

# BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PERINATAL MEDICINE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on  
Thursday 12 September 2013  
in Hall 1C, Arena and Convention Centre, Liverpool

**Present:**

**Executive Committee:**

Dr Bryan Gill (President, Leeds), Dr Alan Fenton (Honorary Secretary, Newcastle), Dr Amanda Ogilvy-Stuart (Honorary Treasurer, Cambridge), Ms Lisa Nandi (Executive Officer), Dr Steve Jones (Representative, South of England, Bath), Dr Grenville Fox (Deputy Representative, South of England, London), Dr Nim Subhedar (Representative, North of England, Liverpool), Dr Steve Wardle (Deputy Representative, North of England, Nottingham), Dr Gopi Menon (Representative, Scotland, Edinburgh), Dr Helen Mactier (Deputy Representative, Scotland, Glasgow), Dr Sybil Barr (Representative, Wales, Cardiff), Dr Carol Sullivan (Deputy Representative, Wales, Swansea), Ms Sue Turrill (Nursing & Midwifery, Leeds), Mrs Sandie Skinner (Deputy Representative, Nursing & Midwifery, Winchester), Prof Jenny Kurinczuk (Representative for Allied Professions, Oxford), Mr Andy Cole (Parent Representative, London).

**Members:**

Dr Roshan Adappa (Cardiff), Ms Alison Baum (Best Beginnings), Dr Alison Bedford-Russell (SWMNN), Dr Lydia Bowden (Manchester), Prof Malcolm Chiswick (Hon Member, Manchester), Dr Stanley Craig (Belfast), Dr Chris Dewhurst (Liverpool), Dr Ngozi Edi-Osagie (Manchester), Prof David Field (Hon Member, Leicester), Dr Rosaline Garr (Whiston Hospital), Dr Ruth Gottstein (Manchester), Mrs Teresa Griffin (SCNN), Dr Amit Gupta (Sheffield), Dr Jane Hawdon (London), Dr Sarah Hughes (Leicester), Dr John McIntyre (Derby), Dr Vaughan Lewis (Exeter), Dr Andrew Lyon (Hon Member, Edinburgh), Prof Neil Marlow (Hon Member, London), Dr Clifford Mayes (Belfast), Dr Bibian Ofoegbu (Oldham), Mrs Mary Passant (SWMNN), Dr Alex Philpott (Birmingham), Dr Arun Ramachandran (Swansea), Dr Timothy Watts (London), Dr Joanna Wright (London), Dr Bill Yoxall (Liverpool).

**Apologies for Absence:** Dr Gaurav Atreja (London), Dr Elaine Boyle (Leicester), Prof Forrester Cockburn (Hon Member, Glasgow), Mrs Christine Cooper (Hon Member, Essex), Prof Peter Dunn (Hon Member, Bristol), Dr Peter Fowle (Dundee), Dr Zuzanna Gawlowski (Luton), Dr Kate Graham-Evans (Southampton), Dr Kathryn Green (Hull), Dr Mike Hall (Southampton), Dr Samuel Ibhanesebhor (Wishaw), Dr Alison Leaf (Southampton), Dr Sheila Macphail (Newcastle), Dr David Millar (Belfast), Dr James Moorcraft (Swansea), Dr Santosh Pattnayak (Medway), Dr Christina Philipp (Northwick Park), Dr Chinthika Piyasena (Edinburgh), Dr Vishna Rasiah (Birmingham), Dr Merran Thomson (London), Dr Colin Walker (Hon Member, Dundee), Prof Andrew Wilkinson (Hon Member, Oxford),

**AGM 13/01 Welcome**

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that a number of apologies had been received which would appear in the minutes.

**AGM 13/02 Minutes** – the minutes of the AGM held on 13 September 2012 were agreed to be an accurate account of the proceedings with the following amendment:

It was noted that Professor David Field had been in attendance.

Minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held in Sept 2012, January 2013 and May 2013 were received and approved.

**AGM 13/03 Election of Officers and changes in Executive Committee**

The President noted the changes taking place on the Executive Committee, thanked all those who had served throughout the year and welcomed those who were newly elected. He was delighted to formally announce that Dr Alan Fenton had been appointed President Elect and would begin his tenure as President in September 2014.

