



Chair: Louise Craddock
Vice Chair: Jeremy Lavy
Secretary: Deborah Mawman
Treasurer: John Briggs
Membership: Simon Lloyd

Minutes of the BCIG Council Meeting
Date: Thursday 22nd April 2010 Venue: Southampton
Time: 11.30 am - 1 pm

Present:

Louise Craddock, John Briggs, Sheena Round, Deborah Mawman, Shak Saeed, Jeremy Lavy, Simon Lloyd

Apologies:

Chris Raine, Andrew Reid

1) Planning of AGM

Discussion of agenda and announcements for the following day's AGM.

i) Treasurers report: JB reported more solvent BCIG accounts this year. Council discussed that some of the monies could be invested in setting up an online membership area on the website. Other ideas included setting up a grant to pump prime a clinical research project or a travel grant. Council agreed to discuss these issues further at the next Council meeting.

(Action All)

Travel claims to the BCIG Council meeting were raised. Currently the costs of all travel expenses are met by BCIG. Council discussed and agreed that the most cost-effective means of travel (which in most cases will be the cost of 2nd class rail fares) would be reimbursed to Council members.

ii) Membership updates from SR and hand over of membership role to Simon Lloyd who was voted in as the new membership secretary.

2) Agreement of previous Minutes

- Correction that the users association is the NCIUA not the NCIUG
- Correction - the Council meeting was held in January 2010 and not January 2009

3) Review of actions

Council discussed whether the UK auditory brainstem implant (ABI) group should come under umbrella of BCIG and Council agreed that this would be appropriate and will raise this at the next UK ABI meeting in July. Non NF2 patients who receive an ABI do not fit into any other group. Council considered whether the middle ear implant group should also be under umbrella of BCIG. Further discussion needed at the next Council meeting. **(Action All)**

4) Membership update

Sheena Round reported on the current membership. There are 237 members in total. 5 new applications for membership were approved:

Deborah Mawman
BCIG Secretary
Manchester Cochlear Implant Programme
Ellen Wilkinson Building
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road, Manchester
M13 9PL
Email: deborah.mawman@manchester.ac.uk

Name	Profession	Status	Affiliation
Simon Freeman	Surgeon	Full	Manchester CI programme
Janet McKenzie	Speech Therapist	Full	Emmeline Centre, Cambridge
Douglas Hartley	ENT Research Fellow	Full	Oxford
Sandra Gerges	Audiologist	Full	Midlands Adult programme
David Miller	Auditory Business Consultant	Full	London

There have been 3-4 enquires from overseas clinicians wanting to join BCIG but at the moment it is difficult for people to pay from overseas. If there was an online subscribing system – eg paypal then this process might be easier. Council considered whether credit card payment may be an option and that further discussions were needed with the bank. Consider Database to flag up members who have not paid. **(Action SL)**

Louise thanked Sheena on behalf of the Council for all her hard work and welcomed Simon Lloyd onto Council who will take on the role of membership secretary.

5) Awareness campaign update

DM / JB and SR met Lynne Tapper on Thursday 29th April 2010 to discuss how to raise awareness of cochlear implants in the UK. **(Action JB and DM)**

6) Guidance for New Centres

At the last Council meeting and AGM in June, it was agreed that there was no need to have a “Guidelines for new centres” document because the adult and paediatric BCIG quality standards documents already set out the minimum standards required in any CI centre. However CR felt that a BCIG document would be beneficial with National Commissioning for CI’s to evaluate the need for any new centres in UK. Further discussion needed about this issue at the next Council meeting. **(Action All)**

7) Filed copies of minutes of meetings

CR asked for a copy of the BCIG minutes to be filed and made available on request. A copy of the minutes of the last meeting is posted on the website. Council agreed to archive the minutes electronically rather than in hard copy.

8) The BAA cochlear implant modules

Tracey Twomey forwarded a copy of the BAA cochlear implant modules which are now out for consultation. LC commented that it would have been preferable if BCIG had been consulted or informed by the BAA about the modules and that in the future it would be appropriate to have cochlear implant modules on training courses approved by BCIG.

9) Feedback from Co-ordinators meeting

UK CI centre coordinators have been discussing the current criteria used to recommend cochlear implants for adult patients. There appear to be differences in how the NICE guidance is being interpreted. Coordinators agreed to have a review of these criteria and a date for a meeting has been arranged on Thursday 17th June 2010 in Birmingham. This meeting will be chaired by Quentin Summerfield.

Concerns were also raised at the coordinators meeting about the fact that manufacturers appear to offer different “deals” to different CI centres with regard to pricing and that these are not open and transparent. This issue has been particularly pertinent in recent months. However it was agreed that Teams would resolve any pricing difficulties locally while the new procurement contract is awaited. This will be kept under review at future co-ordinators meetings.

Deborah Mawman
BCIG Secretary
Manchester Cochlear Implant Programme
Ellen Wilkinson Building
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road, Manchester
M13 9PL
Email: deborah.mawman@manchester.ac.uk

10) The Bilateral Implants in Adults Study

Funding was not approved for this research study which was proposed by Quentin Summerfield. A discussion is needed with the 4 implant manufacturers to determine whether funding may be available for a bilateral implant project. Discuss this with Quentin and David McAlpine before or at next council meeting with a view to having some data to present to the NICE review in 2011. (Action LC / SS)

11) Vacancies on Council

Vacancies for Chair and Vice-chair will become available later this year. Nominations will be called for in September and an election will be held in the autumn. It is hoped the people appointed to these positions will attend the Council meeting in December 2010 to overlap with the existing Chair and vice chair. (Action DM)

12) Forthcoming BCIG meetings

BCIG 2011 will be held in Nottingham and in Kilmarnock in 2013. A suggestion for the venue for the 2012 BCIG meeting is Manchester if no other centre wants to volunteer (Action SL)

13) Date / time of next meeting

Thursday 23rd September 11am – 3pm. Boardroom RNTNE.

Deborah Mawman
BCIG Secretary
Manchester Cochlear Implant Programme
Ellen Wilkinson Building
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road, Manchester
M13 9PL
Email: deborah.mawman@manchester.ac.uk