BRITISH AND IRISH ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2021 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS, COMMENCING AT 14.17.

178 members attended

Panel:

Veronica Greenwood	Chair BIOS and BOS TU
Julie Dowdney	Vice-Chair BIOS and BOS TU
Samantha Aitkenhead	BOS TU Advisor
Andy Burman	BDA CEO
Louise Pritchard	BDA COO
Steve Doughty	Crossley Accountants

- **Welcome and Apologies for absence**

Veronica Greenwood welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced the panel. She noted that the AGM concerned the calendar year 2020.

Apologies for absence were received from Louise Outhwaite, Viju Cuchhadia, Ayishah Khan, and Anne Pinfield.

- **Minutes of the 2020 AGM**

Angela Carlin proposed that the Minutes be accepted as a correct record, and Jigs Mehta seconded. The Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising.

- **Chair's Report**

VG reported on an unprecedented year, highlighting that in spite of this, BIOS are able to report a good financial position alongside a number of other successes, including the Society's response to COVID-19, HEE-funded projects supporting clinical placements and the non-registered workforce, and a large number of successful online events. She highlighted some of the other highlights from the 2020 Trustees report, which is available online.

A member asked a question concerning the use of funding to support clinical placements and VG highlighted the creation of the clinical placements online portal.

A further question was asked about how long it was likely to be before orthoptists received independent prescribing responsibilities. VG that an NHS scoping project had been conducted and that approval was being sought at ministerial level.

Finally, a question was asked about the nature of the new Orthoptics course at UCL and Moorfields. VG confirmed that this would give students the same level of training in orthoptics, but was a fast track for those with an existing undergraduate science degree, over two years at Masters level.

- **Financial Statements**

Steve Doughty presented the Accounts, representing Crossley's, and reported that BIOS was in an extremely healthy position financially, with total assets at the end of 2020 of £273,851. The full accounts are available on the BIOS website.

There were no questions on the BIOS Accounts.

Nadia Northway proposed and Claudine Wallace seconded acceptance of the Accounts, and these were unanimously accepted.

- **Trustees**

Julie Dowdney presented the list of Trustees.

- Chair: Veronica Greenwood
- Vice-Chair: Julie Dowdney
- Midlands and East: Haseeb Ali
- Northern: Deborah Podmore
- Southern: Kelly MacKenzie
- Northern Ireland: Declan McClements
- Republic of Ireland: Jaina Byrne 2020/2021) Vacant (2021/22)
- Scotland: Angela Carlin
- Wales: Vacant (2020/21) Patrick Reedy (commencing August 2021)
- Chair of LOOP: Sonia MacDiarmid (2020/21) Krishnan Parmar (2021/22)

JD noted the vacancies and encouraged members to volunteer.

Veronica Greenwood thanked the Trustees, Council members, standing committee members, CAG leads and steering group members, as well as all other volunteers, and the BDA team. Accounts team and Vice-Chair for their contribution.

JD thanked the Chair for her work in 2020.

There was no other business, and the meeting ended at 14.38.