Chair: The meeting was chaired by Prof. Seth Love.

Secretary: Dr A Shivane

Members: ~40 members present.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th March 2014**
   These were accepted as correct.

2. **Matters arising:**
   There were no matters arising for the minutes not appearing elsewhere in the agenda.

3. **Report from Treasurer (Dr D duPlessis):**

   Dr D duPlessis had previously circulated a detailed report of the financial position of the Society. The report was read out in his absence. The finances of the society continue to remain healthy. In view of the healthy funds Prof Ince suggested approaching charities in various areas and consider joint funding on educational activities or projects of relevance to neuropathology. Prof Love suggested sponsoring an intercalated degree or summer placement bursary. Dr Marino suggested approaching universities for joint funding. Any other suggestions from members should be sent to Prof Ince for consideration at the next committee meeting.

   Prof Love thanked Dr D duPlessis for his work as Treasurer.

4. **Report from Chair Education and Meeting Group (Dr F Roncaroli):**

   Dr Roncaroli presented the progress report at the meeting.

   **Symposium: 4th March 2015 (Organised by Profs C Sewry and J Holton)**

   **Title:** Recent advances in muscle disease

   Alfred Meyer Memorial Lecture: Prof Doug Turnbull - Newcastle, UK
   Advances in mitochondrial diseases and new treatments

   Symposium: 127 delegates, 12 symposium only (148 in 2014)
   Main Meeting: 180 delegates, 51 meeting only (170 in 2014)
   Total: 192 delegates (202 in 2014)

   Registration and Society dinner fees have remained similar to 2014.

   **Submission and review process**

   - 84 submissions (3 less than 2014): 36 oral presentations and 48 posters. All submission provided information on ethics & patient consent
   - Meeting makers provided excellent support
Twenty-seven BNS members kindly helped reviewing the abstracts

Sponsorships of Symposium and Meeting: Wise press and Genzyme

Next BNS meeting – 2-4 March 2016

Royal College of Physicians
11 St Andrews Place, London NW1 4LE
https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk

Dr Roncaroli discussed background behind the move from ICH venue and advantages of the new venue.

Summer School
1st-3rd July 2015 – Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, UK
Title: Cerebrovascular Diseases: Genetics and Pathophysiology
Course organisers: Dr Roxana Carare – Southampton & Professor Raj Kalaria - Newcastle

Dr Roncaroli has completed his term as Programme Secretary. Prof Love thanked Dr Roncaroli for his excellent organisation of Society meetings.

New Elected BNS Programme Secretary: Dr Rina Bandopadhyay
Deputy Programme Secretary: Dr Rahul Phadke

5. Report from Chair of Academic Committee (Professor J Nicoll):
A report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Small grants

March 2014 round (3 applications, 3 funded)

Genetic risk factors of old-age hippocampal sclerosis. Hokkanen, Polvikoski, Brayne (Cambridge, £3,112.60)

Neuronal senescence as a contributor to neurodegeneration in motor neurone disease. Simpson, Wharton (Sheffield, £5,000)

e-Learning the molecular pathology of brain. Mclean, Wang, Martin (Royal London Hospital, £4,400)

September 2014 round (2 applications, 2 funded)

Neuropathological analysis of MKP-1 in post-mortem human Multiple Sclerosis tissue. Yap, Nolan, Downer (Cork, £5,000)

Neuropathological characterisation of adenomas of familial isolated pituitary adenoma syndrome. Roncaroli, Korbonits (Imperial College, £4,000)
March 2015 round

3 applications, currently under consideration

Travel bursaries

2014 (5 funded)
2015 (3 applications pending)

Bursaries to attend BNS meeting March 2015
14 applications (£250 max.), 13 funded, 1 pending

New undergraduate student project grants/elective bursaries

• Medical student elective bursary £600 (in conjunction with NAN)
• BNS Undergraduate Studentship Awards - project grants for medical and science students (up to 5 awards/year @ £5,000 max.)

Prof Nicoll also discussed the progress report (a detailed report was circulated prior to meeting) of BRAIN UK. SL suggested having a BRAIN UK identifier for samples received for study. Currently, the samples are identified only by originating/referral centre laboratory number. Prof Dawson mentioned having received email about funding from Cambridge group (headed by Colin Watts). Prof Nicoll is happy for BRAIN UK to form networks with these various groups.

Prof Love thanked Prof Nicoll for all the excellent work. The new elected Academic Committee Chair is Dr Silvia Marino.

6. Editor of Neuropathology and applied Neurobiology (Prof J Holton):

A detailed report was circulated earlier.

