



Registered Charity Number 1179467

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

Thursday 5 September

12:45 – Loughborough University and Online via Zoom

49 attendees in person; 10 attendees online

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence:
 - Janet Hooke
 - Fiona Caithness
2. Minutes of the last meeting (6 September 2023, University of Edinburgh and online via Teams) (**Paper 1**). Nominated by Heather Viles, seconded by Jamie MacManaway. Approved.
3. Results of the presidential election

Lou Callard thanked outgoing President, Heather Viles, for her five year's of service as president of the BSG. The election of the new BSG president was contested between Prof. Stephen Rice and Prof. Tony Parsons.

- 25% of the membership voted
- 14 votes were discarded
- Prof. Stephen Rice elected as new BSG President with 85% of the eligible votes

4. Appointments (no election necessary this year)

- Standing for Junior Vice Chair, 2024 – 2025
Ian Candy
Nominated Jo Bullard, seconded Heather Viles
- Standing for Honorary Treasurer
Richard Boothroyd
Nominated Catherine Sanders, seconded Josh Ahmed
- Standing for Vice Chair Research Committee
 - Emma Shuttleworth
 - Nominated Annie Ockelford, seconded Fflyff McLaren

- Standing for Vice Chair PGR Committee
 - Jayesh Mukherjee
 - Approved
- Standing for Secretary of the Professional Geomorphologists Committee
 - Oliver Grant
 - Nominated Jeremy Pile, seconded Janet Richardson
- Standing for Secretary of the Outreach Committee
 - Morgan Jones
 - Nominated Mikel Attal, seconded Stephen Tooth.

5. Lou Callard presented the AGM presentation (**Paper**) including the sub-committee updates. Items to note include:

- The BSG 5-year strategy has been ratified by EC after consultation with the members. This will appear on the website shortly.
- Paul Fish (Engineering geology) has agreed to sit on the Professional Geomorphology committee to strengthen ties with cognate disciplines.
- The PGR committee is drafting plans for a mentorship scheme that would start running this year. Please reach out to Jayesh (PGR vice chair) if you are interested in being involved.
- BSG membership fees are going to rise from January 2025 (**Paper**) for those who pay by direct debit this will be automatic. A banded fee structure will also be implemented to promote membership in middle and low income countries.
 - Brian Whalley raised point of including a “teacher” category to encourage uptake. Lou Callard agreed to put that forward to EC at the next meeting.
- The BSG will continue to support the Fi Wi Roads initiative for the next year. Big thank you to this year’s interns for their development of the webinar in August and help with organising the conference.
- Lucy Clarke encouraged applications for the next round of BSG grants and awards, deadline 30th September (grants) and 31st December (awards).
- The 2024 Windsor Workshop will be the Society’s 40th Anniversary of running the workshop. Members with fond memories, photos or stories of past workshops are encouraged to contact Lucy Clarke so she can put together an suitable memorial for the anniversary.

6. Update from ESPL editor (Stuart Lane)

- Journal has seen good and stable growth rates this year, similar to 2023.
- Journal has transitioned to AI (Stuart Lane presented more on this in his talk to the BSG earlier in the week)
- ESPL will be completely online from January 1st (continuous publications, no issues)
- 2025 will be 50 years of ESPL – this will be celebrated by the society, but also at the next annual meeting to be held in Leeds.

7. New BSG Chair

Annie Ockelford introduced herself to the members. She thanked Lou Callard and Heather Viles for their leadership of the BSG as Chair and President. Over the next year Annie envisions focussing on

- Improving community voice and representation in the BSG
- Setting out KPIs and targets against which progress on the new strategy can be developed

8. AOB

Discussion on how ESPLs move to online would impact special issues and other types of paper collections (Catherine Sanders)

- Will seek clarification from Stuart Lane but assume it will all be virtual and grouped as contributions come in (Lou Callard and Stephen Tooth)

Discussion on membership types and confusion about what a non-active member was (John Boardman)

- Josh Ahmed explained this was a hangover of the transition to a new system and he was working hard to get this sorted and cleaned up in the coming months.

Call to recognise the exceptional work that Stuart Lane has done as editor of ESPL over the past 20 years (Pete Downs & Stephen Tooth).

- It was widely agreed that we owe Stuart Lane a great deal of thanks for his effort, and his contribution to the Society and to ESPL will be suitably recognised at next years BSG meeting.