appointed members. This will be required, according to Paragraph 28, if an additional Division is created (unless some current ex-officio, co-opted or appointed members are removed.
from Council). The paragraph also clarifies the membership of Council in the case of Co-Editors. The current arrangement could be seen to be in breach of the requirement of this paragraph that there should be at most 13 ex-officio, co-opted or appointed members. Co-Editors who are not members of Council could be observers on Council.

Paragraph 35 has been adjusted to take account of the requirement of Paragraph 34(iii), which specifies that the Treasurer and Secretary are appointed rather than elected.

Paragraph 45 has been changed in line with the corresponding AMPAI rule. It permits electronic transaction of business.

The amendment to Paragraph 46 provides some flexibility in the organisational arrangements for annual conferences.

The amendment to Paragraph 47 permits an AGM in December.

The amendment to Paragraph 55 gives added flexibility in the method of sending notices.

Paragraph 59 implements the different voting rights for Student Members.

Paragraph 67 also implements the different voting rights and explicitly permits Council to determine voting processes.

Paragraph 68 gives a more usual voting process.

Paragraph 72 follows the change in Paragraph 68.

Paragraph 74 makes explicit that members of the Society can be awarded grants, fellowships or prizes.

Paragraph 76 modernises financial practice and permits delegation, as with a corresponding change already made to the AMPAI rules.

The auditor suggested adding Paragraph 77(6) to ensure there can't be any problems when it comes to lodging the statutory documents with the registrar general.

Paragraph 81 is simplified.

Paragraph 82 explicitly allows arrangements such as our current one with Cambridge University Press.

Paragraphs 83, 84 and 85 explicitly allow Co-Editors.