

THE BRITISH CARBON GROUP

Minutes of the 2018 AGM held during the 6th EdF-Energy Conference at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal, 15th October 2018.

Present

Peter Minshall (Hon Secretary), committee member Nassia Tzelepi, and 20 BCG members.

Apologies for Absence

Chris Ewels, Geoff Fowler, Izabela Jurewicz, Norman Parkyns and Nassia Tzelepi.

Minutes of the Last AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM, held on April 11th, 2017, held at the University of Warwick, Coventry and issued with the notice of the AGM were accepted as a true record. [Proposed: Tony Wickham, seconded: Nassia Tzelepi, accepted *nem con.*]

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The Committee Composition

This has been a year of change for the British Carbon Group. In October 2017 our long-standing and very well respected Chairman, Professor Malcolm Heggie, had to step down from the role as Chairman for health reasons. Prof Heggie has provided incredible leadership of the committee over recent years and his departure from the committee has left a significant hole in the organisation. I stepped up to the role from Vice Chairman and have been acting Chairman since then.

In addition to Prof Heggie's departure from the committee, we appointed a new Hon Treasurer, Dr Izabela Jurewicz, after Prof Tony Wickham retired from this role after many years of holding this vital committee position. Prof Wickham's contribution to the Committee has been significant and he continues to support the BCG activities through organisation of conferences and supporting Dr Jurewicz as required.

The Current Committee is always looking to strengthen the membership and subject spread of the committee expertise. We would welcome any approaches from BCG members who would like it help support the Carbon community and join the Committee. Please see the BCG web site (<https://britishcarbon.wordpress.com/>) for more details of our ongoing activities and contact details.

Carbon 2021

The BCG has continued to support and represent the UK Carbon Community through our membership of the European Carbon Association and due to that role the Committee was awarded the rights to organise and host the World Carbon Conference in 2021. Those of you familiar with this Annual Conference series will know that it moves around the globe, on a three-year cycle, between the Americas,

Asia & the Far East and Europe. In 2018 the Conference will be held in Madrid. When the Conference returns to Europe in 2021 we will hold the event at Imperial College London from 11th -16th July 2021. The Committee is at an advanced stage of planning for the event, having booked Imperial College and reserved the Natural History Museum for the Conference banquet. We will be appointing professional conference managers for the administrative aspects of the conference and starting to assemble the Technical committees to support the conference programme. If you are interested in being part of this once in a generation activity, please contact me.

Other Activities

We held three committee meetings during 2017.

The Group administers two award funds, the Brian Kelly and the Roger Taylor. The Brian Kelly award for 2017 was made to Riutao Lv of Tsinghua University, China and the Roger Taylor award to Hanna-Pekka Komsa. This will be the last Roger Taylor award as the bequest has now been fully used. The Group has also awarded several travel bursaries from its own funds and on behalf of the IOP.

The Group organised two half sessions within the RSC Faraday Division Member Groups Conference, running from April 11th to April 13th at Warwick. The first was on Nanocarbons and the second on Diamond, both reasonably well attended.

The Group also organised NanoteC17 in Nantes running from August 30th to September 2nd.

In July 2017 we awarded the SCI Carbon in Industry Award to Harry Swan of Thomas Swan & Co for the work that the Company has done to commercialise graphene materials for research application. The award consists of a Medal and Certificate. Harry Swan gave a very interesting talk about how this product came to market.

The Group continues to issue a Newsletter, for which one was published in April 2017. The Editor is always looking for information and interesting carbon-related articles to print.

Treasurer's Report

Tony Wickham on behalf of Izabela Jurewicz presented the accounts for 2017, in the RSC format. The British Carbon Group is financially responsible to the RSC hence the choice of this format. The accounts have been audited by Dr Ted Hopper and have been re-audited by the RSC.

The balance at 31st December 2016 was £33,502.59 and the balance at 31st December 2017 was £29,813.23. The funds available to the Group thus decreased by £3,689.36 in this period. Such a decrease is a healthy sign as it is desirable to run down the funds accumulated from the previous Carbon Conferences in anticipation of an increase from Carbon 2021.

The Group administers two trust funds, the Brian Kelly and Roger Taylor Awards, given annually. Both were awarded in 2017, but the Roger Taylor award was closed in 2017.

The Treasurer asked that when making payments by card to the BCG, debit rather than credit cards are preferable as the use of the former saves money.

The accounts were accepted by the meeting [Proposed Nassia Tzelepi, Seconded Chris Wheatley.]

To Receive Notice of the Representatives of the Sponsoring Bodies

The following will be notified to the sponsoring bodies as representative for 2018:

RSC	Norman Parkyns
IOP	Peter Minshall
SCI	Geoff Fowler

Election of Officers and Committee Members

Nominations for Geoff Fowler to be Chairman and Chris Ewels to be Vice-Chairman had been received [Proposed Peter Minshall, Seconded Nassia Tzelepi]. There being no further nominations they were appointed to these positions without dissent.

As no nominations for Secretary had been received, the meeting agreed to suspend standing orders and appoint Peter Minshall for a further term of office as Secretary.

No nominations had been received for members of the committee.

Any Other Business

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 6.50pm.