

Minutes of the Committee of the British Liquid Crystal Society

Coventry University, 12.30pm, May 15th 2002.

Present: Bill Crossland, Andrew Cammidge, Helen Gleeson, John Goodby, Mike Hird, Maureen Neal, Roy Sambles (Chair)

Apologies. Sally Day, Mary O'Neill, Mikhail Osipov,

Andrew Cammidge was welcomed to the Committee. Congratulations were expressed to John Goodby for his recent award of the Tilden Lectureship and Roy Sambles for his very recent election to the Royal Society.

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of 26/9/01** were agreed as a correct record.
- 2. Matters arising** (other than those appearing as later agenda items)
 - (a) Marcus Coles (Southampton) has expressed interest in the BLCS web site and will be asked to put a proposal regarding running it to the Committee for the next meeting (HG)
 - (b) No suggestions for sponsorship have yet been given to WC for BLCS 2003 and committee members are requested to do so as soon as possible.
- 3. Results of the AGM.** Prof. John Goodby was elected as Vice Chair, Mike Hird as Treasurer, and the two Committee Members are Bill Crossland (re-elected) and Andrew Cammidge.
- 4. Potential resignations of Officers of the Society.** It has been recognised that the Constitution doesn't allow for interim procedures if an Officer of the BLCS resigns during their term of office. A change in the Constitution is to be recommended to the next AGM recommending that the Committee can elect Officers as a temporary measure, but that full nomination and election procedures should be followed at the soonest possible opportunity.
- 5. Treasurer's report.** Mike Hird reported that he has been successful in finding an account with the Yorkshire Building Society that will pay interest of 3.8% to accounts from Charities, compared with 0.45% currently being paid. The BLCS account will be transferred at the earliest opportunity.
- 6. ILCC 2002 summary.** So far approximately 500 participants have registered (800 are needed to break even). Significant sponsorship is still required. While the Committee recognise the efforts of the Organisers of the ILCC and thank them for their hard work, some concern was expressed at the high costs of aspects of the meeting and the relatively high number of invited speakers from the UK. RS to write summarising these points. JG asked everyone to encourage tutorial attendance.
- 7. Report on Annual Winter Workshop 2002.** This had again been a huge success. The provisional dates for the 2002 workshop are 16th/17th and 18th December. MH will look into the possibility of EU support for the workshop, though numbers will have to be limited.

- 8. Report on BLCS Meeting 2001 (Oxford).** There is still no report forthcoming from the meeting, nor has MN been given details of the new members who joined at the meeting. RS to write to SE to ask for this information to be provided as soon as possible.
- 9. BLCS meeting 2003.** 7th – 9th April 2003, Fitzwilliam College. WC presented a revised budget (appended). The costs are likely to be £160 for students and £205 for others. 60 posters can be housed and WC will arrange rooms for the required committee meetings.
- 10. Other meetings.** There is significant interest in the 1-day meeting on telecommunications. JG suggested that the European Network (SAMPAS) may wish to collaborate on such a meeting. JG and WC to liaise. MO’N to report to next meeting on Electroluminescence. George Mehl (Hull) may be arranging a meeting on dendrimers (JG to liaise).
- 11. Newsletter.** New issue is due soon. It will include articles by the Young Scientist (Lesley Parry Jones) and the Sturgeon Lecturer (Harry Coles). Various people will be asked to provide articles on people or things in the news: Corrie Imrie (Geoffrey Luckhurst GWG medal); Roy Sambles (himself - FRS); Sally Day (the meeting at UCL and Steve Elston winning SID Sturgeon Prize); Harry Coles (COMIT); John Goodby (death of Jay Patel’s wife). It was noted that RS should write to Jay on behalf of the Committee expressing our sympathy.
- 12. Membership matters.** MN reported an increase in membership to 124 full members and is still awaiting numbers from the last two BLCS meetings.
- 13. Any other business.**
 - (a) RS to book a room to present the GW Gray Medal to GL during the ILCC.
 - (b) JG suggested that the way in which the prize is awarded and the terms of reference should be reviewed and if necessary a revision proposed at the next AGM.
- 14. Date of next meeting.** 12th September 2002 at 12.30pm (lunchtime start) at Coventry.

Actions from this meeting:

- HG to request a proposal for the web site from Marcus Coles.
- All Committee members to give suggestions for sponsorship for BLCS 2003 to WC.
- HG and JG to consider revision of the constitution re Officers resigning.
- WC to liaise with Mark Wilson regarding putting details of BLCS 2003 on the web site.
- SE to get a list of BLCS members who joined at the Oxford Conference to MN.
- WC to liaise with JG regarding the meeting on LCs in telecommunications in 2003.
- JG to liaise with Georg Mehl regarding possible 1-day meeting on dendrimers.
- MH to examine the possibility of support from the EU for the Winter Workshop.
- RS to write to SE to request that the meeting report and membership details from BLCS 2001 be provided as soon as possible.
- RS to write to organisers of the ILCC summarising points in item 6 above.
- RS to write to Jay Patel on behalf of the Committee expressing our sympathy.