

**The Meeting of the BMS Council on Tuesday June 24th 1:30pm
At the Space Centre, 94 Judd Street, London, WC1H 9PS**

Present: Prof Bruce Ing, Dr Richard Fortey, Dr Derek Schafer, MS Carol Hobart, Dr Stuart Skeates, Dr Simon Avery, Dr Peter Crittenden, Prof Lynne Boddy, Dr Fordyce Davidson, Mrs Dinah Griffin, Dr David Minter, Dr Paul Kirk, Dr Paul Dyer, Prof Nick Read, Mr Norman Porrett (Administrator)

ITEM		ACTION
1.0	Apologies: Prof Geoff M.Gadd, Dr Julian Mitchell, Dr Pieter van West, Dr Eleanor Landy, Dr Matthew Fisher, Dr Ian Singleton, Prof Stefan Buczacki, Prof Naresh Magan, Prof Anthony Whalley.	
	BMS president Lynne Boddy welcomed Dr Richard Fortey to his first Council meeting.	
2.0	Minutes of the previous meeting were read and after minor amendments, will be adjusted and archived by NP	NP
3.0	Matters Arising -(follow up from previous meeting and minutes, points in brackets refer to sections on previous minutes)	
	(4.1) the proposed cost of Field Mycology, check price with Elsevier and apply a staged increase of the price to members from 2011, to eventually reach full price.	
	(4.5) after some investigation it appears that pursuing Thread Creative, previous website builders, to recoup funds will not be viable. The cost of legal support would be greater than the possible monies reclaimed. CH asked again if the small claims court might be a way of pursuing redress. LB asked if all present concurred that BMS was unlikely to be able to recoup any monies, that all the BMS can do is to use what useful resources were available from this unsatisfactory venture, and move on with the current website development. All reluctantly agreed to this	
	(4.2) Geoff Robson has accepted the nomination to stand as BMS president in 2013.	
	LB has discussed a 'day-rate' for attending IMC9 with the organizers Elsevier. This has now been agreed upon and an announcement will be going out soon through the usual channels.	
	(4.4) Prof Nick Read will receive the Benefactors Medal for 2010. Prof John Webster will receive the Presidents Award at IMC9, but unfortunately cannot travel to Edinburgh to receive it in person due to personal circumstances. PK suggested using a live 'link-up' to allow John Webster to be seen to receive the award.	
	(12.0) The Thailand Workshop Lecture Series -this was cancelled due to the Unrest currently taking place in Thailand. These have been rearranged for the start of November 2010 provisionally.	
4.0	The President - LB informed those present of the death of Prof C.T.Ingold at the age of 104 years old. An obituary has appeared in 'Nature' journal. The BMS has been offered an opportunity to publish an autobiography supplied by Prof Ingold from his papers. LB proposed to PDF it once abbreviated and formatted by Prof John Webster, and place on the BMS website. It could then be advertised in the BMS	

