



**Minutes of Branch Committee Meeting:
at The Fox & Crown, Appletongate, Newark
Tuesday 30th October 2012**

Attendance: Liz Blood, Jane Roylance, Liz Mayle, Kerry Walmsley, Chris McKinney, Fiona Newton, Neil Robertson, Rose Thompson, Roy Lewis, Sara Crofts, Robert Walker & Stephen Bradwell

Apologies: Mark Strawbridge, Rachel Booth, Jason Mordan

1. **Minutes:** Agreed as a true record.
2. **Chairs Report:** Jane reported that she had made a presentation to the Leicestershire County Officers Group and that Jenny Timothy (Leicester City) had also mentioned that there was also an architects group that may be worth talking to to promote the IHBC. Fiona thought that there might also be opportunities for the two groups to share activities.

Jane noted that she was happy to present to other County groups.

[ACTION: Jane to e-mail County Reps offering to give an IHBC presentation to their group].

Jane also noted that some members appeared to be missing from the Membership database where they had upgraded their membership.

It was noted that the draft business plan had now been submitted to the IHBC but as yet no dates have been agreed for future meetings.

Jane mentioned that as the Branch Connection Day would be held before the next Branch meeting if anyone had any comments to contact her directly before that meeting.

Looking forward to the events of the forthcoming year it suggested that as the last Branch 'away day' had been held in Leicestershire it would be useful to have the next meeting in another County, with a preference for the south of the County. Although Rob wondered whether there were any opportunities in Derbyshire, referring to works at St Helens House in Derby although Neil thought these were due to finish in January.

Jane also suggested the restoration works at Lincoln Castle would be a useful visit but Fiona thought that Lincoln might make a good venue for the AGM.

Stephen confirmed that at the AGM Chris Collison had agreed to be the IHBC Branch Rep on the Derby City CAAC and his details had been sent to the Committee clerk.

It was considered useful if the details of the Branch Annual School Bursary Award could be advertised as soon as possible.

[ACTION: Stephen to e-mail trailer with the basic information to Branch members and referring people to the web site for more info]

Fiona thought that if we could agree the Bursary by February meeting, then the nominated person could make their own arrangements to book the travel and day trips.

Rob also asked if the presentation from Lisa Walton could be submitted to the Branch website. He also asked Chris, when writing up information for the Branch web page, to remind members that the money for the Bursary was the result of the hard work of the Branch members who helped to organise the Buxton Annual School.

Roy suggested that amended Business Plan should also be circulated to all Branch members.

3. **Treasurers Report:** Rose reported that there was £122.09 in the current account and £189.91 in the deposit account.

After some discussion the meeting dates for the forthcoming year were agreed:

4th December - Newark
5th February - Newark
Mid-End April – date/venue to be confirmed
16th July - Newark

4. **Branch Representative Reports:** Roy referred to his submitted report from the last IHBC peripatetic meeting at Godalming (attached to Minutes). Roy considered that comments in the President's and Chair's report showed that the IHBC was maturing and is recognised as an important professional organisation by Government ministers.

Governance Review - a small working party had been set up to progress the review and report back to membership.

It was reported that proposed changes to LBC had not been well supported and that the IHBC had taken the lead in opposing these changes.

The IHBC and English Heritage review of Conservation Officer staffing was also considered to be very important, drawing attention to changes in staffing levels, and this tied neatly into the review of Ombudsman reports published by the IHBC.

It was also noted that Green Deal initiatives are now being introduced and these may cause problems for historic buildings, although Liz Mayle thought that these had perhaps been tempered by comments of IHBC.

Chris thought whilst there was no point in trying to oppose the Green Deal initiative, the IHBC could seek to respond to them using good examples to highlight any issues.

Roy thought that the Green Deal issues could be a good CPD topic.

Jane also noted that BREAM was now looking to review their figures for historic buildings. It seemed to be accepted that in the past old buildings were being measured against new building technology but now they were looking at the building and how it functions, and that best efforts to reduce energy use should be made without compromising the building.

Chris Wood at the Winchester Annual School had noted that old buildings perform as well as modern buildings but that too often the assessments favour modern materials and modern buildings rather than historic buildings.

David Chetwyn was also promoting a new initiative to 'upskill' graduates to help them get heritage related jobs, and hopefully this would attract some HLF funding.

5. **Membership Report:** Mark's report was read out and in respect of his comments on mentoring Fiona noted that mentoring of potential applicants was not necessarily supported by IHBC as this had caused problems in the past with applicants expecting their membership to be approved regardless of their professional qualities.

6. **County Reps Reports**

Derbyshire: no recent meetings. Although Neil did mention that he had attended the IHBC Conference at London on 'interiors' and that this very useful on solid wall construction and relative energy performances.

Leicestershire: Stephen confirmed that there was no County Rep. for Leicestershire. Liz Blood offered to act as the interim County Rep. Jane asked that Ramona be thanked for standing as the County Rep over the past year.

