

# Minutes of the 127th Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society

23 September 2002, 1.00pm

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## MINUTES

Present: R Cooke  
M Ferenczi  
G Grant  
D Hornby  
E Hounsell  
G Roberts  
J Seddon  
M Sternberg  
S Tilley  
A Watts

### Action

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from S Harding, J Helliwell, P Malthouse, M Miles, M Sansom, G Taylor

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

**Item 3:** A book of BBS minutes has been obtained from Stephen Neidle. Other documents will be sent to Tony Watts. Henry Rattle at Portsmouth was suggested to be a source of earlier documents.

R Cooke

Plans for the AFM meeting appear not to have progressed.

**Item 6:** The rebate from the Royal Society for IUPAB subs will be chased.

R Cooke

The email list for members has been compiled

**Item 8:** The question of registration fees at the St Andrews and Charnwood meetings where the BBS is sponsoring speakers has been addressed.

**Item 9:** A link to the ABS site and their outreach scheme exists from the BBS site, but it will be made more prominent.

4. **Publicity Officer's Report (presented by Sarah Tilley)**
- Links to University courses in Biophysics will be placed on the web site **S Tilley**
- Nanotechnology, X-ray scattering and Neutron scattering were suggested as possible topics for *What is Biophysics?*
- www.bbs.ac.uk is likely to be the new URL. This will cost a maximum of £94 p.a. on Janet. The password will be sent to Rob Cooke. **S Tilley**
- New BBS letterheads will be printed. **S Tilley**
- It was agreed that, following the next newsletter, a PDF format would be introduced for subsequent ones.
5. **Secretary's Report (presented by Rob Cooke)**
- A response to the plans for a European Research Council will be formulated. **J Seddon**
- The possibility of conducting future committee meetings with teleconference links to members in remote locations will be explored. **R Cooke**
- Malcolm Walkinshaw will be approached to replace Gary Taylor on the BBS Committee. **A Watts**
- Tony Watts will discuss a possible Irish replacement for Paul Malthouse, during his visit to Ireland in October **A Watts**
- It was agreed that Honorary members should be allowed free entry to BBS meetings. The notes to meetings organisers will be ammended, and David Hornby will write to the Honorary members. **D Hornby**
6. **Treasurer's Report (presented by David Hornby)**
- There are now slightly fewer than one hundred people paying the membership subscription at an incorrect rate. Responses from these people are currently being collated.
- The BBS has approximately £40K in savings and £10K in the investment account.
7. **Irish sub-section (held over till next meeting)**
- The next lecture tour is planned for Autumn 2003. The Irish representative will be asked to choose a speaker.
8. **Honorary Meetings Secretary's Report (presented by Guy Grant)**
- The request to support the Sandy Geddes meeting was approved

It had been agreed with the organisers of the meetings in St Andrews and Charnwood that BBS members would get preferential or free registration.

The BBBS is a co-sponsor of the Biophysical Complexity meeting in Southampton in April, and will underwrite to £1000.

The Ion Channels meeting in May should now be considered jointly organised by the BBS and the Societe Francaise de Biophysique, and would be supported to a level of 1000 euros. Mark Sansom will be a co-organiser. The BBS will consider bursaries to attend, and will use BBS-derived sponsorship to support speakers.

Sessions have now been decided for the EBSA 2003 congress, and the session chairs are filling in the details. The congress will be mentioned in the next BBS newsletter.

Theresa Pinhero is unlikely to host a misfolding and disease meeting until 2004.

A mass spec meeting is being considered for Leeds/Sheffield or Manchester in December 2003.

A nucleic acids meeting may be arranged for Easter 2004

A meeting honoring the work of Freddie Gutfreund may be organised by David Trentham for September 2003. Details will be available for the next BBS meeting.

Opportunities to support a meeting marking the 50th anniversary of discovery of the structure of DNA will be investigated

**D Hornby**  
**S Tilley**

A meeting in May 2004 may be appropriate to mark the 50th anniversary of the sliding muscle hypothesis.

## 9. **EBSA Congress 2007**

Mike Ferenczi has announced that he will resign from the committee of EBSA. Tony Wilkinson will be nominated as a replacement by the BBS. Rob Cooke will check whether Tony Wilkinson is happy with this, and if so Tony Watts will write to EBSA. Tony Wilkinson would then rejoin the BBS Committee as the EBSA rep.

**R Cooke**  
**A Watts**

Organisation of the 2005 congress (held jointly with IUPAB) is proving difficult.

The proposal from Leeds to host the 2007 congress has been withdrawn. A bid has subsequently been made on behalf of Imperial College. This has been accepted by EBSA, but needs to be ratified at the 2003 congress. Accommodation and lecture theatres have been booked for July 7th-12th 2007.

10. **The BBS Medal**

Six applications have been received. The announcement of the winner will be timed for the November newsletter and a press release. An appropriate meeting for a talk by the winner will then need to be identified.

11. **Honorary members**

Sidney Brenner, Richard Henderson and Olga Kennard would be contacted to see if they were prepared to be proposed as Honorary members at the next AGM.

A Watts

11. **Any Other Business**

The UKLSC is currently active soliciting and transmitting feedback on research strategy.

The discussions between the IOB and the UKLSC concerning a Biosciences Federation are progressing slowly.

10. **Date of the next meeting**

Post-meeting note: The next meeting has been arranged for 16 January 2003 at the Novartis Foundation, 41 Portland Place.