	<p>Newsletter Mycologist News as well as other publications. Bruce Ing suggested looking at Richmond Publishing to see if they could possibly produce print copy. Stuart Skeates mentioned Elisabeth Ferguson a 95 year old member Action: NP will contact SS about a picture and print copy for the newsletter.</p>	<p>LB NP</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Website - SS gave a visual demonstration of the look of the new website in development with <i>Souk</i>. The front page slide 'Welcome to the BMS' was shown with the links to the sections assigned to the three new committees. Copyright issues to use the created imagery have been resolved satisfactorily. LB, SS, and Ali Ashby of FEO have reviewed and approved page design. In mid May Souk wanted to do the back-end work, ready for the start of June but staffing issues delayed this. The website delivery schedule was revised accordingly. SS demonstrated the site as it stood, specifically the top line menus linking to the new sections FBR, FEO and FMC. Images are required to populate the visual elements of the site. NR suggested using images from the book produced for the exhibition at Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE). DM asked if conservation could be made more prominent throughout the site. FD asked if it could be ensured that the section tabs on the front page mirrored the new section names, e.g.; Fungal Biology Research and not Fungal Science, Field Mycology and Conservation, not Field Mycology. A discussion ensued about what was changeable within the site and what was fixed. It was decided to send the images around council for feedback over the weekend of 25th to the 27th of June. LB thanked SS for the all his hard work on bringing the new website together.</p>	
<p>4.2</p>	<p>Subscription Charges - it was proposed that a 5% increase be applied to 2010 prices for 2011. LB asked those present what should members be charged, to either simply cover costs or add to the membership costs to provide some income to the Society. The cost of most journals set by Elsevier had increased by about 5%, but charging the realistic cost for Field Mycology would be a huge leap from 2010. In 2010 it was £15 but in 2011 the Society would have to pay Elsevier £26.50. A price halfway between these two would be better received by the membership, whilst taking less BMS funds in subsidy. Fungal Biology Reviews was also subsidised last year and will also need to increase in 2011. DG asked what does the BMS provide to the subscribers to Field Mycology? If it is only the journal at a reduced rate then why will they stay with the BMS? Members have reduced rates at forays, the Newsletter and access to the BMS website and all the information therein. DM suggested placing greater emphasis on the less tangible benefits such as contributing to conservation and protection of the environment. A vote was called for as to whether to increase the cost of Field Mycology to the membership to the amount of either £22 or £25 in print and £20 when taken with e-access. A show of hands was asked for to agree the price of hard copy alone. £22 in print (8 in favor) £25 in print (5 in favor)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£22 carried</p> <p>£19 charge when taken with e-access (2 in favor) £20 charge when taken with e-access (8 in favor)</p>	

	<p style="text-align: right;">£20 carried</p> <p>Everyone present agreed on a charge for electronic access, to the full set of BMS journals, of £26.50 for 2011.</p>	
	<p>Hard Copy of other journals: Fungal Biology proposed Hard Copy cost £45, when taken with e-access £35 Fungal Biology Reviews proposed Hard Copy cost £22, taken with e-access £20 Fungal Ecology proposed Hard Copy cost £39, taken with e-access £32 All present agreed these were acceptable charges for 2011. Action: An article explaining the rationale for the journal costs increase will be commissioned for inclusion in a future issue of Mycologist News.</p>	NP
	<p>LB proposed a 5% increase in membership costs. E.g.; Member 2010 = £30 in 2011 member £31.50 Action: Calculate the increased costs and amend the membership application/renewal form and send to LB for approval. All present agreed to the 5% increase in membership fees. An incentive to new members at upcoming IMC9 to join for 2011 will be free membership for the remainder of 2010.</p>	NP
4.3	<p>Draft Budget - for 2011 draft budgets of the FEO, FMC and FBR cannot be agreed in detail as past expenditure has not been tallied from previous years to compare. Council awaits details from the treasurer G.M.Gadd.</p>	
4.4	<p>Taxonomy & systematics (RF) - A revue is currently taking place in the UK. There have been open meetings held about the shortage of taxonomic expertise in the UK. Further meetings are subject to funds being available to support them. The BMS have had input to these meetings by the attendance of Council members LB, DM and RF. A meeting on July 8th will be attended by LB and any developments will be reported back. RF promised an article for inclusion in a future issue of Mycologist News. NP will chase this up.</p>	NP
4.5	<p>Honorary Members - LB proposed Juliet Frankland as an Honorary Member for 2011. Council approved this proposal</p>	
4.6	<p>IMC10 – BMS supported the Thailand bid for IMC10, and this has now been agreed by IMA as the venue for IMC10. NR will be continually updated by the IMA as Thailand may still be volatile over the next few years leading up to IMCX. There has been no financial commitment from the BMS to support IMCX, so there is no conflict of interest.</p>	
4.7	<p>Berkeley Award - there is currently one nominee this year, but all the new committees should have an input and be able to propose candidates. Alex Brand is the nominee as an early career researcher, although she is slightly older than the age limit normally applied to this award.</p>	
4.8	<p>Policy link person for the Society for Biology - suggestions were welcomed for someone in this role. Action: Sue Assinder from the FEO committee has indicated an interest and will be approached by LB</p>	LB
4.9	<p>Incorporation (charitable incorporated organization) LB proposed that She, Naresh Magan (BMS President elect) and Geoff Robson work on this over the next few months</p>	LB, NM and GR
4.10	<p>Council and Committees - The document circulated by LB for this meeting was discussed. The new structure as agreed at SGM was outlined and the composite</p>	

