

# THE BRITISH CARBON GROUP

## Apologies for Absence

Geoff Fowler, Julie MacPherson, Sergey Mikhailovsky, Izabela Jurewicz, Norman Parkyn, and the previous AGM, held on Ma

th, 2016 at the Grand Harbour Hotel, Southampton and previously published in the British Carbon Group's Newsletter and subsequently on its Website were accepted as a true record. [Proposed: Norman Parkyns, seconded: Peter Minshall, accepted nem con.]

## Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## Chairman's Report

Good afternoon and welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the British Carbon Group. The British Carbon Group exists to encourage, support and publicise carbon science in its many forms: from nuclear graphite to coal, activated carbons to diamond, nanomaterials to carbon electrochemistry. The Group is affiliated to three societies, The Royal Society of Chemistry, the Institute of Physics and the Society for Chemical Industry. Most of our members are drawn from these bodies, but we also have a few subscribing members who are not affiliated to any of these societies.

The Group organised a number of meetings in 2016/7 since our last AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> May, which immediately preceded the EDF Nuclear Graphite meeting held in Southampton 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May. The conference manager, Tony Wickham, and Organising Committee, Dr. Jim Reed of EDF Energy Ltd, and Prof. Peter Flewitt put together an excellent science and engineering programme, which included an afternoon visit to Beaulieu.

This was followed in late August by NanoteC16, our annual, international conference on Nanotechnology in Carbon and Related Materials. A new younger, crew took over the organisation and arranged an excellent meeting at Trinity College Dublin, with Professor Werner Blau and his research group as the local hosts. The meeting of about 70 was a credit to the organisers – Frank Dillon, Izabela Jurewicz, Mathieu Verstraete, Zeila Zannoli, and Werner gave a lovely introduction to the historic Schrödinger Lecture Theatre where it took place.

The seventeenth International Nuclear Graphite Specialists Meeting (INGMS-17), was organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency with BCG sponsorship and help from our Hon. Treasurer, Prof. Tony Wickham, who was one of the founding organisers of this series. The meeting comprised stimulating meeting of science and engineering of nuclear graphite, directed to understand this important component of existing and future nuclear reactor designs. The conference outing to the Schonbrunn palace, with recitals of classical and operatic music, including waltzes of course, and a conference dinner within the palace itself, was truly spectacular.

It is always a pleasure to give awards in recognition of excellence in carbon research. The British Carbon Group administers two such awards, the Brian Kelly Award and the Roger Taylor Memorial Award. At Carbon 2016 at Penn State University I was pleased to present the Brian Kelly Award to Dr. Yasuhiro Yamada of Chiba University, Japan for his paper on Review for analyses of defects in carbon materials using X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy and computation. The award was made with a flourish of pom-poms at the conference dinner in the hospitality suite of the hundred thousand seater Beaver stadium.

There were two strong candidates for the Roger Taylor Memor2 Tw [(B)1.9 (r)-5.9 (i)2.6 (ag90n 0 Td (-T T

meetings. We have taken the unusual step of seeking to appoint an Hon. Treasurer 'in waiting' this year, to give time for hand over of this important role, which has been held

Nassia Tzelepi was proposed by Norman Parkyns and seconded by Malcolm Heggie