

BRITISH TRANSPLANTATION SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - Reg. Charity 1098584 & Reg. Company 4691176

Friday 13th March 2015

Tregonwell Seminar Suite, BIC, Bournemouth.

1. Anthony Warrens welcomed the members present to the Annual General Meeting.
2. 1 apology had been received from Amanda Small. 27 members were in attendance.
3. The minutes from the last AGM of the charity held on Friday 28th February 2014 at 1.45pm in the Lomond Auditorium, SECC, Glasgow were approved and accepted as a true record of the meeting.
4. **President's Report**

The President welcomed all to the meeting.

Representing transplantation to the public

The BTS usually receive at least one request per week from the Media to comment, especially if topical subjects appear on TV. This can be quite demanding as the Executive are not always in a position to address and so would ask that members are open to be contacted if an expert in a particular transplant discipline would be more suitable to respond.

Representing transplantation to the professional community

NHSBT – BTS hold regular meetings with NHSBT with full, frank and relevant discussions. The President sits on the committee of Chairs of the Advisory Groups. The BTS has many other collaborations:-

ESOT – BTS is closer than ever to ESOT which has a great education offering. Successful joint Congress with Renal Association. Contact with BASL and engaging in liver transplantation. HTA, due to the impending election, that has been no progress on changing the need for the licencing of premises before it is allowed to undertake donor research. Continue to build good relationship with Kidney Research UK through collaboration. The BTS does get asked for endorsements, some of which are reasonable and some not so reasonable.

Representation in Other Bodies

Transplant 2020 – Keith Rigg

Renal Registry – Iain MacPhee

NICE – several requests e.g. recently BTS asked to comment on technical appraisal.

ASGBI – Derek Manas

The BTS is involved in discussion of the soft opt out in Wales. AW keeps members updated in the monthly E-Bulletin.

Providing services to the BTS Membership

Professional Support

Monthly newsletter (E-Bulletin), minimising e-mail deluge, Guidelines. Members in Trouble – offering professional assistance as required. Units under the spotlight - BTS is sometimes asked to regulate or adjudicate situations, but can only advise on best practice.

ACCEA

Annual competition has continued but with fewer clinical excellence awards being made. The Chair, Andrew Bradley, has demitted office and been replaced by Chas Newstead. AW thanked Andrew for a number of years hard work on this. BTS will continue to support members by putting names forward for Awards.

Other Developments

There are two new Chapters, a Chapter of Nursing and a Chapter of Transplant Pharmacists.

Election

All posts on Council have been filled. There was a 45% turnout of votes by members, 32% being postal votes and 68% on-line. There were four candidates nominated for the position of Vice President and Lorna Marson was duly elected.

Questions

Derek Manas asked if should BTS be involved in peer review of transplant units?

Comments: This was discussed in CRG, but this was the regulatory review. *Member:* James Neuberger invited the Chair of the Advisory Group and a senior BTS member; the role is one of support to ensure the unit is treated in a fair way. *Member:* It is important that BTS are involved. *Member:* It would be helpful if there was a template framework to refer to. *Member:* NHSBT can go all the way to closing a unit but would feel uncomfortable for BTS to be involved in regulatory process. *Member:* This is not a BTS role. *Member:* NHSBT is not a regulatory body either; they are impartial. *Member:* Sometimes members need professional support. *Member:* There needs to be terms of reference.

As there were a range of opinions it was agreed BTS Council will discuss the appropriate stance and way forward.

Action: Council to discuss at next Meeting in June.

5. Vice President's Report

Congress 2015, Bournemouth

VP thanked the Committee for organizing one of the best Congresses with a very high standard of speakers and many more abstracts from the Dutch submitted with the Medawar Medal and van Rood Prize combined this year. There are 249 members of the Dutch Society registered and 500 UK registrants.

NHSBT

BTS engagement with NHSBT continues at regular intervals and we are involved in discussions on most committees including the NORS review, Liver national allocation scheme and engagement with NHS England.

Past Presidents 'Club'

The first meeting of the group was held on 27th November at RSM. It was productive and all who attended felt that it should be a regular event. The group had agreed the role the PPC could take was dealing with professional governance. *Comment:* PPC should have terms of reference. The AGM approved the continuation of the group.

Standards Committee

DM advised this is an outstanding group, chaired by Peter Andrews. They have delivered many excellent guidelines including the first Live Liver Donor Guidelines. The Committee is not losing momentum and the good work continues:

Failing graft guidelines – published

HIV guidelines in kidney transplantation – final draft

Live Donor Liver Transplant guidelines – in completed 1st draft

Pancreas Transplant guidelines – in progress

Transplant Surgeons Chapter

Stand alone meeting was held on 21st November 2014 and was a huge success with a number of European guests attending. Meeting received excellent feedback. The next TSC monothematic meeting will be a joint meeting with ASGBI in Belfast 2016.

