



BNS

British Neuropathological Society

BRITISH NEUROPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY **ONE HUNDRED and TWENTY SECOND MEETING**

THE BUSINESS MEETING will be held at **16:30** on **Wednesday 3rd March 2021**

1. Minutes of the business meeting

The business meeting was held virtually. There were 50 attendees (94%/47 BNS members, with membership estimated at 170 this was 28% representation) in attendance at the meeting including president Tim Dawson (TD) who presented the reports on behalf of all the committee members. Documents and reports had been circulated to the BNS members prior to the meeting via email (they are also attached as an appendix to these minutes).

2. Matters arising from the minutes (*not appearing elsewhere on the agenda*)

Nothing to report and the minutes were accepted and approved.

3. Report from the PRESIDENT

A report from the president is not usually part of the business meeting. However, TD included in his report reasons why the BNS needed a constitution and the bye-laws having been adopted in 1997 needed updating. Therefore TD brought the new constitution to the BNS membership for approval. TD has adapted a model constitution from the Charity Commissions' unincorporated association template and the changes required to suit the BNS were highlighted in yellow in the documentation attached to these minutes.

A motion was put to the BNS membership that we adopt this as the BNS constitution. 39 BNS members voted (37 for, 0 against, 2 abstain). Therefore the constitution will be signed by the trustees (President, Vice-president, Treasurer and Secretary) and submitted to the Charity Commission. Once passed by the Charity Commission a copy will be put onto the BNS website.

The BNS bye-laws can be changed by the society at any time, whereas as any changes to the constitution have to go back to the Charity Commission. The bye-laws that needed updating are highlighted in the documentation attached to these minutes. These include that at least the president or vice-president need to be clinically active to be an ex officio member of the PAC and that the Chair of the PAC committee will have been an active PAC committee member for at least a year prior to taking over as Chair. All officers will now end their terms after the annual meeting rather than before the meeting so they can provide meeting reports whilst still officially in post. Proposal to include an early career membership if approved. A motion was put to the BNS membership to accept the changes to the bye-laws. 40 BNS members voted (39 for, 1 against). Therefore the recommended changes to the bye-laws were accepted.

Applications to the National Clinical Excellence Awards has been taken over from James Nicoll by Sebastian Brandner. Sebastian brought together a gender balanced committee with

one lay member and there were 5 applications. All were reviewed and supported and all submitted to the ACCA.

4. Report from the TREASURER

A report had been received from the treasurer Daniel du Plessis prior to the meeting and was read out by the president TD (see attached copy of the report). The virtual meeting was cheaper than the normal in-person meeting. The Charitable Organisation Investment Fund (COIF) are funds that are put aside to generate and secure more funds. Overall financial health of the society is good.

The annual membership of £70 including NAN subscription, ISN and Euro-CNS membership. The BNS society actually subsidises its members around £40 annually. Therefore a discussion may be needed regarding increasing the membership fees in the future.

A proposal to include an early career membership (ECM) at a reduced rate of £30 by taking out the NAN membership, ISN and Euro-CNS affiliations. It does mean that ECMs would be able to apply for grants and would have voting rights and would be able to serve on BNS committees. A proposal was put to the BNS membership to introduce an ECM membership at £30 per annum. 35 BNS members voted (100% for). TD will add to the BNS bye-laws and ECR membership.

EQA subscriptions have been delayed due to the difficulty in payments from the NHS.

A membership software package will be introduced to maintain the membership and membership fees of members and the new ECM membership. Members should be paying from a personal account.

5. Report from the PROGRAMME SECRETARY

A report was received from the programme secretary Kieren Allinson detailing the number of attendees at this year's annual meeting of 243 registrations (see attached report). Discussions will take place of how next year's meeting will be run, feedback will be sort from the attendees of this annual meeting. Suggestions for the summer school were requested from the membership.

6. Report from CHAIR OF ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

A report was received from the chair of the academic committee Johannes Attems (see attached).

7. Report from the EDITOR, Neuropathology and Applied Neurobiology

A report (attached) was received from the editor of NAN Tom Jacques. NAN impact factor is currently 7.5.

8. Report from EURO-CNS REPRESENTATIVE

No separate report was supplied.

9. Report on the BNS website

Nitika Rathi is now the BNS webmaster, any requests can be passed to her directly. BNS twitter account has been reactivated and we requested people to help with tweeting from the account, those interested can contact Tammaryn Lashley for information and details.

10. Report from the TRAINEE REPRESENTATIVE

A report was received (attached) from the trainee representative Rob Goldspring. Currently 13 trainees.

Society Officers (See separate document of current officers in post).

11. Election of new members: The following have been elected to membership since March 2019:

	<i>Proposed by</i>	<i>Seconded by</i>
Bridget Ashford	Robin Highley	Julie Simpson
Claire Troakes	Safa Al-Sarraj	Andrew King
Karen Duff	Tammaryn Lashley	Maria Thom
Lara Marrone	Julie Simpson	Paul Heath
Mara-Luciana Floare	Julie Simpson	Stephen Wharton
Martha Foiani	Tammaryn Lashley	Sandrine Foti
Prospero Civita	Geoffrey Pilkington	Frederico Roncaroli
Thomas Stone	Thomas Jacques	Izabella Smolicz
Adele Pryce Roberts	Alistair Lammie	Atik Baborie
Andrew Robinson	Federico Roncaroli	David Mann
Christina Toomey	Tammaryn Lashley	Sandrine Foti

12. Any other business

There will be BNS officers standing down 2022, please consider standing on one of the committees.

13. Date and Venue of Next Meeting- To be confirmed