



There had been one nomination for the post of Honorary Secretary, Mr Callum Sutherland.

Mr Sutherland's election was proposed by Dr Sheila Wills and seconded Professor Andrew Jackson and Mr Sutherland was duly elected unopposed.

As there had been no nominations for the post of Honorary Treasurer, Ordinary member Mr Peter Ellis had offered to stand at acting Honorary Treasurer until the position was put out for nomination in 2016.

This was proposed by Dr Claire Gwinnett and seconded by Mr Brian Rankin.

TN congratulated all those nominated and all those appointed and there was a round of applause.

6 Council Structure

The Council structure remained unchanged except in regards to the current motions for consideration to follow. The profiles of all Council members were available to view on the website along with the Council structure.

7 Motions for Consideration

7.1 Amendments to the Bye Laws for The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences

There were no further comments on this motion.

The motion was proposed by Dr Claire Gwinnett and seconded by Dr Ann Priston and carried.

7.2 Election of Professor David Croisdale-Appleby to Honorary Fellow

The motion was proposed by Mr Keith Fryer and second Dr Barbara Daniel and carried.

7.3 Amendments to the Code of Conduct

There were no further comments on this motion.

The motion was proposed by Mr Callum Sutherland and seconded by Dr Claire Gwinnett and carried.

8 Any Other Business

Mr Gary Howard proposed a change to the constitution to increase the membership to include those under the age of 18 who were BTEC level 3 students, who would generally be over 16. This would fall in line with the endorsement of BTEC level course currently being developed by CSFS.

TN asked for comments from the floor.



Professor David Hawksworth felt CSFS was increasingly for students and teachers and not taking the role as lead for forensic science in the UK. CSFS should be a serious voice along with the Regulator and Home Office and this motion was a move in the wrong direction and Professor Hawksworth was strongly opposed.

Mr Callum Sutherland as previous Vice President and Chair of MEC noted that this issue had been raised and discussed previously and it had been concluded that under 18 was too young and that this was hard to control and regulate. As a rule Council spend time talking to A level or other younger students and in this way CSFS help to support and develop future forensic scientists.

Mr Brian Rankin (BR) noted that within the accreditation scheme CSFS accredited university forensic science courses and offered recognition for courses with lesser content of forensic science. With the increasing number of BTEC courses in forensic science CSFS must take a role in looking at the quality of the science in these courses. This led to the question of those studying on the. BR took the point about the direction of CSFS but noted that CSFS held a seat on the Regulator's Advisory Council, help sets on the Regulator's Specialist Groups, the Home Office Policy Group and that CSFS was currently Chair of the UK Special Interest Group. BR added that this was an impressive presence and that in addition CSFS further looked after the interests of practitioners with diplomas and the development of the Certificates of Professional Competence. BR took exception to the comments of David Hawksworth for these reasons.

AH added that as CEO her role was the development of the Society and as such she and the Society had been engaging more effectively with the providers, such as Mark Pearce at LGC, with the development of procedures to support sole trader and SMEs. In addition CSFS had been working as an integral part in taking forward accreditation for SMEs and sole traders. CSFS had a responsibility to represent all those within forensic science both academic and practitioner at whatever age.

TN reminded all to bring the comments back to the motion in hand. TN added that CSFS could engage more and that the Society was working on that and would take note of all points raised today.

Dr Ann Priston asked to clarify that the motion was intended for those over 16 on BTEC courses.

Mrs Kathy Manlove noted as a practitioner that forensic science organisations do not accept A level students for work experience due to the possible trauma involved in the work and the security issues. At this age they are not in the system enough to appreciate the system.

Mr Keith Fryer added that at the College of Policing they were often asked to allow teenagers/schools to attend talks and this had an effect of what could be covered at such talks.

TN noted that CSFS would be conscious of this and would look closely at how to manage this.



A vote was called.

The proposal was to accept 16 to 18 year olds, involved in forensic science BTEC courses, as members. The proposal was rejected by vote.
TN thanked Mr Howard for his motion.

As a further AOB

Professor Patricia Wiltshire noted her objection to Mr Rankin's exception to Professor Haksworth's comments. She added she was upset to see two practitioner teachers going forward liaising with the Judiciary to promote forensic science when this should be the role of CSFS. They were now producing guidelines.

TN cautioned that nothing was being produced at present and that there would be working groups involved. TN had been contacted regarding the incident Professor Wiltshire was referring to.

On a final note TN encouraged those with comments or issues to speak to the Society.

TN thanked all for attending the AGM.

The meeting closed at 12.57pm.

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