

## Minutes of BCS Bedford Branch AGM 2003

Held at BHR Group, Cranfield

On 27 May 2003

**Present:**

Name	Tel	E-mail
Shane Barnes (Chairman)	07790 491360	<a href="mailto:shane@bcs.org.uk">shane@bcs.org.uk</a>
Paul Stewart (Treasurer)	01480 454557	<a href="mailto:Paul-stewart@usa.net">Paul-stewart@usa.net</a>
Bob Bethell (Secretary)	01525 843520	<a href="mailto:rtb@bcs.org.uk">rtb@bcs.org.uk</a>
Jenni Ferrans (Committee)	01908 695854	<a href="mailto:jferrans@mkcw.powernet.co.uk">jferrans@mkcw.powernet.co.uk</a>
Gary Dooley	01438 767003	<a href="mailto:Gary.Dooley@royalmail.com">Gary.Dooley@royalmail.com</a>
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**Apologies:**

Richard Madison; Jerry Crick

**Minutes of 2002 AGM:**

Paul Stewart proposed, Jenni Ferrans seconded, that the previous minutes be accepted as a true record. This was carried *nem con*.

**Chairman's Report:**

The Chairman presented his report on the year to date, highlighting:

- Time pressures on the committee and the availability of volunteers to help with arrangements for branch events. Any potential volunteers were given the assurance that they would not be press-ganged.
- Moving meetings around the branch area to bring in additional branch members to the events. Suggestions for alternative venues would be welcome.
- Jerry Crick, the branch Webmaster, has developed the branch website into a useful information source for members. He would welcome suggestions for future developments of the site.
- The branch had a very successful and popular visit to the Jaguar F1 plant in Milton Keynes.
- Additional members and non-members were attracted to the Internet Security meeting in Northampton.
- The YPG member on the committee, Michael Adefisan, ran an interesting debate in Luton on the skills gap. This may become a regular feature.

- The imminent closure of De Montfort University in Milton Keynes will cause the loss of valued committee member, Pat Jeffries, and their generous provision of a venue for branch events. Any assistance with providing future venues would be appreciated.
- The welcome news that the East Anglian Branch has been revived, centred on Cambridge.
- As a member of the Council of BCS, the chair was able to report that the changes to society governance could be viewed on the BCS website, but they required Privy Council approval. Changes to membership criteria would enable increased membership of the BCS.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer presented the 2002/2003 accounts.

- The payment for the Northampton meeting would appear in the next year's accounts.
- The BCS were adopting central branch finances that should not affect the branch.
- By next year, we should have a better idea of how well it works. We join a pilot scheme next month.
- The new scheme would appear to be better for cash centres than for cash generating accounts.
- Some branches do more event promotion than Bedford.

**Jenni Ferrans and David Briggs asked why we do not appear in BCS mailings nor *Computing* pages – the Chair would ask our Webmaster to follow-up this issue.**

- The branch has more funds for events (speakers and venue expenses) than are usually used.
- About 60% of the branch members are on e-mail, so we have reduced snail-mail. Members are requested to keep BCS HQ up to date with their e-mail addresses.

**Election of Officers and Committee:**

The existing officers and committee were re-elected unopposed.

**End of Meeting.**