



## THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

Held on Wednesday 19 June 2019 at 13:30hrs  
at the Institution of Civil Engineers London, SW1P 3AA

Present:

Dr M Preene (Chairman)

Mr N H Armstrong (Hon. Secretary)

Ms Y Ainsworth (Hon. Treasurer)

over 50 Members

#### 1. NOTICE OF MEETING & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr Preene (BGA Chairman) confirmed [in accordance with Statute 6] that due notice of the date of the Meeting had been given more than three weeks previously. A quorum was established by a show of hands.

#### 2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION HELD ON TUESDAY 19 JUNE 2018.

The Chair asked if any corrections to the minutes were required. No comments were made. The motion to approve the minutes was proposed by Mr D Ayres, seconded by Mr R Hobbs, and passed without dissent.

#### 3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 2018 TO JUNE 2019.

Dr Preene gave a brief description of the role of the BGA and listed details of the current membership and the members of the BGA Executive Committee.

The Chairman wished to thank the retiring members, Patrick Cox, Ray Hobbs and Sergio Solera, for the support they had provided to the BGA.

The Chairman then reviewed the programme of meetings, which included several special lectures, the Fleming Award Competition and the 50<sup>th</sup> Cooling Prize Competition. Joint meetings had been held with the International Geosynthetics Society, the British Tunnelling Society and the Engineering Group of the Geological Society.

Dr Preene reported that Chalk 2018, the first in a series of biennial BGA conferences, was held at Imperial College London in September. Approximately 350 people attended, and 96 papers published.

The Chairman reminded the members that the Early Career Group (ECG) is a community for young professionals that focuses on graduates and recently professionally qualified members, principally in the first 10 to 15 years of their career. Two ECG members were co-opted onto the Executive Committee. Events held by ECG are included on the BGA events calendar on the BGA website.

The Executive Committee liaises regularly with the regional geotechnical groups of the ICE and speakers from BGA evening meetings routinely are asked to repeat their lectures to regional groups.

In addition to the prizes awarded during this AGM, Dr Preene advised that the 2018 Fleming Award was won by: The Claridge's Hotel Basement Project – project team: McGee Group Ltd, Arup, RKD Consultant Ltd.



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The team was presented with certificates and prize money, sponsored by Cementation Skanska.

Dr Preene announced that in November 2019, Lisa Coyne of Golder Associates will give the BGA Touring Lecture on Practical Implications of Subsurface Uncertainty: Lessons from 25 Years of “Dirt Engineering” at regional group meetings in Manchester, Glasgow and Leeds. He also advised that the second biennial BGA conference, Piling 2020, will be held in Durham.

Dr Preene reported that the BGA wants to increase the number of BGA Fund Awards to help students and professionals in their career development. In calendar year 2018 the following BGA Fund Awards were made: Matteo Ciantia – University of Dundee, and Andrew Bond – TC250/SC7 (Eurocode 7 Committee).

Finally, Dr Preene announced the intention to develop a Members Area of the BGA website and to set up a community for geotechnical technicians and technologists.

#### **4. PRESENTATION OF THE SOCIETY'S ACCOUNTS FOR 2018 AND BUDGET FOR 2020**

The Honorary Treasurer, Ms Ainsworth, presented the accounts for 2018, which had been circulated previously.

She noted that the total income for the year had been £267,589, while expenditure was £233,096, of which £61,871 had been paid for Ground Engineering subscriptions.

The net income was £34,493. Accounting for an investment deficit of £36,892, the net income was £2,399.

The Chairman requested a proposer and seconder for the approval of the accounts: Prof S Jefferis proposed, and Mr L Threadgold seconded. The proposal was approved on a show of hands without dissent.

Ms Ainsworth then spoke about the Budget for 2020, which had also been circulated to members.

The predicted income was approximately £262k and the predicted expenditure was £268.3k. Given the predicted budget deficit for 2019 of around £6k, Ms Ainsworth did not propose to increase subscriptions.

She then asked for questions, but there were none. The Chairman asked for a proposer and seconder for the budget. Prof D Toll proposed acceptance and Mr R Hobbs seconded. The proposal was approved on a show of hands without dissent.

#### **5. CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Hon Secretary reported that the successful candidates in the election were Ms Chalmers, Mr Yu Sheng and Mr Linde-Arias. A total of 418 online votes had been cast.

#### **6. PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION'S PRIZES AND AWARDS.**

Dr Preene made a presentation of the following Association awards and prizes:

Winner of the BGA 50<sup>th</sup> Cooling Prize Competition - Harry Postill

BGA Masters Dissertation Prize 2018, Winner - Isabel von Celsing

BGA Masters Dissertation Prize 2018, Highly Commended - Melissa Mia Tait



## **THE BRITISH GEOTECHNICAL ASSOCIATION**

The BGA Medal 2018 - Dr John de Bono and Professor Glenn McDowell.

In recognition of his outstanding long-term commitment to BGA activities throughout his many years of membership, Dr Preene granted Doug Ayres Honorary BGA Membership.

### **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr Preene introduced the incoming BGA Chair, Professor Kelvin Higgins.

### **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at the Institution of Civil Engineers.