

Minutes of the 122nd Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society

16 January 2001, 1.00pm

MINUTES

Present: R Cooke
G Grant
S Harding
J Helliwell
E Hounsell
A Lane
M Miles
A North
G Roberts
A Thomson
A Wilkinson

Action

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from M Ferenczi, D Hornby, J Molloy, J Murray-Rust, S Radford, M Sansom, M Sternberg, G Taylor, A Watts.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

S Radford had been present at the meeting and had incorrectly been listed as also sending an apology. With this change the minutes were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

Item 3: It was recommended that the payments to the Foundation for Science and Technology were not good value and should cease. The Foundation would be informed of this decision.

R Cooke

A letter expressing the sympathy of the BBS following the death of Prof Preston has been sent to Mrs Preston, along with a copy of the obituary.

A full proposal for a BBS award has been prepared by Sheena Radford. This was along the lines of the Colworth Medal, and would be limited to Biophysicists under the age of 38. The recipient would be expected to present a lecture at a BBS meeting within two years of the receipt of the award. The award should be announced on the web and in the BBS newsletter, accompanied by a poster. A committee was nominated to progress this, with the aim of closing nominations by July. A recommendation should be made to the subsequent BBS committee meeting.

**S Radford/
A Watts/
G Roberts/
M Ferenczi**

Details of the Condensed matter meeting in Bristol, at which the BBS AGM was held, were provided in good time.

Item 4: Posters had been sent to careers fairs.

Item 5: Further information had been requested from the Learning and Teaching Support Network.

Item 9: The possible need for liability insurance had been investigated. Liability would be limited to the officers of the BBS, and as long as they act in good faith, and commitments never exceeded assets, the risk does not justify taking out insurance.

4. **Publicity Officer's Report (tabled by Judith Murray-Rust)**

Publicity material was sent to careers fairs, but there has so far been no feed back.

The web site and newsletter are ticking over, but the question as to whether we are sending out the newsletter to too many non-paying members was raised.

Committee members were again reminded to contribute to the What is Biophysics? Page.

5. **Secretary's Report (presented by Rob Cooke)**

The Foundation for Science and Technology had asked for nominations for the Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran Prize.

It was agreed to send another lecturer to Ireland this year. Justin Molloy was nominated and would be approached.

A Thomson

The BBS membership list would be circulated to Committee members, to allow them to give more considered thought to nominations for Honorary membership.

A Wilkinson

The requests from Geoff Blackburn, Herbert Wilson and Brian Hanford to be made Emeritus members were approved.

6. **Treasurer's Report (presented by Tony Wilkinson)**

The draft accounts for 2000 were presented and approved.

The possibility of making subscription the subject of gift aid was raised. Grant Thornton would be approached as to the possibility of this and, if necessary, members would be asked to complete the appropriate form.

A Wilkinson

The sum of £15,000 will be invested with National savings.

A Wilkinson

The membership list contains several errors. The committee was asked to scrutinise and help update the list.

Committee

7. **Irish sub-section**

Guy Grant suggested it may be more appropriate for someone else to take on the role of Irish liaison.

8. **Honorary Meetings Secretary's Report (presented by Liz Hounsell)**

A report of the Solvation Meeting in September had been received from Steve Harding.

It was agreed that Gordon Roberts should be the named lecturer at the Mill Hill meeting in July. Details would be sent to Judith for inclusion on the web site and in the newsletter.

A Lane

The Norwich meeting will not take place this year.

The suggestion from the Swedish Biophysical Society to hold future joint meetings would be forwarded to Tony Watts, and the possibility of holding a future meeting in Sweden would be investigated.

**E Hounsell /
A North**

A positive response had been received from Leeds concerning a possible future EBSA meeting. Simon Phillips would be contacted to discuss support and liability.

**A Thomson /
M Ferenczi**

9. **Retiring and new Committee members**

Sheena Radford and Justin Molloy have decided to resign from the Committee. Nominations for new members for the Committee would be compiled.

A Thomson

Paul Malthouse would be asked to join the Committee and serve as representative for the Irish sub-section.

A Thomson

Guy Grant agreed to take on the role as Honorary Meetings Secretary

Liz Hounsell agreed to act as BBS rep for the IOB and UKLSC.

12. **Any Other Business**

The possibility of the BBS amalgamating with one or more other societies was discussed.

Assistance with conference organisation was identified as a need, and the Biochemical Society and other independent organisations would be approached for information.

**G Roberts /
E Hounsell**

13 **Date of the next meeting**

Post-meeting note: The next meeting has been arranged for 8 May 2001 at the Novartis Foundation, 41 Portland Place.