

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF UROLOGICAL SURGEONS LIMITED

MINUTES OF THE 15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 26 June 2024 at 11.00 BST

Hall 1, ICC Birmingham

The Trustees encourage members to participate in the meeting by exercising their voting rights by registering attendance and, if at all uncertain about attending, by sending in the proxy voting form in advance.

142 members were in attendance (in person) and 1 submitted a proxy form by the due date (giving the proxy to the Chair).

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the 14th annual general meeting were approved as a correct record.

Unanimously approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

3. ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The election of new Members was noted - see Appendix A to the Minutes (for members only).

Unanimously approved.

4. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FY 2023 & REPORT FROM THE HONORARY TREASURER

a. The Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the FY ended 31 December 2023 were received.

Unanimously approved.

b. The Honorary Treasurer (Professor Iqbal Shergill) gave an update on BAUS Finances. In FY2023 BAUS had an operating surplus of £210,886 while support costs had decreased by £97k primarily due to staff vacancies and the challenging nature of the recruitment market; staff recruitment was a priority for 2024. The cost of running meetings continued to increase – with a 17% increase in the cost of the annual scientific meeting. However, BAUS continued to attract good support from industry partners. The value of investments had increased by 9% (although investments had decreased in value by 11% in 2022). The value of investments in December 2023 was £3.5m. Overall, finances remained reassuringly stable.

BAUS Trustees had invested £65k in the development of the progressive web app which had been launched by the President on 25 June. These project costs had been capitalised as an intangible fixed asset and would be written down over five years, although some implementation costs would be incurred in FY2024. Income for the Annual Scientific Meeting in 2024 had been budgeted conservatively (£100k less than in 2023) as the potential impact of industrial action on attendance at the meeting was taken into account – however actual figures were looking better

than the budget forecasts. Professor Shergill reported on subscription income – which, in 2023 was £580,418 and represented 27% of the Association’s income (30% in 2022 and 46% in 2021). In recognition of the current financial climate, Trustees had agreed to hold membership rates at current levels for 2025.

BAUS faced a number of challenges:

- BAUS’ primary sources of income were the annual scientific meeting and the subscription income.
- Most other activities run at break even or at cost to BAUS.
- Whilst overall membership numbers have increased, membership numbers as a proportion of the profession have fallen.
- Priority was being given to demonstrating the value of membership and promoting membership benefits to members. Member rates for events would be held at 2023 levels.
- Staff recruitment would be prioritized and, where necessary, consultancy would be used to assist in development workstreams in line with strategic priorities.

5. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2025

Professor Shergill reported the Trustees had reviewed the membership subscription rates and had agreed they would remain unchanged for 2025 – as set out below.

Member Category	2024 Subscription	2025 Subscription
Specialist Register Members	£446	No change
Urological Specialist Members	£366	No change
Trainee Members	£190	No change
Trainee Members (CTs)*	£100*	No change
Allied Professional Members	£75	No change
International Members	£205	No change
Semi-Retired Members	£163	No change
Fully Retired Members	No fee	No fee
Medical Student and Foundation Trainee Members	£20	No change
Honorary Members	No fee	No fee

*Subscription reduction for CTs - for a maximum of two subscription years: rate to pay per year is £100

Unanimously approved.

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Buzzacott LLP were appointed as auditors for FY 2024.

Unanimously approved.

7. APPOINTMENT OF INVESTMENT MANAGERS

CCLA Investment Management Limited were appointed for the year.

Unanimously approved.

8. APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEES / OFFICERS OF BAUS

The meeting received the results of ballots to fill any vacancies arising as follows:

a. Election of Officers / Trustees

Mr Joe Philip (Southmead Hospital, Bristol) elected as Vice President for a period of 2 years after which Mr Philip will automatically become President for a period of 2 years without a vote being necessary for this conversion.

b. Appointed (Co-opted) Trustees

Miss Susan Willis (Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London) and Miss Lisa Dodgshon (Lay Trustee) had their terms of office extended by the Board of Trustees for a period of 12 months (to end December 2024).

c. Retiring Officers / Trustees

Miss Jo Cresswell, James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough (demitting as President)
Mr Mark Lynch, Croydon University Hospital (demitting as Appointed / Co-Opted Trustee)
Mr Gurpreet Singh, Southport(demitted as Appointed / Co-Opted Trustee) in December 2023

Unanimously approved.

9. ELECTION AND RETIREMENT OF REGIONAL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The meeting received the results of ballots for the election of Council members to fill any vacancies arising as follows:

Elections:

East Midlands – Mr Will Green (Nottingham City Hospital) stood unopposed and is elected for a second term of two years (2024-2026).

London North – Mr Ravi Barod (Royal Free Hospital) stood unopposed and is elected for a second term of two years (2024-2026).

Scotland East – Miss Helen Simpson (Western General Hospital, Edinburgh) stood unopposed and is elected for a second term of two years (2024-2026).

South Central – Mr Richard Lockyer (University Hospital Southampton) stood unopposed and is elected for a second term of two years (2024-2026).

North West – Mr Dan Burke (Manchester Royal Infirmary) advised he would stand down as regional council member with effect from the AGM held in 2023 having completed two years in post. Mr Vaibhav Modgil (Manchester Royal Infirmary) was elected for a first term of three years (2023-2026).

