

British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

University of Cambridge, 17th November 2012

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting:**

The minutes of the AGM held on 19th November 2011 were accepted as an accurate record.

3. **Matters arising from the minutes:** None

4. **Executive Committee reports:**

Written reports from the Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Publications Secretary and BERA SIG co-ordinator were included in the documents handed out at the AGM. The officers each summarised or highlighted particulars in their reports.

(i) John Monaghan thanked Sue Pope for organising the conference and others for making the joint conference possible and a success. John also thanked Jenni Ingram and Howard Tanner for their contribution to BSRLM executive committee over the previous five years.

John announced that Yvette Solomon will replace Elena Nardi as an RME editor.

(ii) Jenni Ingram noted that RME and day conference costs are both increasing. An increase in the membership fee of £9.60 would address this.

Jenni reported querying the £8500 fee with Taylor and Francis – it's an overcharge and should have been £6822 for this year. However, there are some matters that remain to be clarified.

Jenni also reported that the Burton fund, used to fund new researcher days at BSRLM, has only enough left for one more new researcher day. The fund is dwindling due to new and increased room hire charges.

Matthew Inglis noted the current reserve is large (approx. £30,000) and asked what the intended level of reserve is. Peter Gates replied, in his capacity as former treasurer, that it should be one year's membership.

(iii) Steven Watson reported a strong recent growth in membership.

(iv) Cathy Smith summarised Informal Proceedings and Current Reports submissions and acceptance rates.

(v) Howard Tanner summarised the role of BERA SIG coordinator, reporting the allowance has increased from £400 to £500 but that this might not be sustained given BERA is shrinking. Howard recommended the incoming coordinator continue to forge links with other BERA SIGs.

5. **RME editorial report:**

Tim Rowland reported increasing numbers of submissions of around one per week, with an acceptance rate of about 20%. The RME editors are delighted Yvette will be joining them, and Tim noted that the strength of applications to be an editor were impressive.

Tim reported that the first issue of RME had 10 Current Reports, but that this has dropped off recently. Tim urged BSRLM presenters to submit CRs.

6. Elections to Executive Committee:

There were two vacancies on the Society's Executive Committee from 2013: Treasurer, and BERA SIG coordinator.

The following members were nominated, seconded and elected unopposed to the following positions and periods of office:

Sue Forsythe	Treasurer	January 2013 – December 2015
--------------	-----------	------------------------------

Alison Clark-Wilson	BERA SIG Coordinator	January 2013 – December 2015
---------------------	----------------------	------------------------------

7. BCME discussion about refereed papers:

Sue Pope informed AGM about the upcoming April 2014 conference, and said that research needs to be clearly flagged as an important strand of the conference.

8. Vote on constitutional change:

John Monaghan proposed a fee increase for “full members” of either £5 or £10. AGM voted with a show of hands for £10 (15 votes) rather than £5 (9 votes), and no increase received 2 votes.

John Monaghan also proposed a working group to look at the financial sustainability of BSRLM. This triggered discussion amongst the AGM.

Tim Rowland expressed concern that RME was being portrayed as the problem in the proposal. He pointed out that BSRLM membership is cheaper than most professional bodies, and that it only costs BSRLM £27 per member to support RME.

The proposal was dropped and the Executive Committee will instead convene an additional meeting along with RME editors to consider BSRLM's financial future.

9. Any other business: None