



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

**Minutes of the BCIG Annual General Meeting  
Date: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 Venue: Southampton**

**Present:**

Louise Craddock, John Briggs, Sheena Round, Deborah Mawman, Shak Saeed, Jeremy Lavy, Simon Lloyd, Tracey Twomey, Julie Brinton, Julie Eyles, Vivien Ogg, John Graham, Simon Freeman, Louisa Booth, Sarah Paganga, Tricia Kemp, Philip Robinson, Mary Shanks, Liz Midgley, Paul Boyd, Neil Donnelly, Patrick Axon, Jill Hayes, Peter Wardrop, Peter Walshe, Jackie Salter, Will Hellier, Sarah Flynn, Shaza Sakh, Jane Gallacher, Sharon Tytler, Agnes Allen, Janette Joyce, Peter Ashcroft, Andrew Freeland, Frances Harris, Zebunnisa Vanat, Mark Chung, Sandra Gerges, James Ramsden, Jane Jones, Christina Kirhegrad, Paula Greeham, Yu Chuen Tam, David McAlpine, Roger Gray, Carol Johnson, Abi Asher, Jane Bradley, John Ford, Lucy Phillips, Sarag Hughes, Maire Doran, Louise Jenkinson, Kim Niday, Annabel Chaplin, Patricia Fraser, David Miller, Paul Tomkinson, Richard Byrnes, Kate Hanvey, Margie Harriott

**Apologies:**

Chris Raine, Andrew Reid

**1) Chair's report**

**Louise Craddock**

LC thanked the Southampton group who organised the conference for such a well organised and successful BCIG meeting especially because of the problems caused by the volcanic ash. The next BCIG meeting will be held in Nottingham in 2011. In 2013 the meeting will be held in Kilmarnock and unless any other centres want to volunteer to organise BCIG 2012 the Manchester team will host the event in that year.

Philip Robinson raised the issue of the "Guidelines for new centres" document which Council had decided not to implement because of the existing adult and paediatric quality standards documents. He felt that BCIG should be guiding commissioners about the need for new centres and setting minimum standards for care using a specific document.

John Graham commented that it may not be necessary to have a guidelines document but that BCIG should be consulted by commissioners when a new centre is proposed and that this should be discussed at council.

Philip Robinson commented that as council changes over time it may be necessary to have some guidelines not just for commissioners for but the BCIG Council as well.

Tracey Twomey agreed with Philip Robinson and stated that there was a need for a statement from BCIG about setting up new centres and that this should include evidence of unmet need.

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There may be a perception that the current CI centres are unable to manage the increasing number of new referrals which may not be the case.

Louise Craddock agreed that this item would be included on the Council meeting agenda set for September and discussed further then.

Louise thanked Sheena Round, the BCIG membership secretary for all her hard work on Council. Her term in office has now expired.

## **2) Secretaries Report**

**Deborah Mawman**

Nominations were received from Simon Lloyd (ENT Consultant) and Susan Hamrouge (Speech therapist) for the post of membership secretary on Council. Simon Lloyd was voted in as the new membership secretary and takes over from Sheena Round with immediate effect.

Karen Gordon, Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology from the Hospital for Sick Kids in Toronto, the invited overseas speaker at this year's BCIG was awarded honorary membership

## **3) Treasurers Report**

**John Briggs**

John Briggs presented a summary of the BCIG accounts. A copy of these can be provided on request. Currently there is £50,000 in the BCIG account. John proposed that some of this could be kept in the account and ~ £30,000 could be invested in a savings facility.

Alternative suggestions for using the funds could be to pump prime a research project or travel grant.

Organisers of the BCIG annual meeting in Southampton and Nottingham have both requested an increase from £4000 to £5000 to support the annual meeting. This was informally approved by Council members present but will be formally discussed at the next Council meeting in September.

## **4) Membership Secretaries report**

**Sheena Round**

Sheena Round provided an update of the BCIG membership. There are currently 167 full members compared to 145 in 2006.

All enquires about BCIG membership and changes to contact details should now be directed to Simon Lloyd at:

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## 5) Cochlear Implants International

**Rosie Sheridan**

Rosie Sheridan from Maney publishing talked about the changes to the BCIG journal. Copies of her slides are attached to the mailing.

John Graham commented that there is now an online submission process which should be much easier for authors. He requested letters to editor. Supplements will be available to the journal, for example the Stockholm meeting in July this year. Last year the journal received 30 manuscripts and already 20 have been submitted this year. Currently the editors are confined to 64 pages per issue. They will approach the manufacturers to supplement funding for journal to produce bigger editions.

## 6) Paediatric quality standards launch

**Louise Craddock**

The paediatric quality standards document will be available from May. They include assessment of children with complex needs. Thanks to all the clinicians and other groups who participated in producing the revised version of this document.

## 7) Website update

**Jeremy Lavy**

Jeremy Lavy has been responsible for updating and maintaining the BCIG website. He encouraged people to advertise jobs on the website. He also discussed using some of the BCIG funds for the use of establishing a member's only section of the website. Further discussion of this issue will take place at the next Council meeting in September.

## 8) National research strategy

**David McAlpine**

Professor David McAlpine talked to the BCIG membership about his ideas to implement a National research strategy coordinated by the Ear Institute. This would include applying for partnership grants for research projects across different University / implant centre sites. The aims of the partnership are outlined below:

### **Specific aims of the proposed Partnership**

- 1) To develop and co-ordinate a national research strategy for cochlear implantation that will ensure CI users are directed to appropriate research studies, including future clinical trials. This will include monitoring and storing securely relevant data, and facilitating access to those data by appropriate groups of clinicians and researchers.
- 2) To provide the infra-structure necessary to develop cross-centre research programmes requiring co-operation between a broad range of scientists and clinicians with interests in CI.
- 3) To provide a base from which future biological developments in hearing therapies, including those relevant to CI, may be assessed and researched in human populations.
- 4) To use the proposed CI programme as a pilot framework through which a Clinical Trials Unit in ENT Medicine might eventually be established in the UK.

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