South West – Mr Biral Patel (Cheltenham General Hospital) completed his second term of office. Mr Joseph Jelski (Cheltenham General Hospital) stood unopposed and is elected for a first term of three years (2024-2027).

West Midlands – Mr Vinnie During (Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust) completed his first term of office and did not stand for re-election for a second term. Mr Tariq Sami (Birmingham City Hospital) stood unopposed and is elected for first term of three years (2024-2027).

East of England – Mr Nimish Shah (Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge) completed his second term of office. Miss Sarah Wood (Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital) was elected for a first term of three years (2024-2027).

London South – Mr Mark Lynch (Croydon University Hospital) completed his second term of office. Miss Kay Thomas (Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital) was elected for a first term of three years (2024-2027).

Northern Ireland – Mr Brian Duggan (Ulster Hospital, Belfast) completed his second term of office. Mr Mark Haynes (Craigavon Area Hospital) was elected for a first term of three years (2024-2027).

Wales – Mr Gokul Kanda Swamy (Morriston Hospital, Swansea) completed his second term of office. No nominations were received by the due date. Miss Anna Mainwaring (Morriston Hospital, Swansea) was co-opted for one year to fill the casual vacancy.

Republic of Ireland – Mr Garrett Durkan (University College Hospital Galway) completed his second term of office. Mr Rowan Casey was nominated by The Irish Society of Urology as his successor for a first term of office (2024-2027).

Unanimously approved.

10. AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Professor Ian Pearce (Vice President) summarised the background to the proposed changes to the Articles of Association. These had also been set out in the information circulated to voting members with the Notice for the AGM.

It was noted the BAUS governing documents were last reviewed and updated in 2020 (Articles of Association) and 2021 (Rules) when there were amendments to the membership categories, provision for lay trustees and some technical updates occasioned by updates to the Companies Act and other legislative changes.

The BAUS Trustees now wished to take the opportunity to further amend the Articles of Association to enable the following changes to be implemented:

- BAUS has 6 elected officer posts (including the Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Secretary Elect, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Treasurer Elect). The Trustees wish to change these titles to better reflect both current activity and need - in line with the [strategic priorities of the Association](#):

Vice President re-titled to become President Elect

Honorary Secretary re-titled to become Vice President Education

Honorary Secretary Elect re-titled to become Deputy Vice President Education

Honorary Treasurer re-titled to become Vice President Membership

Honorary Treasurer Elect re-titled to become Deputy Vice President Membership

The current incumbents of the above five officer posts have been fully engaged in discussions and are supportive of these changes.

- Change in the registered address of the Association to 38-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields.

A full copy of the amended Articles, including with all the changes highlighted, had been circulated to all voting members and were available on the BAUS website. Members had been given the opportunity to send questions or comments about these changes to the Chief Executive in advance of the meeting.

The meeting was asked to consider revised Articles of Association. The votes were cast as follows:

128 voted in support of the Special Resolution. 1 proxy vote in favour. None voted against – so the Special Resolution was passed as follows:

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the draft articles attached to this resolution be approved and adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all the existing Articles of the Company.

11. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE CHARITY

Professor Ian Pearce (Vice President) summarised the background to the proposed changes to the Rules of the Charity. These had also been set out in the information circulated to voting members with the notice and agenda for the AGM.

The BAUS Rules were last reviewed in 2021. The proposed amendments being brought forward by the Trustees were being made in the light of changes to the BAUS Articles of Association (see above).

Summary of the changes:

- 6 (Officers) - amend the wording in accordance with the BAUS Articles.
- 8.2 (Council) - update to reflect Council membership.
- 8.12 (Council) - amend the wording in accordance with the BAUS Articles.

The meeting was asked to consider the revised Rules of the Charity. The votes were cast as follows:

113 voted in support of the Resolution. 1 proxy vote in favour. None voted against. So the Resolution was passed as follows:

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the draft Rules produced to the meeting be approved and adopted as the Rules of the Charity in substitution for and to the exclusion of all the existing Rules of the Charity.

12. UROLOGY MEDALS, PRIZES AND AWARDS FOR 2024

To note the following awards:

St Peter's Medal – Professor Shamim Khan, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London

St Paul's Medal – Professor Sanjay Kulkarni, Kulkarni's Reconstructive Urology Centre, India

Gold Medal – Miss Jean McDonald, North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust, London

John Anderson Award – Miss Suzie Venn, St Richard's Hospital, Chichester

Karl Storz/Harold Hopkins Golden Telescope Award – Professor Hashim Ahmed, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

John Blandy Prize – David Eldred-Evans, Imperial College

BSOT Silver Cystoscope Award – Andrew Cliffe (North West - Mersey)

BSOT Bronze Cystoscope Award – Karthik Rajan (North East)

BAUS Certificate of Distinction – Rob Feasey, Karl Storz Endoscopy (UK) Ltd

BAUS FY / CT Audit Competition – Shri-Ishvarya Rajamoorthy, Morriston Hospital, Swansea

BAUS Medical Student Essay Competition – Winner: Ranya Kumar, University of Cambridge &

Runner up: Srishti Rentala Venkata, University of Oxford

USANZ Conference Visitor – no eligible applicant

13. BAUS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING IN 2025

To note the annual scientific meeting in 2025 will be held at Manchester Central, 16-18 June 2025.

Mr Joe Philip

Honorary Secretary