**

***B A C G***

***British Association for Crystal Growth***

*Registered Charity No. 261780*

**MINUTES OF BACG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD Reynold’s Building, University of Manchester, 28th June 2017 6pm.**

The President (Bill Jones) chaired the meeting.

The Minutes of the AGM held at (Micheal Sadler building University of Leeds **28th June** 2016 ) were approved. (Proposed by Thomas Vetter, seconded by Roger Davey).

 

1. Matters arising

Terry Threlfall inquired whether any investment in charry Fund had been made. The treasurer responded that this was in progress and it was hoped that money would be invested by the next AGM. Terry also suggested the ABS trust should be considered.

With regards to the charitable status, Tim Joyce commented that not enough people apply for bursaries. The treasurer agreed that bursaries should be more widely advertised and that the new website might enable people to apply on-line.

Mike Anderson inquired whether summer studentships could be funded. The committee responded that this had never been done before, but would be an excellent idea.

1. Chair’s report: ( by Alastair Florence) was read by Joop ter Horst, Vice chair

During the last year, the organisation has continued to against its core mission to encourage national and international scientific and technological communication and discussion of the theory and practice of crystal growth, crystallisation and the appraisal of crystals. To ensure that the BACG remains well placed to service our membership and develop useful activities in each of these important areas we have secured professional support to modernise the administration of our membership, conferences, accounts and website. With the services of HG3 and Bell Barr Ltd now in place, the BACG is well positioned to continue to work towards our goals for years to come.

It is of course essential that BACG continues to grow a vibrant and engaged membership and an important change has also been made to BACG membership fees. The modest increase that has been introduced this year brings BACG into line with other groupings and will enable the association to cover costs and continue to deliver benefits to our members. I encourage all our members continue to encourage colleagues with an interest in crystal growth to join and contribute to the BACG.

Overall, the association remains in a healthy state and has supported a number of events this year including the BCA Industrial Group Autumn Meeting last November. We also have another excellent annual meeting taking place in 2017. **The committee would like to thank the organising team for all their efforts in putting together such a high quality programme and the University of Manchester for hosting the event.** This year’s annual meeting is again well supported with 135 delegates and a range of invited speakers coming from across the international community spanning academia and industry. The committee also thanks our sponsors who are exhibiting in the foyer, throughout the conference.

The committee is also keen to grow our engagement and support for early career researchers and build on the prestigious BACG Young Scientist Award and work has started to establish a BACG young crystal growers group. The website continues to be developed and improved and the committee invite members to recommend news items or vacancies that would be relevant to the BACG community. Linked In also continues to be a popular and effective way to communicate with members and for people to engage with the organisation. Next year’s meeting will be held in Limerick, with Denise Croker the local organiser.

As my final Chairman’s report I would like to thank all my colleagues on the BACG committee and our president for their support over the last 3 years and wish my successor, Prof Joop ter Horst, every success.

Alastair Florence, Chairman,

25th July 2017

1. Treasurer’s report ( Ghazal Sadiq)

Summary accounts for April 2015 –March 2016 were available. Income this year was £6,917 and outgoings were £9,504

Kevin Roberts commented that the committee should aim to spend well on conferences with a view to losing money, as good speakers attract delegates.

There was a discussion around membership fees and whether they should be included in the conference fee to increase membership. It was noted that for industrial members, companies will pay conference fees, but not membership fees. It was also noted that IOCG requires a certain number of members to allocated positions on the international committee.

Membership secretary’s report: (Given by Ghazal Sadiq in Ming Zhong’s absence)

The rates of membership have been increased in line with other similar societies. This will allow the committee to better serve members and includes externally administrative support from Bell Bar accountants and HG3 for membership servies.to reflect the costs of administrative support for accounting management of members. 54 members paid this year. Starting from now this will be used as the membership list with the aim of getting a better understanding of who is and isn’t a member. This is important for charitable status.

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1. Election of Officers

Alastair Florence has now completed his term as Chair. The committee thanked him for his hard work. Joop ter Horst (currently VC) will take over as Chair

Ghazala Sadiq has completed 2 three year terms. According to the constitution, this should require her to step down, but as the holder of the treasurer post, there is a precedent that Tim Joyce served for over 15 years. Since this post requires continuity and it has taken 2-3 years to properly handover from Tim and we are still establishing Ghaz as administrator of the bank accounts the committee proposed that she be asked to continue in post for another three years. Ghazala agreed to do this.

The committee can co-opt two people and they proposed that these should be Denise Croker of University of Limerick who will act as local organiser for next year’s meeting and Amy Robertson of Astra Zeneca.

1. Any other business

Roger Davey suggested that with Joop as the new chair, a meeting should be organised with the Dutch Organisation. There was a short discussion around the IOCG and the need to update the names of councillors. The IOCG runs the international conference and we should support this.

As the new Chair of the organisation, Joop ter Horst gave a short presentation on his profile and experience and laid out some of his vision for BACG. He wished to develop the international flavour of the Annual meeting and supported the idea of joint meetings with European organisations. He also wished to support Young Scientists and to make the BACG summer school a regular event. Joop also suggested that we could use the BACG to develop funding proposals and networks.

1. Date of next meeting

Annual Meeting following year in Limerick Date to be announced

Linda Seton

Secretary