



THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

Held on Wednesday 19 June 2018 at 13:30h
at the Institution of Civil Engineers London, SW1P 3AA

Present:

Dr M Preene (Chairman)
Mr N H Armstrong (Hon. Secretary)
Ms Y Ainsworth (Hon. Treasurer)
over 50 Members

1. NOTICE OF MEETING & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr Preene confirmed [in accordance with Statute 6] that due notice of the date of the Meeting had been given more than three weeks previously. A quorum was established by a show of hands.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION HELD ON 21 JUNE 2018.

The Chairman asked if any corrections to the minutes were required. No comments were made. The motion to approve the minutes was proposed by Dr Hobbs, seconded by D Smith and passed without dissent.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 2017 TO JUNE 2018.

Dr Preene gave a brief description of the role of the BGA and listed details of the current membership and the members of the BGA Executive Committee. The Chairman wished to thank the retiring members, Mr Talby, Mr Pacheco Andrade, Mr Eldred (Hon. Treasurer) and Mr Smith (Hon. Secretary) for the support they had provided to the BGA.

The Chairman then reviewed the programme of meetings, which included several special lectures, the Fleming Award Competition and the Cooling Prize. Joint meetings had been held with the International Geosynthetics Society, the British Tunnelling Society, the Engineering Group of the Geological Society and the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining.

The Chairman reminded the members that the Early Career Group (ECG) is a community for young professionals that focusses on graduates and recently professionally qualified members, principally in the first 10 to 15 years of their career. Two ECG members were co-opted onto the Executive Committee. Events held by ECG are included on the BGA events calendar on the BGA website.

The Executive Committee liaises regularly with the regional geotechnical groups of the ICE and speakers from BGA evening meetings routinely are asked to repeat their lectures to regional groups. In November 2017, Professor Giulia Viggiani gave the BGA Touring Lecture on *Tunnelling in the Urban Environment: Engineering Challenges and Research*, at regional group meetings in Belfast, Southampton and Birmingham. The next touring lecture will be in 2019.

In addition to the prizes awarded during this AGM, Dr Preene advised that the 2017 Fleming Award was won by:



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The PISA Project - Oxford University, Imperial College London, DONG Energy, Carbon Trust and SOCOTEC UK (formerly ESG) representing the many companies involved in the Project. The team was presented with certificates and prize money, sponsored by Cementation Skanska. The team kindly donated the prize money to RedR.

The Chairman was pleased to report that the BGA was awarded the prestigious “Outstanding Member Society Award” of the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), in recognition of the outstanding work of the BGA over the four-year period 2013-17. BGA contributions that were considered for the award were: the highly successful Edinburgh ECSMGE organised by the BGA and particularly, Mike Winter, Derek Smith, Peter Eldred, David Toll and Chris Menkiti; the encouragement given by the BGA to its members via awards etc; BGA contributions to ISSMGE Technical Committees; contributions to the advancement of science and technology through publications by BGA members; the BGA lecture programme including special lectures such as the internationally renowned Rankine lecture. Stephan Jefferis (past chairman, BGA) received the award on behalf of the BGA at the 19th ISSMGE conference in Seoul in September 2017.

Dr Preene announced that next year will be the 70th Anniversary of the BGA (and its predecessor bodies) and the 50th edition of the Cooling Prize Competition. He also noted that the Chalk 2018 Engineering in Chalk conference will be held this September as the first in a biennial sequence of geotechnical conferences. Planning for Piling 2020 is now underway.

Finally, Dr Preene advised that the BGA wants to increase the number of BGA Fund Awards to help students and early career professionals in their career development.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE SOCIETY'S ACCOUNTS FOR 2017 AND BUDGET FOR 2019

The Honorary Treasurer, Ms Ainsworth, presented the accounts for 2017, which had been circulated previously. She noted that the total income for the year had been £161,830, while expenditure was £156,363 of which £57,056 had been paid for Ground Engineering subscriptions. The net income was £5,467; the net investment gain was £30,515.

The Chairman requested a proposer and seconder for the approval of the accounts; Ms Doukala-Rigby proposed, and Ms Grammatikopoulou seconded. The proposal was approved on a show of hands without dissent.

Ms Ainsworth then spoke about the Budget for 2019, which had also been circulated to members. The predicted income was approximately £157.2k and the predicted expenditure was £174.5k. Given a predicted budget deficit for 2019 of around £17.3k, Ms Ainsworth proposed:

1. The Individual membership rate should be increased by £3/year;
2. The Corporate membership rate should be increased by £10/year.

She then asked for questions, but there were none. The Chairman asked for a proposer and seconder for the budget. Mr Talby proposed acceptance and Mr Eldred seconded. The proposal was approved on a show of hands without dissent.



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5. CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Hon Secretary reported that the successful candidates in the election were Mr Waring, Mr Wood and Prof Coop who were duly elected to serve on the Committee until June 2021. A total of 418 online votes and 4 postal votes had been cast.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION'S PRIZES AND AWARDS.

Dr Preene made a presentation to retiring BGA Honorary Officers;

Peter Eldred - Hon. Treasurer 2001 to 2017

Neil Smith – Hon. Secretary 1996 to 2017

The following Association awards and prizes were presented:

Winner of the BGA 49th Cooling Prize Competition - Joe Newhouse

BGA Masters Dissertation Prize 2017 - Jack Templeman

The BGA Medal 2017 - Dr Olufemi Ajayi, Dr Louis Le Pen, Dr Antonis Zervos and Professor William Powrie

The Skempton Medal - David Hartwell

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th June 2019 at the Institution of Civil Engineers.