	<p>members identified. This included the methods of election to council and committee, and the terms to be served.</p> <p>A BMS member from India has contacted the office and asked if he could nominate himself to one of the new committees. It is not possible according to the Constitution to self nominate, and he has not been supported to-date by two other members. It raised the question of how far the BMS can go to cover the cost of active participation in BMS meetings.</p> <p>A limit of £250 was proposed as the maximum amount allowed for travel/attendance costs normally, with exceptional cases considered on their individual merit. All present agreed on this.</p> <p>Council structure in future will be only 13 members under the new constitution. Currently there are more than 13 trustees elected to Council, but in telephone conversations with the Charities Commission earlier this year, they indicated that trustees could resign or remain as trustees until their term of office was completed. LB asked all present to consider this state of affairs and reflect on how best to move towards the council structure indicated in the new constitution.</p> <p>Dinah Griffin spoke up at this point indicating she had approached LB before this meeting with an offer to resign from Council. SA and FD applauded this move and reminded all present that the membership have approved the smaller composition of Council, and current numbers exceed this. SA and FD offered to step down to help reduce numbers.</p> <p>LB reminded all that the new committees plan most of their own outgoings/spending commitments but Council will still need to approve these plans and other financial commitments.</p> <p>PC offered to step down from Council at this point.</p> <p>LB asked for all present to email her with their thoughts and any further decisions on this area.</p>	ALL
4.11	<p>Constitution - Elements of the current BMS constitution need tightening up and amending before the AGM in November.</p> <p>Action: LB will work on these and consult with Council after IMC9, in September.</p>	LB
5.0	<p>IMC9 (NR) at this time there was just over 5 weeks to go before IMC9. There were currently 1600 delegates registered from over 80 Countries. The scientific programme was complete.</p> <p>Daily registration for events has been confirmed as available.</p> <p>Special issues of BMS journals will be generated by the event.</p> <p>There will be receptions jointly hosted by BSPP and BMS at the RBGE.</p> <p>There will be 6 arts and craft stands all with a mycological theme.</p> <p>Four student helpers were still needed for IMC9 where they would receive free registration for taking the mikes around the scientific meetings and assisting the organizers in various ways. NR asked those Council members present if they knew of any potential candidates. NR asked them to notify him by the weekend coming.</p>	
5.1	<p>BMS Stand - SS had been asked to man this for some of the time at IMC9. NR emphasized that the stand should be the BMS window to the world. LB suggested using an LCD TV, with a rolling information PowerPoint presentation to inform attendees of the BMS and its various aspects. LB asked Council if they approved the subsidy of accommodation for SS and his attendance at IMC9. All present agreed.</p>	

