

DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION LIMITED

held at the Blossoms Hotel, Chester on

2nd April, 1972

1. Mr Keith Freeman, Vice Chairman of the Association and Chairman of the Committee opened the meeting at 10.35 a.m. He said it was with the deepest regret that he had to announce the death of the Chairman, Mr E.J. Carnell. The funeral had taken place on 30th March 1972, and a wreath had been sent on behalf of the Association. He said that he was sure that the members were as deeply grieved as he was to hear of the death.

2. The Chairman stated that the balance sheet and annexed accounts had been circulated to members, together with the Auditors Report and he would like the members to approve these reports.

Proposed: Gerald Bishop that the reports be accepted.

Seconded: E.C. Tubb

Carried: Nem Con

3. The Chairman stated that the report of the Council had been circulated, together with the accounts of various departments and that there was a report from the Librarian herewith.

Proposed: Chris Bussey that these be accepted.

Seconded: E.C. Tubb

Carried: Nem Con

4. To elect members of the Council. The Chairman said this must be done individually and he would first deal with those members of the Council who were retiring by rotation and were prepared to re-stand, so:-

(a) Mrs G.T. Adams

Proposed: R. Peyton

Seconded: G. Bishop

Carried: Nem Con

(b) Dan Morgan

Proposed: Mrs D.E. Parker

Seconded: Andrew Stephenson

Carried: Nem Con

(c) E.C. Tubb

Proposed: Kon Bulmer

Seconded: Mrs D.E. Parker

Carried: Nem Con

The Chairman stated that according to the Agenda there were two more vacancies on the Council, but owing to the death of the

Chairman there were actually three vacancies. He therefore proposed John Brunner. This proposal was seconded by Gill Adams and carried Nem Con. The Chairman added that it was also proposed that John Brunner should become Chairman of the Association and if members agreed this could be done at this time. Carried Nem Con.

Chris Bussey

Proposed: R. Peyton
Seconded: David Rowe
Carried: Nem Con

Grahame Poole

Proposed: T. Jeeves
Seconded: K. Bulmer
Carried: Nem Con

The Chairman stated that Mr Poole had agreed that if elected to the Council he would be prepared to be Company Secretary. This was approved by the meeting.

5. The Chairman asked for the post of the Auditor for the Association to be confirmed for another year.

Mr J.R. Pullan, O.B.E.

Proposed: Gill Adams
Seconded: Howard Rosenblum
Carried: Nem Con

The Chairman stated that Mr Pullan did not wish an honorarium in respect of his work for the Association, but in past years the Association had made a donation to the RAF Benevolent Association on his behalf and he had been pleased.

Proposed: Gerald Bishop; that the Association make a donation of £3.15 to the RAF Benevolent Association on behalf of Mr Pullan.

Seconded: Chris Bussey
Carried: Nem Con

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) It was confirmed that John Brunner would be Chairman of the British Science Fiction Association Limited.

(2) It was proposed by Ken Eadie that the B.S.F.A. should create an award to be known as the Ted Carnell Award. This was seconded by Roger Peyton. It was opposed by E.C. Tubb and John Brunner on the basis that there are so many memorial awards being started that the whole idea is becoming cheapened. Mr David Kyle then proposed that the Council should appoint a sub-committee to look into the whole question and report back to the Association in due course. This proposal was carried Nem Con.

(3) Mr Ken Bulmer asked why the Weird Fantasy Association appeared to be a breakaway from the B.S.F.A. The Chairman stated that the preliminary action occurred before he was Chairman and handed the

question over to Mrs Parker who was on the committee at the time. Mrs Parker stated that she and Mr Michael Rosenblum (then the Chairman) at that time offered facilities to the people concerned for them to stay part of the BSFA together with the use of the regular mailing facilities. This was refused and they had now formed their own association. Mr Bulmer expressed his regrets that there were splinter groups appearing from within the Association.

