



The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing

BENEVOLENT FUND

MINUTES OF THE BINDT BENEVOLENT FUND

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD BY ZOOM

WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Present:	Mr P Wallace (Chair)	Mr J P Hansen
	Dr H Harper (Honorary Secretary)	Mr P R Hillman
	Mr K P Quirk (Honorary Treasurer)	Mr J Kastner
	Mr J M Buckley	Prof K J Kirk
	Ms C E Bull	Mr R Lewis
	Mrs K Cambridge	Dr B A McGrath
	Mrs J Cook	Mr D Mapletoft
	Mr P Crowther	Mr S Mills
	Mr R J Day	Mr T E O'Hare
	Mr I Drummond	Mr S Poucher
	Mr A K Dunhill	Mr P Shah
	Mr G Elliott	Mr C I K Sinclair
	Dr J M Farley	Prof R A Smith
	Mr T Fletcher	Mr A B Wooldridge
	Mr M Freeman	Mrs C Bailey (Minute Secretary)
	Mr D J Gilbert	

Apologies: Eur Ing R F Heywood, Mr E W R Martin

1. Apologies for absence

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all to the first virtual AGM of the Benevolent Fund. Apologies for absence were received as above. Dr Harper explained what would happen during the meeting and ran through the meeting protocol. Dr Harper reminded participants that only paid up members of the Benevolent Fund would be eligible to vote.

The Chair declared that the meeting was quorate.

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous AGM, held on 4 September 2019

On a proposal by the Chair, the Minutes of the last AGM were unanimously approved as a true record.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM

There were no matters arising.

4. Presentation of the Annual Report (Chair)

Welcome to our first Virtual AGM

The 'Fund' has continued to help people in need and this year our expenditure has exceeded our income. This does not concern me too much, as we are there to help people in times of need, and we still have sufficient money in the Fund to continue doing this. Our treasurer, Karl will be providing more detail of the accounts in the following item.

Our membership continues to decline and I would ask you to try to persuade more people to join, especially as in this current year, COVID 19 has had a significant effect on our fund raising activities. I am surprised that there has not been more requests for assistance this year due to the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic.

I would like to thank all of the Board members for all of the help and support that they have given me, especially Harry and Karl, without whom, I would have struggled. Also the support that we have received from the Institute staff. We were sorry to lose Tanya Walker who had given us excellent support since Joan Paintin retired and our thanks go to Cindy who has taken over this role.

I would also like to thank all of the Corporate Members, who made contributions in memory of Gail, when the Raffle was cancelled.

I would also like to thank people who have contributed to the Fund in the past year, in particular the Branches who made donations from events that they had organised.

I fully support the Special Resolutions that are being presented under item 9 and would like to thank Harry for all of the work that he has put in to ensure that we comply with the requirements of the Charity Commission. I hope that you will happy to support these resolutions.

5. Presentation of the Annual Accounts (Hon. Treasurer)

Mr Quirk reported that 2019 was a year when we had increased expenditure in terms of the assistance grants compared to previous years, so our expenditure exceeded our income by £6,000. Subscriptions and donations were £565, tax recoverable was £13 and the raffle appeal donations from Corporate Members was £475. We had no raffle ticket sales but a collection in memory of Gail was organised which raised £639.

The interest received of £211 looks significantly less than the previous year, the reason for this was that the fund has money in two-year bonds which matured in the previous year. There were no gifts in kind in the year, resulting in total income of £1,903. Total expenditure in assistance grants was £7,577. We paid subscriptions on behalf of members amounting to £341 which gave a total expenditure of £7,918.

On 31st December 2019, cash at bank was £101,904 and liabilities were £4,643 which was payment due to the Institute (the Institute often makes payments on behalf of the Benevolent Fund and the Benevolent Fund reimburses BINDT). Net unrestricted funds at 31st December 2019 were £97,349. In terms of our bank accounts, we had £7,596 in our current account. We also had an instant access account with £3,693 in it and we had two bonds one of £20,000 and one of £60,000 and another bank account of £10,615. We have now closed the Cambridge and Counties Bank account and moved those funds into the Santander bank account. We currently have around £97,000 in the bank accounts.