#### **AGM 13/04 Motion 1 – New Members**

The President drew members' attention to the list of new members added during the year and also to those who had retired or resigned. The following resolution was passed by a unanimous vote: "***That the applicants nominated for membership and listed in Doc B attached to this Agenda should be elected into membership***".

#### **AGM13/05 Honorary Members**

The President was pleased to announce the Honorary Members for this year as: Professor Neil Marlow, Dr Ian Laing and Dr Mike Watkinson.

#### **AGM 13/06 Hon Secretary's report on activities in the past year**

The Hon Secretary was pleased to review the activities of the Association since the last AGM as follows:

##### **a) Working Groups**

**CRG** – the Hon Secretary emphasised the importance of the CRG and urged the membership to register as stakeholders in order to get involved in its work.

**Transport Interest Group** – it was noted that the Transport Interest Group was now affiliated with BAPM under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding.

**Trainees' Communication Group** – it was noted that the Trainees' Communication Group was currently finalising the guide to neonatology booklet which Bliss would be helping to design.

**Working Group on Optimal Size of NICUs** – it was noted that the Working Group had produced a draft framework for practice which would be circulated to the membership for consultation after the AGM.

**Working Group on Fetal and Neonatal MR Brain Imaging** - it was reported that the group were still in the process of working on the first draft of the document with a deadline of 30 September. This would then be edited by the chair, Topun Austin before being submitted to EC and thereafter to the membership for consultation.

**Working Group on Newborn Early Warning Trigger and Track** – it was reported that this group had had been established to undertake the development of a criteria-based Newborn Early Warning Trigger and Track to identify, monitor and appropriately manage infants at risk of clinical deterioration in the early post natal period. The group had met once and work was in progress.

b) **Perinatal Trainees' meeting** – the Hon Secretary reported that this would be held on 23 October at the RCPCH. Delegate numbers had been gradually decreasing due to several factors including difficulty in getting study leave approval. Members were urged to encourage their trainees to register.

c) **RCPCH Spring meeting** – the Hon Secretary reported that the Perinatal session aimed at the paediatrician with a neonatal interest had been popular and well attended at the RCPCH meeting in Glasgow. It was noted that the session in 2014 would follow a similar format.

d) **Clinical Excellence Awards** – the Hon Secretary reported that of 12 applicants, BAPM had supported with citations one platinum, two gold, three silver and two bronze applications. The outcome was still awaited. In 2012, BAPM had supported 8 of 11 applicants and 3 had been successful.

e) **Dunn Perinatal Library** - the Hon Secretary reported that the cataloguing of the books was underway and the costs of the cataloguing software had been shared with the RCPCH.

f) **NHS Evidence Accreditation** – the Hon Secretary reported it was hoped that BAPM would be submitting an application by the end of the year. This would need to be supported by two new frameworks for practice and retrospective accreditation (for existing documents) would not be possible.

g) **Sponsorship from preterm formula milk companies** – it was noted that this item had been on BAPM's agenda for some time. With job plans under scrutiny and increasing demands on members' time, there would need to be a strategy for funding BAPM's increased work programme (as discussed at the awayday). Any proposals agreed would be shared with the membership through a consultation process.

h) **Travel bursaries sponsored by Chiesi** – it was reported that Chiesi had approached BAPM regarding taking over the selection process for applicants for ESPR and PAS in order to separate themselves from any commercial considerations. BAPM's EC considered this to be an excellent opportunity, which would allow all BAPM members to apply for the opportunity to be awarded a travel bursary. 11 people had applied for ESPR and had agreed to provide a summary of the meeting to be shared with the wider BAPM membership.

i) **Feedback from BAPM awayday and proposed changes** – the Hon Secretary reported that, as announced at the 2012 AGM, BAPM's EC had held an awayday in February. This had been very successful and discussion had focused on what BAPM had done well, what it could do better and its priorities for the next 3-5 years to form part of an ongoing work programme. These had been agreed as quality in neonatal care, family engagement and promoting research and academic excellence.