(4) . Vector

The Chairman reported that a fresh editorial group had been set up by Malcolm Edwards with the member of the Council responsible being Mr Vic Hallett and production being arranged by David Rowe et al. It was proposed that there would be a Vector every two months consisting of a maximum of forty pages which would combine the present Bulletin. It was stated that Archie Mercer would be asked to become the News Editor and the material he at present collected/collated for the Bulletin would be forwarded to Malcolm Edwards for inclusion in Vector. It was proposed that three editions should be produced to see the reaction. Mr Gerald Bishop brought up the point of the "Blue Sheets" and was informed that it would be an editorial decision whether the information was incorporated in Vector or retained as a flyer. Mrs Parker brought up the question of the Science Fiction Writers Bulletin, but was informed that as this did not come out with a set time limit this would go as a flyer. With regard to the review copies it was put to the meeting that in future all reviewers should keep their copies and not send them to the library as in the past. It was explained that this would bring the BSFA into line with the majority of other associations where this problem occurred.

Proposed: Ken Bulmer
Seconded: Vic Hallett
Carried: Nem Con

(5) Fanzine Foundation

The Chairman announced that for sometime the Fanzine Foundation had been missing, but had now been found and there would be news published in Vector about this. It was further stated to the meeting that Roger Peyton was still Publicity Officer and when we were in a position where all the departments were in order he would then start another publicity campaign.

(6) Resignations

The Chairman drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that both Mrs Parker and Mr Rogers were resigning. Mr Rogers had been on various committees since the Association was first formed in 1957; Mrs Parker has been continually on committee since 1964, had been instrumental in forming the Company and had been Company Secretary ever since. A vote of thanks was proposed by Gill Adams, Seconded by David Rowe and carried Nem Con.

(7) Miss Elaine Wash regretted that she could no longer continue with the running of the library and a vote of thanks was given to her for her past work, proposed by Ken Bulmer, seconded by Keith Freeman. The Chairman stated that arising from this the Committee had brought up the question whether the Library should be loaned to the Science Fiction Foundation on permanent loan. Mr Roy Mortimore stated that

it would appear from this that the facilities of the Library were going to be removed from the BSFA and he was unhappy about this. Mrs Parker brought up the question of the fact that when the Company was formed they took over the assets of the old Association and it was stated in the Memorandum and Articles of Association that no assets were to be realised or sold without 90% of the membership agreeing. The Chairman apologised that he had, inadvertently, used the wrong word and he had intended to say "indefinite" rather than "permanent". The Chairman also pointed out that it was not the intention to withdraw any facilities if possible, but as no discussion had been had with the Science Fiction Foundation nothing firm could be said. It was therefore proposed by Roy Mortimore that a circular should go to all members as follows:

- (a) Either we get another Librarian, to run the library, or alternatively to discuss with the Science Fiction Foundation for the library to be loaned to them for an indefinite period on condition that the facilities for loaning were available to those members that required it.

Arising from this the Chairman said that there were only 22 regular users of the library, but when Mrs Parker pressed the point the Librarian informed the meeting that in fact a total of 46 people had used the library and 650 books had been lent out. In view of this Mrs Parker stated that the library was a valuable service to those members in the Association who required it, and if it was removed on the present membership figures it would appear that we would lose one sixth of the members. It was arranged that this point would be brought up.

- (8) A vote of thanks was proposed to the Committee by Ken Bulmer, Seconded by Roger Peyton, for all their work during the past year and the meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.

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B.S.F.A. Library

As I had had no discussion with the Science Fiction Foundation administrator prior to the BSFA AGM I could not state the alternatives open to us. At the AGM Ken Eadie volunteered to take over the post of librarian and although I've not, since, checked with him I'll assume, for the sake of this ballot that he is still willing.

The choice is, therefore, that Ken Eadie become librarian - this will mean the library will be run virtually the same as it has up to now. The BSFA will also have to pay transportation costs (quoted as £60 when last occurring). Further when Ken Eadie resigns (as he almost certainly will have to at some date in the future) we will have the same problem again.

If the library is loaned, for an indefinite period, to the SFF we will have the same facilities for borrowing books as now; the library will be available for academic purposes to non-members (gaining the BSFA publicity) and the SFF will bear the cost of transportation.

Please let me have your VOTE by 28 days from this circulars post-mark. (A) to retain the library (B) to loan it to the SFF.
Address to send votes: K.Freeman, 128 Fairford Rd, Tilehurst, Reading.