Lincolnshire: At the last meeting in Sleaford a local company had talked to the group about the imprinting of lead sheet in order to give it a unique identify as an initiative to prevent lead thefts and that this was being trialled at a number of suitable pilot sites.

Nottinghamshire: Written report submitted.

Northamptonshire: Written report submitted.

7. **Communications:** Chris asked whether anyone had given any more thought to the role of the communications officer following the AGM, particularly should it

be a housekeeping type of role or do we want to involve the Branch in more publicity.

It was suggested that it could be used to promote live issues with input from new Branch Members about what issues can or should be debated.

Jane enquired whether links could be provided to other CPD events to provide access to a wider audience, rather than just the Branch members.

Kerry suggested that it could be useful to have a report on how a people found the membership application process. Fiona did note that there was now more explanatory information on competences than in the previous form but that a case study could be of interest provided it was not necessarily a guide as to how to fill in the application forms.

Liz Blood thought that it would be useful to show the different areas of professional work that are acceptable for IHBC membership.

Jane offered to speak to Catherine Dove regarding her presentation for inclusion on the Branch webpage and also noted that she was happy to give her IHBC presentation to other County Groups.

Liz Blood suggested that the BGS presentation from AGM would be a useful addition to the website. Jane agreed to chase this.

Chris also asked whether anyone would like to submit a report of the AGM for the web site and Liz Mayle offered to write a short piece and any photos from the day should be sent to Chris.

[ACTION: Liz Mayle to write a short piece about the AGM for the Branch web site]

8. **AOB:** None

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

Next Meeting: 4th December - Newark



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EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH

IHBC Council – 27 Sept 2012

Branch Rep's Edited Highlights

The meeting was held at The Pepperpot, High Street, Godalming

Operational reports

President's Report

Trefor Thorpe is collaborating with Cadw on the development of the emerging Historic Environment Bill for Wales.

Chair's Report

Jo Evans and Sean O'Reilly, together with other organisations including RTPI, POS, and RIBA, have met with John Penrose, Minister for Heritage and Tourism regarding the LBC measures proposed in the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill. The Minister seemed receptive to the concerns raised. Sadly he subsequently resigned in the reshuffle.

Treasurer's Report

The IHBC's finances continue to be healthy. No issues were raised.

National Office Report

Key points discussed were the successful Annual School in Winchester and the Branch Connection Day.

Decisions

Election of officers

Officers

Chair – Jo Evans

Vice-Chair – Sheila Stones

Treasurer – Richard Morrice (& Company Secretary)

IHBC Secretary – Eddie Booth

Policy Secretary – Mike Brown

Membership Secretary – Paul Butler

Education Secretary – David McDonald

Communications & Outreach Secretary – Charles Strang

Branch Reps

Scotland – Stuart Eydmann

Northern Ireland – vacant (Colin Hatrick, acting)

Wales – Nathan Blanchard

North – Geoff Underwood

North West – Crispin Edwards

Yorkshire – David Blackburn

West Midlands – Charles Shapcott

East Midlands – Roy Lewis

East Anglia – Philip Godwin

London – John Webb

South West – James Webb

South – Julia Foster

South East – Sean Rix

President: Trefor Thorpe

Chair of Finance and Resources Committee: Dr Richard Morrice
Chair of Membership and Ethics Committee: Paul Butler
Chair of Education, Training & Standards Committee: David McDonald
Chair of Policy Committee: Mike Brown
Chair of Communications and Outreach Committee: Charles Strang

Disciplinary Committee: nominations for membership (including Rob Walker) were agreed

Governance Review

A dedicated small group has been formed under the President, to progress the governance review and report recommendations to Council

Business Plans

London Branch Business Plan was approved.

Membership

38 new members were approved (3 full, 35 affiliate). 16 resignations.

New Members in the East Midlands

Full membership: none

Affiliate membership: Elizabeth Blood, Hannah Syddall

Associate membership: none

Resignations: Marilyn Hallard, S Meeney, Joanne Jones, Anthony Gimpel,

East Midlands Branch now has 163 members (111 full, 49 affiliates, 3 associates)

Matters Discussed

Sector changes

The response to the proposed LBC changes was greater than for Heritage Protection Reform. The results of the IHBC monitoring of LA conservation staff levels is alarming. The Green Deal has been subject to delays but is going to happen and problems are expected.

Heritage Skills Bid

Dave Chetwyn is leading an initiative to set up a project that upskills graduates in heritage related fields. It is proposed that IHBC becomes the lead partner in a Consortium that will run the project. Graduates would be placed with a participating organisation. HLF is likely to fund the scheme. A detailed bid is to be made later this year.

Annual Schools

The Winchester School was considered to be a great success. North Branch's arrangements are proceeding well for the 2013 school, to be held in Carlisle. The theme will be *skills*.

Education

David McDonald is considering a joint SPAB event with Building Control Officers and is looking for speakers and case studies.

Next Meeting

Thursday 6 December 2012, at the Theatres Trust, London

Roy Lewis

Branch Representative on Council.