

Fibreoptic Industry Association

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3rd December 2009 at 11:30 a.m.

The Saracens Head Hotel, 219 Watling Street, Towcester NN12 7BX

Attendees:	Paul Bateson	Optical Test and Calibration Ltd.
	Mike Gilmore	The Cabling Partnership
	John Colton	Lucid Optical Services Ltd.
	John Marson	Twistnet Communications Ltd.
	Phil Whitehead	ACCL Ltd.
	Ken Jones	EDS (North Wales) Ltd.
	Simon Comben	TCM Communications (UK) Ltd.
	Chris Atkin	Total Communications Ltd.
	David Robinson	Arden Photonics
	Lawrence Llewellyn	OFS Fitel

Present voting members identified: - 10

	Jane Morrison	FIA Secretariat
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Apologies:	Lee Funnell	The Siemon Company Ltd.
	Nigel Rowe	Line Management Group
	Ian Ashworth	Networx3 Ltd.
	Jason Moran	Computer Links
	Alan Bullen	Lynx Networks

Mr. Bateson opened the meeting, welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

1. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4th December 2008.

The minutes of the previous Annual General meeting held on 4th December 2008, had previously been circulated to members on 26th January 2009. It was proposed by Mr. Comben seconded by Mr. Atkin and unanimously agreed that the minutes be approved.

2. To receive the Chairman's Report, Treasurer's Report and the Accounts of the Company for the year-end 31st August 2009, together with the report from the Auditors.

Chairman's Report: This report together with the Technical Director's report was circulated – see attached.

Mr. Bateson did not read out the entire report but touched on a few important items. He said that, despite the financial climate the FIA had increased membership to 202 (plus two members pending), this was a significant achievement.

The FIA is organising a Seminar, Exhibition and Dinner in June 2010. Preliminary details are being discussed now and members are asked to contact the Secretariat if they have any suggested topics etc. Details of the event should be sent out to members at the end of January.

Promotional work continues with a presence at the Telecoms show and the new van stickers.

Mr. Bateson expressed his thanks to Mr. Gilmore who had provided excellent support in his role of Technical Director and Treasurer.

He explained that the year-end accounts show a loss that is mainly due to a reduction in standards sponsorship for the year. He added that Council has proposed a rise in membership fees, which is the first increase for five years.

Mr. Bateson explained that Mr. Jones had taken over the role of Installation Director and had worked hard through the year to re-vamp the scheme and work continues to re-launch it into next year.

Mr. Comben was elected at the AGM in 2008 and has worked to enable FIA members to promote themselves via the MOD Procurement Executive.

Messrs Funnell and Colton continue to work and promote the FIA Qualification scheme. They both also work closely with City & Guilds mapping fibre optic courses.

Mr. Whitehead continues to work to promote the FIA and take us into other areas of cross-fertilisation.

Mr. Bateson added that sadly Mr. Cook had recently resigned from Council. There has not been any new nomination received.

Finally, Mr. Bateson thanked all those on Council and the Secretariat who had supported him in the year. The Technical Director's report shows in detail the excellent work by Mr. Gilmore.

Treasurer's report & y/end accounts to 31/08/09: The Treasurer's report and the year-end accounts were circulated – see attached.

Mr. Gilmore confirmed that the loss this year was mainly due to the reduction of external sponsors covering the standards work plus the adverse changes in Euro and Dollar exchange rates.

The £5K from the Photonics Knowledge Transfer will not be available for the coming year and to continue the work and provide free-of-charge services to the members via the web site there is a need to increase the fees from January 2010.

The FIA plans a seminar and exhibition in June and intends to participate at other exhibitions throughout the year, as this is a great opportunity to have direct contact and enlist new members.

He added that Council is also discussing an optional extra service for members who wish to directly access detailed information relating to standardisation activity. More details of this will be available in coming months.

Mr. Gilmore expects to see a profitable return for next year.

There were no questions appertaining to the Chairman's report, Technical Director's report Treasurer's report or the year-end accounts.

Mr. Jones proposed and Mr. Whitehead seconded that the above reports and accounts were received and approved, this was carried unanimously.

3. To consider the re-appointment of Critchleys, Greyfriars Court, Paradise Square, Oxford OX1 1BE as Auditors of the company until the conclusion of the next general meeting of the company at which accounts are laid before the members and to authorise the Council to determine their remuneration.

Council was happy with the work of the auditors and suggested they be re-appointed. The appointment of Critchleys as above was therefore proposed by Mr. Marson seconded by Mr. Llewellyn and unanimously agreed.

4. To consider elections to Council from the Nominations received.

As per the letter sent with the AGM notice this year we are looking to fill 3 places on Council. This is because two Council members are standing down due to the rotation rules (both eligible and willing for re-election), Messrs. Marson and Whitehead. Plus we have a vacant place due to the resignation in October of Mr. Martyn Cook.

Nomination forms have been received for:

John Marson of Twistnet Communications Ltd. nominated by Mike Gilmore of TCP Ltd.
Phil Whitehead of ACCL Ltd. nominated by Paul Bateson of OTC Ltd.

Mr. Bateson said that Council were pleased to receive these nominations and suggested they be accepted en-bloc. This was proposed by Mr. Colton seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously agreed.

To confirm the FIA council (9 members allowed) are now: Messrs. Bateson, Gilmore, Funnell, Colton, Marson, Whitehead, Comben, Jones + one vacant place.

5. Special Resolution: To consider the proposal from Council to increase the membership fees (from 1st January 2010) as follows:

Corporate A	£290	(was £250)
Corporate B	£625	(was £500)
Corporate C	£900	(was £750)
Associate	£175	(was £125)
Personal	£100	(was £75)
Overseas Associate	£175	(was £125)
Overseas Corporate	£350	(was £300)

It was proposed by Mr. Marson, seconded by Mr. Colton and unanimously agreed that the membership fees be increased as above.

6. Any Other Business

There being no further business to transact Mr. Bateson closed the meeting and again thanked those in attendance.

FIAAGMmins031209
4th December 2009
emailed to MG: 04/12/09
approved MG 06/12/09
emailed PB: 07/12/09
approved PB 08/12/09
FIA Council: 09/12/09