

Minutes of the Steering Committee of the British Liquid Crystal Society

15th April 2014

University of Durham

Members Present: Ingo Dierking (Chair; ID), Stephen Cowling (Secretary; SC), Carl Brown (Treasurer; CB), Andrew Masters (Vice-chair; AM), Flynn Castles (Communications; FC), Tim Wilkinson (TW), Doug Cleaver (DC), Verena Gortz (VG), Vasily Oganessian (VO), Nigel Mottram (NM), Rachel Tuffin (RT) and Simon Wood (Student; SW).

Absent: John Goodby (JG)

Actions

- FC to get prices for potential venues for the European LC Conference.
- DC to check availability and cost for BLCS in Sheffield for 2015.
- ID to collect names of all the European LC Chairpersons.
- ID lobby the society for suggestions for 1 day meetings.

Minutes

The new committee would like to acknowledge their gratitude to the outgoing members for their time on the committee. Outgoing members include Mark Wilson, Robert Richardson, Peter Raynes, Owen Lozman and Kirsty Holdsworth.

The new members were welcomed to the committee.

The issue of the European Liquid Crystal Conference was discussed. It was announced that Mark Wilson had committed Cambridge to hold the conference but at Cambridge this was not common knowledge. FC was asked to follow up on this and to see if any venues were available or had been evaluated for the meeting. It was also stressed by SC and CB that the BLCS would not underwrite the conference.

The next BLCS meeting was discussed regarding potential venues. DC volunteered to check availability of Sheffield for the meeting.

TW reported that the BLCS meeting in Cambridge (2013) had returned a £59 surplus.

The prizes for posters and oral presentations were discussed because it was felt that bottles of wine were not universally suitable due to different religious beliefs etc. The committee agreed to revise the prizes to gift vouchers. The oral prize was set at £25 and two poster prizes at £15.

Since it had been decided that the BLCS would interact with the German LCS then the committee asked why this couldn't be extended to other vibrant European LCSs. ID was asked to find out who was Chair of each of the European LCSs.

ID was asked to contact the society to ask for suggestions on potential one day meetings that would be hot topics in liquid crystal research.

It was agreed that the committee would meet mid-term at the International Liquid Crystal Conference in Dublin.

S. Cowling
Secretary

Ingo Dierking
Chair