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The committee has continued to connect academic and applied geomorphology through seminars, the annual conference workshop and collaboration with other professional bodies. Our next priority is to broaden our reach, improve participation and make the committee more relevant and useful to the wider professional geomorphology community.

Committee update

The committee said farewell to Mattie Biddulph following five years as Chair. Her leadership helped raise the profile of professional and applied geomorphology within the BSG and across the wider sector. Matthew Hemsworth is now Chair, supported by Oliver Grant as Secretary.

Annual conference workshop

The 2025 annual conference workshop, 'Soil to sea thinking: the emerging strategic application of geomorphology', reflected on 50 years of applied geomorphology and considered future challenges. Professor Janet Hooke shared milestones including the use of coastal sediment budgets to support Shoreline Management Plans in England and Wales and the growing role of river restoration in applied fluvial geomorphology. Discussion highlighted the need for a stronger pipeline of trained geomorphologists as demand grows, including for climate-related hazard management and large-scale spatial and environmental planning. The workshop was well attended by academic and professional geomorphologists and provided useful direction for the committee's future work.

Seminar series

The online seminar series remains a central part of the committee's offer, providing a platform for speakers from academia, industry, charities and the public sector. The following seminars since the 2025 AGM have taken place:

Date	Seminar	Speaker
October 2025	Forever shifting shores: National Trust's work at the coast	Dr Helen Jay, National Trust
November 2025	Morphological evolution of Steart Marshes habitat restoration scheme	Dr Nigel Pontee, Jacobs
December 2025	Turning the view: landslides as geosystem services	Professor Martin Mergili, University of Graz



February 2026	20 years of research into the morphodynamics of the Slapton Sands barrier system	Professor Gerd Masselink, University of Plymouth
March 2026	Unconventional karst: exploring Britain's lesser-known soluble rock landscapes	Dr Andrew Farrant, British Geological Survey

Recordings and details are available through the BSG Seminars, Training and Networking Events webpage.

Outreach and partnerships

The committee is seeking closer coordination with the BSG Outreach Committee and stronger links with professional bodies such as CIWEM and the British Geological Survey. These links can help us reach new audiences and collaborate on seminars, workshops and other professional development opportunities.

Priorities for 2026–27

- Broaden our reach and make the committee more relevant and useful to the wider professional geomorphology community.
- Understand how we can engage more effectively and encourage wider participation in committee activities.
- Use the new BSG website and a more coordinated LinkedIn plan to make opportunities, recordings and committee activity easier to find.
- Maintain a strong seminar programme and develop a better pipeline of workshops, field events and site visits.
- Strengthen links between professional practice, academia, regulators, charities and other professional bodies.
- Continue exploring how the profession can support the supply and development of trained applied geomorphologists.

Get involved: We welcome ideas from across the geomorphology community for webinars, workshops, field visits and other ways the committee can support professional practice. Please contact Matthew Hemsworth (matthew.hemsworth@jbaconsulting.com) or Oliver Grant (oliver.grant@environment-agency.gov.uk).