6.0	<p>The Treasurer (GMG-N/A) LB reported on notes supplied by GMG. GMG had indicated that GMG, LB and Geoff Robson would meet to attempt to establish the new committee budgets. Budgets will be prepared as previously done, but bearing the needs of the new committees and their individual budgets in mind. As ever economise where possible.</p>	
7.0	<p>Fungal Biology Research (SA)</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 main meeting in Exeter - everything is on track after budgets were agreed at the last Council meeting. • The proposed venue for the 2012 meeting is Alicante. The initial budget and registration fees were introduced by SA. These figures will be looked at in greater detail by the FBR committee. It was also proposed that Co-chairs be appointed to liaise with the Spanish organizers. • The main meeting for 2013. After some debate it was suggested that Cardiff be investigated for available venues. • For the meeting of 2014 Northern Ireland was proposed and will also be looked into for available venues. 	
8.0	<p>Fungal Education and Outreach (PD)</p>	
8.1	<p>RBGE exhibition, book and outreach weekend - the book commissioned for the exhibition will be available for purchase. An outreach event jointly organised by the FEO and FMC committees will take the form of two days of family fun sessions. The budget for these has already been presented and approved at a previous Council meeting.</p> <p>It has been proposed to take the exhibition on tour to various venues across the UK. Storage and transport costs will be looked at with a rough costing of £2000. Other events following IMC9 at RBGE will be many and varied, with lectures by NR amongst other.</p> <p>Council was asked if they approve in principle the £2000 for transport and storage. Council approved.</p>	
8.2	<p>Pull-Up displays - Materials cost will be £3200 and this will cover the costs of 10 displays. Council was asked to approve this expenditure. Council approved</p>	
	<p><i>It was agreed that budgets for 2010 will not be typical, given the special nature of IMC9, and will not set a precedent for future budget allocations.</i></p>	
8.3	<p>The MiSAC competition for 2011 - this regular schools science competition will be organised by the BMS in 2011. The budget presented for Councils approval was £3800. Council approved this.</p>	
8.4	<p>Mushroom Detective Kit - following on from the last Council meeting, Ali Ashby was due to present a detailed report on this, but could not attend this meeting. Previous responses to the associated costs at £10,000 seemed too high. A revised contribution request for £2000 was put on hold until Ali Ashby could present a report in person at a future Council meeting.</p>	
8.5	<p>Myco-Kids section on the new BMS website. The costs to register the site will be £50 a year. Council was asked if the BMS will fund this. All present agreed A level of funding, to improve the graphics on the newly developed BMS website, in</p>	

	particular the Myco-Kids section, was looked for by Paul Dyer on behalf of Ali Ashby. All Council members present felt that this expenditure could not at present be justified be justified and declined the request.	
9.0	Field Mycology and Conservation (SS)	
9.1	SS presented the budgets proposed for field meetings in 2011 for Council's attention and approval. With the new BMS structure, general budgets will be planned by the committees and their Chair. Council approved the four main BMS field meetings for 2011, Spring, Upland, Autumn and Overseas.	
9.2	Beginners Courses - two beginners' short courses will be held at Derek Schafer's facility. Council was asked to approve the use of Derek Schafer's venue and recognise that there is no conflict of interest is this venue being chosen for these courses. Council Acknowledged this The beginners' courses are new and have not been costed before. Council was asked to approve the costings associated with these events. Council approved	
9.3	Autumn Open Meeting - November, venue Kew. The costs of holding this were proposed to cost £2500. LB suggested lowering this estimate to £2000. Council approved the £2000 budget	
9.4	Fungal Conservation Forum - 2 meetings for 2 people £1000 from ECCF and budget of £500 x 2 =£1500 each. Council was asked to approve this. Council approved	
9.5	FRDBI (PK) a grant request to update the FRDBI needs further discussion and will be discussed at a later date.	
10.0	Publications Committee (PvW - N/A)	
10.1	Special Edition of Mycologist News for IMC9. This will be sent around council to review and critique. LB asked for approval of a budget of £2000 to have 2000 copies printed for handing out to delegates at IMC9 in August. Council approved this cost.	
10.2	Cyberliber (DM) the cyberliber website allows open access to a digital library and is free to use. On the <i>Index Fungorum</i> site, clicking on the cyberliber link will take interested parties straight there. The Transactions of the BMS have also been placed there by DM, PK and others. This will be a tremendous resource to people across the world. DM emphasized again that there were no cost implications to the BMS. DM would like to have this made known at some point during IMC9 to take it to a wider audience.	
11.0	International initiatives - TW not present, report postponed until the next meeting.	
12.0	General Secretary Correspondence - A copy of the Biologist will be sent regularly to the BMS office for access by members. This will be announced in the Mycologist News as soon as possible.	
	The Meeting closed at 5:32pm	