Prof Holton reported that the journal was doing very well with a rising impact factor of 4.97 and ranked 7th out of 76 pathology journals. She mentioned that the journal remains profitable to the society. An annual strategy meeting was held in May 2014 followed by annual editorial board meeting in November 2014. New members have been appointed to the editorial board. There are now >500 followers on NAN twitter account. She has introduced ‘Virtual Issue’ (on average 1-2 per year) to complement BNS symposium and also the ‘Editorial column’ in some issues. There were 214 original submissions in 2014 with average turn around to first decision 27 days. The acceptance rate for NAN is around 25%. The new ‘Annual Review Issue’ has been released and is on ‘tauopathy’ edited by Stephen Frank and Markus Tolnay.

Prof Love thanked Prof Holton for her work to keep up the standard of the journal. The society is indebted to NAN for its support.

7. Report from Euro-CNS representative (Dr U Pohl):

Dr U Pohl had previously circulated a report highlighting the new Executive Officers of the Euro CNS. She also gave an update on the EFNS exams, upcoming EURO CNS courses and other events.
Prof Love thanked Dr U Pohl for her work as Euro-CNS representative.

8. **Report from Webmaster** (Dr I Scott):

Dr I Scott was unable to attend the meeting and Prof J Lowe gave an update on the BNS website on behalf of IS.

The BNS website has now been re-organised using a different platform. Dr Scott is very keen to receive any feedback from members. The aggregation of twitter feed from neuropathology can be accessed at ‘nan.org.uk’. Prof Lowe discussed various other issues which included explicit publication strategy and addition of learning resources. He encouraged members to become more proactive and suggest ideas for further development of the website.

Prof S Brandner suggested slides from FRCPath Part 2 exam made available to members as a learning resource. Prof Love suggested linking the learning resources to EQA website. There were several issues about accessing ‘historical archives’ and a general agreement for reconciliation of archives for future.

Prof Love thanked Prof J Lowe for the update.

9. **Report from Trainee representative** (Dr O Curran)

Dr Curran presented a summary report of the trainee activities for the last year.

Dr Curran highlighted that there are currently 10 trainees in neuropathology. Training days and slide clubs are going well.

Dr Nitika Rathi has taken over organisation of the training days from Dr Zane Jaunmuktane, and Dr Colin Saysell has replaced Dr Kieren Allinson in running of the Trainees’ Slide Club.

Dr Curran has also come to the end of her term and the new trainee representative voted by the trainees is Dr **Ashirwad Merve**.

Dr Curran expressed special thanks to the BNS for all their support.

10. **Election of Society Officers**

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Proposed by</th>
<th>Seconded by</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vice President</strong> - Dr Colin Smith</td>
<td>Prof. S Love</td>
<td>Prof. P Ince</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chair of Clinical Practice Committee</strong> - Dr Tom Jacques</td>
<td>Prof. S Love</td>
<td>Prof. P Ince</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary of Clinical Practice Committee</strong> - Dr Robin Highley</td>
<td>Dr. T Jacques</td>
<td>Prof. S Love</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chair of Academic Committee</strong> - Dr Silvia Marino</td>
<td>Prof. J Nicoll</td>
<td>Prof. S Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Programme Secretary and Deputy</strong> - Dr Rina Bandopadhayay and Dr Rahul Phadke</td>
<td>Dr F Roncaroli</td>
<td>Prof. S Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trainees Representative</strong> - Dr Ashirwad Merve (Elected by trainees)</td>
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All nominations for the various posts were accepted by the membership. The new President of BNS is **Prof Paul Ince**.
11. **Election of new members (2014)**

Dr. Abel Devadass, Belfast/Cambridge  
Dr. Alan Liu, London  
Dr. Clare Bryce, Edinburgh  
Dr. Colin Saysell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Dr. Delphine Boche, Southampton  
Dr. Edmund Cheesman, Manchester  
Dr. Eric Downer, Cork  
Dr. Kirsty McAleese, Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Ms. Lauren Walker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Dr. Marchio Marchionni, Bristol  
Dr. Nitika Rathi, Liverpool  
Dr. Susan Boluda, Spain  
Dr. Thomas Millner, London  
Mrs. Tracey Evans, Plymouth

All applications for membership were accepted.

12. **Any other business:**

- A suggestion was made by Dr W Stewart to change the process of society membership approval. This was discussed at the meeting and the general agreement was to adhere to the approval process as mentioned in the BNS Byelaw.
- Consent for use of tissue for research and the recent launch of *Brain tumour tissue campaign* was discussed by Dr K Kurian and a representative from the ‘Braintrust’ UK.