

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 13:30 pm on Wednesday 15 November 2023 via Zoom

Present: Nick Koor, Dave Healy, Sian Davies Vollum, Mark Anderson, Amanda Owen, Rebecca Williams, Pete Rowley, Stewart Fishwick, Graham McLeod, Roberto Loza, George Jameson (GSL)

Apologies: Munira Raji

Actions

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes were approved.

4. ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

All actions listed from the previous meeting were carried out.

5. MEMBERSHIP

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- ***AGM Workshop planning***

Nick stated that he will email attendees with a link, briefing note and policy table via Eventbrite. There are currently 28 registered for tomorrow. Not all of those received the confirmation email so Nick plans on sending this manually. All documents are listed in the Google Drive folder.

Having a Padlet for tomorrow was suggested. This will allow us to capture all brainstorming thoughts throughout the day which may prove helpful.

The main challenge for tomorrow will be overseeing the 5 groups during the breakout sessions. The 3 confirmed speakers as well as Sian and Rebecca will be leading a group each. The groups have been given a specific theme. These include energy and net zero, water security, infrastructure and resilience, minerals and digital.

Dave volunteered to set up the breakout groups tomorrow. Members queried whether there's the possibility to specifically select where attendees go. Although, this doesn't seem to be a pressing issue for the aims of tomorrow. There will be a limit of 6 within a breakout group.

Others suggested that this would be a great opportunity to capture all the negative impacts to departments etc. in recent years. It was agreed that tomorrow may not be the best time to do this. Sian and Dave will draft an email on this topic and email to the membership before Christmas.

**SDV,
DH**

It was agreed that one of the main topics that needs to be raised tomorrow is how important geoscience is to the UK economy and hopefully refining that message.

Amanda and Graham volunteered to look after the Q&A section for tomorrow. At the end of the AGM it was agreed that there would be 30 mins allocated to summarising the info collected earlier. Sian will summarise.

- **EDI update**

Rebecca informed members that following the Decolonising workshop held at BGS a network was launched following it. She added that with Hidden Histories activity coming to an end she will have more time to focus on developing new online EDI workshops in the new year. She plans on placing the previous workshops on the website although she needs to review them beforehand.

- **Impact of Geoscience**

Stewart drew attention to point raised at the previous meeting which suggested developing a document using the recent REF round to showcase geosciences impact etc. Amanda stated that she would be happy to help Stewart after Christmas.

SF, AO

7. REPORT FROM JOINT HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE (JHEC)

Sian provided a brief overview of discussions from the Joint Higher Education Committee held earlier in the day. A BGS rep has joined the Committee and provided some enlightening information regarding their latest hiring round. Dates for the 2024 GeoWeek have been confirmed. The last ESTA conference had a rather low turnout which was disappointing.

8. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR (*Not covered previously*)

Nick confirmed that the level 6 Degree Apprenticeship has been fully approved. Now it is a matter of waiting on the first university to commit to developing one. He added that recently UGUK have had 2 items in Geoscientist, helping to spread the message to the wider community. A letter of support to the Isle of Arran Geopark initiative was sent to them. He informed members that there is a need to identify a new Vice Chair. He plans on advertising this tomorrow.

9. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (*Not covered previously*)

The Executive Secretary raised no additional items here.

10. REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Mark informed members that there is a need to have an agreed constitution. This will help with a number of the difficulties he's experiencing with the bank account as Barclays continue to press for this info. This will be put to the members at the AGM tomorrow.

MA

It was suggested that a process for appointments should be included in the constitution. Mark agreed to this suggestion. All roles should be defined and included in the constitution. Mark will try his best to do this before the meeting tomorrow.

MA

Mark informed members that there has been an upward trend as the balance now stands at £3467. An increase of £904 since March 2023. The main expense is the website fees. Around £1200 was collected from members but Mark pointed out that there remains £8000 in uncollected fees! This will be raised at tomorrow's meeting.

MA

Mark will send Dave a report for tomorrow.

11. REPORTS FROM OTHER MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE (*not previously covered*)

Pete informed members that he won funding to have a student intern over the summer for 7-87 weeks. He added that he restructured the website and created more resources. The website looks much more usable now.

He met with Society staff about how best to promote it. Although he hasn't heard back. George will follow this up.

GJ

Rebecca has acquired 3 stand up banners. One could be used for Teach Earth and could be sent around for advertising it as specific events.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members raised no additional items.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates were set, with meetings to start at 13:30:

- 13 March 2024
- 5 June 2024
- 13 November 2024

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - ACTION LIST

Item	Title	Action	For when	By whom
6	AGM Workshop planning	Draft email to membership for their opinions on recent impacts to departments etc.	<i>Christmas</i>	<i>SDV, DH</i>
6	Impact of Geoscience	Look into developing report based on recent REF	<i>March</i>	<i>SF, AO</i>
10	Report from Treasurer	Present draft Constitution for tomorrow's AGM	<i>November</i>	<i>MA</i>
10	Report form Treasurer	Send Dave more detailed financial report	<i>November</i>	<i>MA</i>
	Report from Other Members	Look into progress on promoting Teach Earth	<i>March</i>	<i>GJ</i>