Before ending his report, the Hon Secretary thanked the BAPM membership, members of EC, Bliss, the other BAPM Officers and the staff in the BAPM office for their support during the past three years.

#### **AGM 13/07 Financial Report**

The Hon Treasurer reported the following:

For the financial year ended 31 March 2013, BAPM's total income amounted to £174,421. BAPM's total funds amounted to £397,831 (£216,823 unrestricted funds and £181,008 restricted funds). The Association had therefore made net incoming resources of £24,830. It was noted that the complete accounts and accompanying notes were included as usual in the annual report.

#### **AGM 13/08 The President's Report**

The President began his report by emphasising the current challenges facing perinatal care and stating his intention to summarise the next phase for BAPM in order to meet these challenges as follows:

**NHS England structure** – it was noted that there was current confusion regarding how this organisation was structured and who was in charge. Members were urged to get more involved in the work of the CRG by registering online as an individual stakeholder.

**BAPM Standards** – it was noted that many units were not using the 2011 Standards and BAPM therefore needed to push for improvement in this area.

**Shape of Training Review** – it was noted that there had been a very short deadline to input to this and that there was ongoing concern that trainees were not being fully prepared for consultant roles.

**Neonatal Networks** – the President reported major concerns about Networks in England and noted that BAPM had written to NHS England to express these concerns. One of the problems had been that for many Networks, it was difficult to demonstrate what difference they had made to neonatal care. Going forward it would be necessary to work on defining what an ODN should look like.

**MBRRACE-UK** – the President offered his congratulations to Jenny Kurinczuk, David Field and the team at the NPEU for the excellent work in progress on the Confidential Enquiry programme.

**BAPM strategy** – the President emphasised that the NHS landscape had changed and questioned whether BAPM was adapting to that change. He suggested that there were various approaches to be taken depending on how ambitious BAPM wished to be. BAPM could become more involved in local/regional training although there were increasing pressures on time, scrutiny of job plans etc. He proposed the following as areas for development:

- Involvement/expansion of BAPM membership
- Increased use of social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)
- Increased links to other associations (e.g. NNA, Allied Health Professionals)
- Funding – it was noted that there was adequate funding to support current activity but expansion would require further funding (personnel, travel grants etc.)
- Development of an ethical sponsorship policy to include the work proposed, the funding needed and what it would be used for

Comments were invited from those present .

Jane Hawdon reported that local Networks had been disbanded in London and Sandy Calvert was now the pan London lead. It was noted that the Commissioners would form a parallel group and plans were in the early stage of development.

Alison Bedford Russell reported that there were 3 ODNs and 1 SCN in the South West Midlands with funding secured for a further 18 months. A capacity review was currently taking place to try to ensure that the structure would support maternity and newborn services.

Nim Subhedar questioned how ODNs linked with SCNs as there was currently a complete lack of clarity.

Clifford Mayes reported that he was the Clinical Lead for the Northern Ireland Neonatal Network which would meet for the first time in October. Priorities would be the optimal location of units and infection control.

Neil Marlow reported that there was a need for clarity regarding proper resourcing for ODNs. Access to good quality data was essential in order to support the case for this. He emphasised the need to provide leadership and capitalise on the success of the last 10 years although data to back this up was crucial. The challenge was to keep specialised commissioning for neonates on the agenda.

Alan Fenton suggested that data requests were numerous and asked specifically what requests the CRG would make. It was noted that the CRG has a data group tasked to look at how data is validated in Trusts.

There was general agreement that BAPM should get involved in areas where it has previously stood on the sidelines such as education and training, support structure for skills and quality improvement and these themes would be developed further in the afternoon session on BAPM's strategy and work programme.

**AGM 13/09 Any other business** - there was no other business.

**Date of the next meeting:** It was noted that the next AGM would be held in London in September 2014 (date to be announced).

Before closing the meeting, the President expressed his thanks to the following for their invaluable support during the year: the BAPM membership, those EC reps standing down (Gopi Menon, Sybil Barr and Sue Turrill), the members of EC, Bliss, the other BAPM Officers (Mandy Ogilvy-Stuart and Alan Fenton) and Lisa Nandi and Hayley Watts in the BAPM office.