

The Geological Society

PUBLICATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting conducted by e-mail between 28th June and 2nd July 2010

PRESENT: Contributions were received from Jonathan Turner (Chair), Andy Fleet, Sarah Gibbs, Bob Pankhurst, Rob Strachan, David Vaughan and Mike Winter.

APOLOGIES: Not appropriate.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies as above were noted.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3RD MARCH 2010

These were agreed and will be signed at the next meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

4. PUBLISHING HOUSE REPORT

Paper PMC-04-10 was noted. The Chairman noted a strong year-to-date performance for which PH staff is to be commended. The recently announced impact factors for GSL journals were welcomed with great pleasure, including JGSL (its highest ever IF \approx 3.3), QJEGH, PG, GEEA. The Committee noted that appointment of new staff member will allow more resources to be directed toward, in particular, publish-ahead-of-print.

Rob Strachan wondered whether the profile of GSL publications in general, and especially its SPs, might be raised by (i) block emails and (ii) appointing a champion in academic departments who could act as our advocate and a contact for dissemination of publicity material? Neal Marriott said that the Publishing House would continue and expand its e-marketing activities, which already include posting to relevant listserv groups. It is understood that the Society intends to revamp its departmental-agents scheme.

5. BEC REMIT AND PROCEDURES

PMC-05-10 was circulated and approved.

Mike Winter commented that the revised Remit and procedures made the job sound rather thankless; Jonathan Turner and Bob Pankhurst responded that in their experience it is a job whose value is appreciated by those who undertake it, that it is seen as an honour and that the BEC has not had a resignation other than due to pressure from new commitments.

6. NEW COLOUR CHARGING POLICY AND SPONSORSHIP

Paper PMC-06-10 was circulated and the sponsorship recommendation was approved. Bob Pankhurst hoped that the increase in prices would be small enough not to adversely affect sales significantly.

The Chairman pointed out that the free colour figures policy was introduced in order to arrest the recent decline in Special Publications proposals that, if it continued unchecked, would have serious consequences for the viability of the Lyell Collection and the Publishing House, and for that reason it does not apply to journals or other book series.

7. GEOSCIENTIST ANNOUNCEMENT ON SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

Paper PMC-07-10 was noted.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

18th November 2010 at Burlington House at 2 pm (lunch will be provided before the meeting). The following meeting will be on 2nd March 2011 in the morning in Burlington House, followed by the Annual Publications Reception in the evening.