'Shape of Training'

It is important for BTS to have continued representation on the ASGBI Council to be involved in the 'Shape of Training' and that BTS comments are heard at ASGBI.

It was agreed the BTS should have an education position on Council.

The London Transplant rotation has been reviewed by the SAC and with the BTS will be revamped this year with representation from all regions. Retrieval accreditation is well underway. Vascular access training will need a further review. Laparoscopic donor nephrectomy will need accreditation.

Action: Council to discuss at next meeting creating an

Education position.

DM officially thanked Anthony Warrens and Iain MacPhee for their huge contributions to the BTS Executive and Council over the past years.

6. Secretary's Report

Elections

There were no unfilled posts this year.

Council Election results: Uncontested posts:-

General Secretary: Lisa Burnapp

Councillor representing Donor Coordination: Amanda Small

Councillor representing Basic Science: Maria Hernandez-Fuentes

Member of the Clinical Trials Committee: Chris Callaghan

Member of the Standards Committee: William McKane

In 2014 there were 646 eligible voters, 294 votes cast (45.5%% turnout). For 2015 there were 732 eligible voters, 280 votes cast in total, 103 by post and 177 cast online. Slightly reduced turnout compared to last year but the percentage of postal votes remain quite high so the BTS will continue to offer members both online and postal voting options in future elections.

IMacP thanked the retiring Council members for their valuable contributions during their terms on Council. As a result of the above votes, the following Council positions have been filled:-

Vice President: Lorna Marson

Councillor Without Portfolio: Rachel Johnson

Councillor representing Liver Transplantation: Krishna Menon

Membership

There are currently 745 BTS members (779 in 2014), 49 new members since the AGM in 2014.

Abstracts

IMacP thanked all the Abstract scorers. There were 405 Abstracts submitted, 95 Oral presentations, 292 Posters with 18 rejected.

Awards – Medawar

This year the Dutch judges scored the UK submissions and the UK judged the Dutch entries. The Medawar Medals were awarded to Dominic Summers (Clinical paper) and Sushma Shankar (Science paper).

The Roy Calne Fellowship Award was presented to Michelle Willicombe, IMacP thanked the judges: Martin Howell, Rachel Johnson, Derek Manas and Anthony Warrens.

No questions from members.

7. Treasurer's Report

Income and expenditure to 31.10.14

RB reported on income and expenditure for the year ending 31st October 2014 and highlighted that it was proving harder to get new Corporate Sponsors each year. Corporate subscriptions were £45,000 compared to £33,000 for 2015. Individual membership income £36,194 and Congress 2014 income, £172,236.

BTS were giving away bursaries but have switched to grants to attend vocational courses through ESOT. Details on how to apply for these grants will be uploaded to the website.

There are and will be some new activities, including the Education Forum (cancelled but due to be re-scheduled), Living Donor forum and Monothematic meetings, Transplant Library, Transplant 2020 and further developments on the website.

The Conference Organizing Committee try to make savings where possible and invested in the

new Congress App and printing a small program only last year. For 2015 there has been further investment in addition to the App with the Congress Microsite. BTS will continue with membership of the Transplant Library and 2k to Transplant 2020. RB advised there may be an increase in the website budget to include further development up to 10k. A PDF of all the Abstracts will be available on the Microsite within the next week.

Balance Sheet

BTS continue to try and keep the costs down for Congress. The delegate fees will remain reasonable for Congress 2016.

Individual Memberships

RB explained the 3 levels of membership and advised they remain good value.

Registrations 2015 (2.3.15)

249 Dutch registrations and approx 500 UK registrations. The BTS congress represents good value for money and will continue to do so.

Comments: Past Abstracts are being archived and uploaded as PDF's on the BTS website.

8. **19th Annual BTS Congress**

SECC, Glasgow, 24th-26th February 2016

Next AGM – 26th February 2016

9. **AOB**

Comments: Member: NICE MTA's immunosuppression – BTS asked to comment on a scope circulated by NICE. There are concerns over the scope of this MTA which does not cover the full range of immunosuppressive drugs currently being used in the UK. *Member:* This is a Multi-Technology Appraisal not a guideline they are producing. *Member:* Should the BTS produce a guideline on this? *Member:* Not yet, see what NICE produces and the BTS can offer a response. *Member:* I would like to see the Society being more active in this. DM summarized, there is a lot of enthusiasm in the AGM for Council to be more active and to contact senior members and ask them to be involved. Right time to influence before anything is written down.

10. **Next Council meeting**

June 29th-30th 2015

11. **The AGM closed at 1.30pm**