

**East Anglia Branch**

**Annual General Meeting 2021**

### Minutes of the meeting held on

### Wednesday 3rd November 2021 at 13.00 pm

**via**

**TEAMS**

**Present:** Prue Smith, Kate Knights, Neil Hewitt,David Edleston, Christopher Partrick, Emma Sharp, Eilise McGuane, Bob Kindred, Boyd Nicholas, Chris Davey, Lucy Grey, Nabeela Ameen, Lorraine King, Alan Coday.

The meeting was chaired by Emma Sharp.

**1) Apologies**: Stephen Boniface, Phil Godwin, Joanna Burton, Paul Robertshaw, John Burton, Jonathan Hurst, Oliver Chinn, Paul Scott, Geoffrey Hunter, Fiona Russek, Roger France

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**: Approved by the meeting with no amendments.

**3) Matters arising**: None.

**4) Business Plan and financial report:** The Annual Accounts and Business Plan were circulated prior to the meeting. The balance at the bank on 30 September 2020 was £1,854.69, which is slightly higher than last year. However, the Treasurer reported that this was due to an amount incorrectly posted to the Branch bank account. This has now been corrected, but not reflected in the statement before the 30th September. The Business Plan for 2021-22 is unchanged from last year, apart from an update of the figures. The Committee will be reviewing the Business Plan in the coming year. There were no questions or comments from attendees, so with Bob Kindred proposing and Prue Smith seconding, the Financial Report, Business Plan and Annual Return were accepted by the meeting.

**5) Branch Representative:** The meeting noted that Emma Sharp has one more year to serve as Branch Representative.

**6) Branch Activities Report**: ES outlined the Branch activities during the year: The Branch Committee met 4 times, all virtually. It is hoped to be able to resume in person meetings next year. The Branch was represented at meetings of HEF, Branch Connection Days, IHBC Council and the Annual School.

**Membership**: (last year in brackets): 230 (226) members comprising of 131 (92) full members, 96 (92) affiliates and 3 (2) associates. Overall membership remains relatively stable, although there are a number of members that have not paid their subscriptions due to out-of-date contact details.

**Finances**: The Branch is in a good financial position with a positive bank balance and it has not been necessary this year to draw-down from central IHBC funds.

**CPD and Events:**

* Branch AGM 2020 was held virtually in November. The event was well attended and feedback was positive.
* Joint lunchtime webinar with RTPI in July, free to members – “HAZ in historic market towns and covid response to town centres”. Hosted by RTPI, IHBC East Branch Chair Emma Sharp, chaired with Charlotte Burton from RTPI East of England. Greater focus on HAZs with linked discussion regarding planning towards the end. Interesting to note that in the poll 62% of attendees hadn’t heard of HAZs.
* Built Environment Network – Restoring and Regenerating Historic Buildings Conference – Emma Sharp, IHBC East Branch Chair on panel for Session 1: The Potential of Historic Buildings Through Regeneration**.**
* The Branch were represented at the Cambridge, Essex and Norfolk Conservation Officers Forum (COF). We welcome membership from other counties within the region and IHBC are happy to attend COFs to provide a branch update to members.

IHBC Retrofit training with John Edwards planned for 2021, has been postponed to 2022, due to the ongoing Covid-19 concerns and difficulties booking venues.

**Newsletter**: Two newsletters were produced and circulated with themes of Historic Landscapes (Spring/Summer) and Vernacular Architecture (Autumn/Winter).

Any suggestions and submissions of articles for future newsletters would be much appreciated.

**Education**: The Branch offers free or subsided places for students attending events and members are asked to increase awareness of the IHBC to students. Stephen Boniface, Education Secretary, is looking into a partnership with RCIS.

**7) Committee Members:** Given the current situation caused by the Corona virus pandemic, the meeting was asked to agree that the current committee serve for a further year. This was proposed by Bob Kindred, seconded by David Edlestone and agreed unanimously by the members present.

**8) Any Other Business:** Bob Kindred: asked for feedback on:

1. the Local List Pilot Scheme, which started with 10 and is now up to 22. This appears to be slow going with only 8 posts filled although it may be that some of the work is being carried out in house.
2. LB prosecutions for the database. It seems that enforcement is down generally and IHBC not notified about prosecution successes rates. It may be that the LPAs are not aware of the database and that they and/or the magistrates may not be aware of the penalties. ES will forward cases to BK.
3. Emergency injunctions and the costs recovered by the LPA.

Chris Partrick asked if anyone had come across an appeal on a Certificate of Lawfulness that was approved, which has been accepted by PINS. All agreed that this was a strange situation.

**9) Branch Officers:** The Branch Secretary reminded the meeting that Branch Officers would be elected at the next Branch Meeting on 1 December 2021.