



**Association of Industrial Laser Users  
Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting**

Online meeting on Zoom

23 April 2020, 12:00

**Present**

President: Jonathan Blackburn, TWI

Vice President: Adam Clare, University of Nottingham

Executive Director and Host: Dave MacLellan, Anode Marketing

Others: Stephen Ainsworth (SJ Ainsworth Associates); Ceri Brenner (STFC); Richard Carter (Heriot-Watt University); Tom Chaffer (TRUMPF); Stefan Dimov (University of Birmingham); Roy Harris (Coherent); Paul Hilton (past-President, retired); Derrick Jepson (Aerotech); Gerry Jones (TRUMPF); Neil Main (Micrometric); Daniel Thombs (Bystronic); Matthew Wasley (KTN); Richard Wiktorowicz (Air Products)

**Opening remarks**

Jon Blackburn welcomed members to the AGM and encouraged them to stay safe when working from home.

**Apologies received**

Apologies were received from Jonathan Lawrence (Coventry University), Shireen Khanum (GF Machining), Anke Lohmann (Anchored In), Paola De Bono (TWI), Hollie Denney (II-VI), Tony Jones (Cyan Tec Systems), Mark Millar (Essex Lasers)

**Approval of the minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes of the 25th AGM (10 May 2019, University of Manchester) were approved (proposed: Jon Blackburn; seconded: Adam Clare).

**Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**Presentation of the Annual Report**

AILU President Jon Blackburn thanked all for attending the meeting and highlighted the goals he had outlined when becoming President in 2019. These included the desire to build on the proposals initiated by Lin Li to make AILU more international in nature and to collaborate more with other associations around the world. In addition, he discussed the planned annual ILAS event (unfortunately the first one rescheduled to 2021 owing to Coronavirus), to relaunch the website in 2020, make the planning process for AILU more formal and seek participation in more UK/EU government funded projects.

Jon Blackburn summarised the events held in 2019, including the very successful ILAS 2019 at Crewe Hall. During the year a number of market-oriented events including "Lasers for Makers", "Lasers in the Nuclear Industry" and "Advanced Laser Fabrication in the Transportation Sector" helped to reach out to markets where AILU and the know-how represented by members is less known.

**Adoption of the Annual Report**

Those present unanimously approved the Annual Report (proposed: Adam Clare; seconded: Richard Carter).

**Presentation of accounts for 2017/18**

Dave MacLellan presented income and expenditure charts for the FY 18/19. It was a fairly typical ILAS year, being financially successful due to the large ILAS attendance. Total income was £187K. ILAS income was close to £86K which

is the largest contributor towards total income. Total expenditure for the year was £181K resulting in another surplus. The overall funds being healthy at year end will help AILU to withstand a year with a more modest income owing to events being postponed (ILAS) or moved to online alternatives.

#### **Adoption of accounts**

Those present unanimously approved the accounts (proposed: Adam Clare; seconded: Derrick Jepson).

#### **Election of Officers of the Standing Committee**

There were no new nominations, so the existing officers were duly re-elected as follows:

AILU President:	Jon Blackburn
Vice President:	Adam Clare
Executive Director:	Dave MacLellan

#### **Election of Ordinary Members of the Standing Committee**

Dave MacLellan extended his thanks to outgoing members of the committee who had completed their 3-year term: Anke Lohmann (Anchored In), Shireen Khanum (GF Machining) and Mike Poulter (SPI Lasers).

Three nominations had been received for election as ordinary members to the committee for 3 years: Tom Chaffer (Trumpf), Ceri Brenner (STFC) and Paola De Bono (TWI).

The following were nominated to be co-opted onto the committee for a 1-year period: Tony Jones (Cyan Tec Systems), Jonathan Lawrence (Coventry University), Mark Millar (Essex Laser), Mike Poulter (SPI Lasers) and Shireen Khanum (GF Machining).

All nominations were unanimously accepted en bloc with a show of hands.

#### **Any other business**

Jon Blackburn thanked the following for support and hard work during his first year as President: the AILU team – (Dave, Liz, Cath and Marie), Vice President Adam Clare and all AILU Steering Committee members, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to the association. Ceri Brenner and Tom Chaffer introduced themselves to the committee as new members of the committee. Dan Thombs asked if some lobbying activities could be undertaken to help the laser industry in the UK as they come out of the Coronavirus lockdown. Jon Blackburn proposed that this could be handled in conjunction with the Photonics Leadership Group which has good access to the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Photonics.

The meeting closed at 12:50.

Dave MacLellan, Executive Director  
24 April 2020

#### **List of documents available prior to the 26th AGM:**

Notice of 26th Annual General Meeting  
Agenda of 26th Annual General Meeting  
Minutes of 25th AGM 2019  
Abbreviated accounts 2018/2019