Mr Sinclair commented that we should not be concerned if, in any given year, expenditure exceeded income, particularly when you look at the annual expenditure compared to the amount we have in the bank. The money is there to spend; if we can raise money to cover our expenditure every year that would be good but we should not be concerned at all about the figures for this year.

Mr Quirk pointed out that last year's expenditure was quite high but this year (2020) it is much lower in terms of requests for grants. However we do have to consider that the Benevolent Fund has had no income this year because the events where funds are normally raised have not been held. We will need to consider how to raise funds going forward. Dr Harper agreed with these comments. The Trustees are in a position where we are able to treat every request for assistance on its merits and not be hampered by lack of money.

All of the funds that we have are covered by the government's financial compensation scheme if banks or building societies come into any difficulty.

Dr Farley pointed out that the Benevolent Fund had received a donation from the Scottish Branch earlier in the year from the Burns Supper raffle. Dr Harper was aware of this donation and has written to the Scottish Branch thanking them, although it was noted that this would not appear in the accounts until next year. Mr Gilbert also advised that one of this year's award winners had donated their cash prize to the Benevolent Fund.

Mr Shah advised that the donation from the Scottish Branch of £640 is still in the BINDT account. Mr Shah was trying to sort out a bank transfer but had not yet been able to do this because of the lockdown. Mr Shah will pass the information onto the Treasurer with a copy to Dr Farley.

6. Adoption of the Annual Accounts

The Chair proposed that the accounts are accepted as presented. With no votes against and no abstentions the accounts were unanimously approved.

7. Election of Board Members

The following members were proposed for re-election and unanimously agreed:

Honorary Chair	Mr P Wallace
Honorary Secretary	Dr H Harper
Honorary Treasurer	Mr K P Quirk
Board Members:	Ms C E Bull
	Mr J P Hansen
	Mr P Crowther
	Mr G Elliott
	Mr S Poucher
	Prof R A Smith

8. To appoint Mr A M Clifford FCA of DNG Dove Naish as Independent Examiner of the Annual Accounts

Mr Clifford was unanimously appointed as Independent Examiner of the accounts.

9. Special Resolutions

The Honorary Secretary presented the following Special Resolutions and the reasoning behind them (the details of which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting).

- 9.1 *Special Resolution No. 1: To enable virtual meetings to be held*
Proposed by Harold Harper
Seconded by Peter Wallace

Special Resolution 9.1 was unanimously approved. Mr Lewis also suggested the possibility of a hybrid for future meetings which would make it easier for more people to attend.

- 9.2 *Special Resolution No. 2: To enable notices to be served to Members in electronic form*
Proposed by Harold Harper
Seconded by Peter Wallace

The Honorary Secretary advised that this resolution was to permit notices to be sent to members by email or through the website etc. Members who do not have an email address will continue to receive notices by post.

Ms Bull requested that all references to 'he' in the documents be amended to 'he/she'. This was agreed and Dr Harper will make the changes as required.

Special Resolution 9.2 was unanimously approved.

- 9.3 *Special Resolution No. 3: To correct the terminology used in Rule 24 "Alteration to the Rules"*
Proposed by Harold Harper
Seconded by Peter Wallace

The Honorary Secretary explained that this resolution was to ensure consistency to the terminology used elsewhere in the Rules. He has written to the Charity Commission and they have given an interim reaction without objecting to anything, but we have not yet received anything in writing. We will need to wait for a letter from the Charity Commission before this comes into effect.

With one vote against and no abstentions, the motion to correct the terminology was carried by a majority in excess of the required two-thirds of the members present and voting.

10. Any other business

There was none.

11. Date of next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM will be held during the Institute's Annual Conference in September 2021. The current plan is that it will be held in Telford but this is still to be confirmed.

Mr Sinclair commented on how well the AGM had run as a virtual meeting.

Meeting closed.