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EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH

## **IHBC East Midlands Branch Minutes of Annual General Meeting**



Held at The Hallmark Inn, Derby  
Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014

**1. Attendees:**

The following Members signed the attendance list:

Simon Revill, Jane Roylance, Chloe Oswald, Neil Robertson, Robert Walker, Rose Thompson, Adam Lathbury, Rebecca Waddington, Roy Lewis, Rosamund Worrall, Sue Clarke, Elizabeth Campbell, Tom Street, Chris Collison, Elizabeth Bryan, Fiona Newton, Eva Long, Chris McKinney, Sara Crofts, Liz Mayle and Stephen Bradwell

Guest: Charles Strang, IHBC Council

**2. Apologies:**

There were 12 apologies from:

James Crane, Philip Grover, Beryl Lott, Alan Harvey, Rachel Booth, John Sharpe, Dr Christopher Brooke, Liz Blood, Christopher Macintosh-Smith, Jason Mordan, Kim Wyatt and David Trubshaw

**3. Minutes from the 2013 AGM**

The Minutes from the previous AGM held in Lincoln were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Rob Walker

Seconded: Roy Lewis

**4. Officers' Report**

In addition to the reports printed in the AGM papers Roy Lewis noted that the attendance for the IHBC training event in Derby looked to be very good.

Rose Thompson reported that she had claimed back £30 from IHBC Summer School.

Stephen Bradwell also reported that there was no County Rep report for Nottinghamshire.

No further comments were made to the published reports.

**5. Treasurers Report**

Rose Thompson presented the Branch accounts for the previous year, referring to the fact that the Annual School Bursary been paid from the Buxton account, but no travel expenses had been paid. Rose also noted that the draw down from the IHBC Buxton account had been increased to cover additional Branch expenses.

However Rose was able to report that if the Branch wanted to support a further bursary award, there was still a sufficient surplus to cover the cost of a full place at the forthcoming 2015 Annual School without drawing any further money from the Buxton account.

Fiona Newton advised the meeting that the fees for the Norwich Annual School would probably be about the same as the Edinburgh Annual School.

Rob Walker queried whether it will be possible to fund another school after Norwich, assuming, as Liz Mayle had pointed out, this was agreed by the Branch.

Simon Revill, who had received this year's bursary award, reported that the Edinburgh School had been most beneficial, particularly the conservation workshops and preservation of sculptural work, while the lectures during the day school were thought-provoking as well as discussions with other delegates after the formal lectures. Overall his Annual School visit had improved his conservation skills and knowledge and it was particularly useful to see how others dealt with conservation issues.

**In view of the Branch's finances, Roy Lewis proposed that the Branch should continue to support the bursary for the Norwich Annual School. Rob Walker seconded the motion.**

**The AGM then voted in favour of funding a further Annual School bursary.**

Rob also suggested that with some care the Branch could possibly fund a bursary for a further two years. Roy queried whether there was a time limit for using the Buxton fund, Rose replied to say that she was not aware of a timetable for spending the money in that account.

Rose suggested that she would use the Branch funds within the current account rather than drawdown from the Buxton account, but would still draw money from the IHBC central account for Branch expenses.

Rose then tabled the draft Business Plan for discussion, there were no adverse comments from the meeting.

Simon thought that in trying to promote an active Branch, the previous Branch events had been very good, but there was a need to get more members involved.

Liz said that the Branch had introduced the "cheep'n'cheerful" visits as a means of providing low cost CPD opportunities for Branch members and that the Branch had also tried to arrange visits tagged onto the County Conservation Officer Group meetings, but so far these had been difficult to arrange.

Liz also asked Rose whether there were any funds to hold additional meetings as these could be expensive and needed considerable organisation, the Branch having relied on Jane Roylance to organise the events in the past.

Eva Long suggested that the Branch should try to target architects to see whether there were any suitable projects that the Branch could visit. Fiona said she could generate a list of IHBC architect members if someone was prepared to take this initiative on, and it could even be a useful for the architect to promote his/her work.

**Eva Long noted that she would be prepared to contact architects on behalf of the Branch.**

Rob noted that the Lincolnshire Officers Group had visited Somerton Castle at the request of a local architect, but there had been restrictions on numbers. Chris McKinney thought that it is was useful to encourage these initiatives, but on past experience it has been difficult to attract a high turn out of members.

Eva noted that for those working outside of the conservation world it can be difficult for people to take time off work or even be allowed to attend. Fiona mentioned that in the past the Branch had even tried to organise an event on a Saturday but only 4 people attended, so different approaches have been tried in the past, but clearly the Branch could always try again.

Liz said she was always happy to consider suggestions/additions to the Business Plan if the Branch wanted to try new things.

Roy did however mention the practicality of organising events and he thought that two events a year was about right for the manpower in the Branch. Roy also noted that the Branch had tried subtle variants such as adding buffets, holding events at different times of the week. He thought that the Richard III event in Leicester had worked really well with the buffet first, then the Branch meeting followed by the main event.

Fiona also pointed that the dates for the Branch Committee meetings were well advertised and all members were welcome to attend and contribute. Chris McKinney thought that there were perhaps opportunities to promote Branch meetings and events through the web-site and to consider other ways to let members know what was happening. Fiona suggested that once the dates were set they were posted on the IHBC calendar and could be Tweeted to members. Chris also thought it was useful to encourage Branch members to use the web-site to keep up to date with events and to encourage greater co-operation between members.

Eva added that the Branch had to consider ways in attracting people to attend the events and particularly what people could gain from the attending a meeting.

Fiona commented that all IHBC members needed to maintain their CPD and voluntary work can be used as part of a CPD record and that attending meetings and discussing conservation/Branch issues can contribute towards the professional competencies, and from experience the East Midlands Branch was very good at involvement and getting things done.

Liz also noted that whilst the County reps were always welcome to bring forward suggestions, private sector members now make up a large proportion of the Branch and Committee membership.

Turning to the Branch Committee meetings, Rose noted that the Business Plan proposed to use the Fox and Crown in Newark as there were no other more suitable venues.

**It was proposed by Roy Lewis and seconded by Rob Walker that the venue for the Branch meetings should remain at the Fox and Crown, this was supported by a vote of the AGM.**

## **6. Election of Officers**

There being no further business the AGM considered the following nominations for Branch Officers:

Chair - Elizabeth Mayle  
Vice Chair - Robert Walker  
Secretary - Stephen Bradwell  
Branch Representative - Roy Lewis  
Treasurer - Rose Thompson  
Membership Secretary - Neil Robertson  
Education Representative - Philip Grover  
Communications Officer - Chris McKinney

Proposed: Tom Street  
Seconded: Chris Collison

## **7. Branch Committee and County Reps**

The following nominations were received for General Committee Members:

Fiona Newton  
Jane Roylance  
Sara Crofts  
Rosamund Worrall  
Simon Revill  
Eva Long

Proposed: Liz Mayle  
Seconded: Rob Walker

The following nominations were received for County Representatives:

Derbyshire – Becky Waddington  
Leicestershire - Liz Blood  
Lincolnshire – Rob Walker  
Northamptonshire - Rachel Booth  
Nottinghamshire - Jason Mordan

Proposed: Chris McKinney  
Seconded: Liz Mayle

## **8. Any Other Business**

As there was no further business, Liz Mayle closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending the AGM.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm.