



IHBC EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH MEETING

WEDNESDAY 2nd July 2025 - 7pm
At: TEAMS

AGENDA

Apologies and Introductions

Apologies: Felix Mayle, Liz Mayle, Alice Ullathorne, Carol Heidschuster, Jo Horton, Oliver Jessop

Present - Matt Bentley, Jennifer Ballinger, Chris Perkins, Sheena Campbell, Colin Simmons, Samantha Walker, Jason Mordan, Rosamund Worrall

Introductions – Colin Simmons – new member, practicing conservation architect (Simmons Architects) based in East Midlands.

Minutes of the Last Meeting & Matters Arising

No comments

Updates:

Chair's Report

- **AGM – call for papers, proposals for officer roles**

Most items to be picked up in main agenda. Reiterated the need to consider roles at the next AGM as many roles are being vacated.

MB will be standing down as Chair

RW will be standing down as Vice Chair

AU will be standing down as Treasurer

FM will be standing down as Communications Co-ordinator to seek a change of role

The Secretary role has been vacant for some time now

CP will stay on as Events Co-ordinator

There are other vacancies too which will need to be promoted in the next Branch Bulletin.

MB – Last committee meeting, so I wanted to extend my thanks for the support over the last three years.

Treasurer's Report

- **Accounts**
- **Business Plan & Finances**
- **Annual School bursary** – no applicants

Treasurer's Report July 2025

The bank balance at 5th February 2025 of the East Midlands Branch was £3593.93 (current account: £3397.28 & reserve account: £196.88). With the money in the central account for the annual schools surplus (£2080.04) there is a total of £5673.97.

The current (2nd July 2025) bank balance of the East Midlands Branch was £4419.80 (current account: £4221.96 & reserve account: £197.84). With the money in the central account for the annual schools surplus (£2080.04) there is a total of £6499.84.

Obviously, we've had another extremely successful event in Newark so we have plenty of budget to meet the rest of the business plan for the year and do additional events.

Alice Ullathorne, Treasurer 02/07/2025

ACTION: New treasurer required. Signatories need to be investigated.

Events

REVIEW - IHBC CPD Events – Fire Protection – April

All felt the event was well attended and well delivered. Compliments regarding the venue and speaker. Thanks to Chris for organising and Felix for supporting.

Felt to be slightly out of the way for Northamptonshire. Many conservation officers in the region are taking advantage of Leics uni courses.

AGM – Speaker and venue

AGM Location and joint CPD event

Provisional arrangements are for Monday 6 October 2025 at the Newark Tudor Hall. This is the same venue as the April fire focussed event but with different

subject matter and AGM there will be a different focus for the day and a different experience of Newark.

Dave Chetwyn is able to speak about 'Place' in the morning as part of the Central Team's learning offer this year so speaker payment would be covered. In addition, Newark and Sherwood Council can help support the event through input from Oliver Down, Conservation Officer and a walking tour around Newark town centre will take place in the afternoon.

ACTION: - CP will check IT facilities at the Tudor Hall to establish whether a hybrid AGM offer will be possible. The AGM will take place over lunch.

ACTION: - JB will look at the potential for a Northampton/shire visit for March/April time.

Potential training opportunity – Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology

MB advised he had been contacted by SLHA in relation to a potential project on building recording. There was a general discussion on what was being sought, which is not entirely clear at this time. It was agreed one option could be a symposium on the subject. Branch is aware that West Midlands Building Preservation Trust and Derbyshire Historic Building Trust are running digital Buildings at Risk projects at present.

SW indicated they could liaise with DHBT in relation to data and a potential speaker for an event. JM offered to help organise an event.

It was not clear whether SLHA had spoken to Leicestershire County Council about any potential project and/or an event on the subject.

Overall it was agreed that it sounded positive and that CP would add to the events spreadsheet. No further actions were agreed in relation to SW and JM offers of support at this time, but this will be reviewed in due course should an event become a feasible option.

ACTION: CP to add a symposium type event on 'Building Recording' to the events calendar.

ACTION: RW to discuss with Historic England Midlands region colleagues who cover Lincolnshire.

Barnsdale site visits

ACTION: CP to investigate dates

- **Communications**
 - **Bulletin -**
 - **Twitter/Linked In –**
 - **Website –**
 - **Event/Flyers –**

Not much to report on from Comms.

Ready to start circulating AGM stuff once we are confirmed for Newark.

Draft bulletin to go out just need following quick write-up of the fire safety event. Full draft to you early next week prior to sending out. There's been no other contact externally other than a chap seeking a degree level apprenticeship, retraining at University College of Estate Management in Building Surveying with an interest in heritage. I sent him some information about the conservation accredited lists for RICS and ICE and invited him to join IHBC if he hadn't already and keep an eye out for CPD events for networking, he didn't reply.

Felix Mayle

ACTION: Branch LinkedIn to be set up

National Updates

SC provided updates on the following:

- 4 July Charles Mynors event in Newcastle;
- the Birkenhead social on 10 July;
- There is still opportunity for advice from the Branch consultants if we would like to consider;
- Chartership work is ongoing; and,
- MATES online sessions are planned for 5 August 2025 1600-1800hrs and 2 September 2025 1700-1900hrs.

Membership Report

- **County Rep's Reports**

Leicestershire – Vacant

Lincolnshire – Vacant – MB Covering. General discussion around the Local Government Reorganisation and potential impact on CO roles.

Nottinghamshire – JM reported a similar situation for future Unitary Authorities in Nottinghamshire and raised concern about the potential loss of Conservation Officer/Heritage Officer roles as part of any restructure.

Derbyshire – Vacant.

Northamptonshire – Jenny left the meeting early. Report to follow.

Any Other Business

JM - Bassetlaw is running its craft heritage skills training with Pinnacle and National Trust Clumber Park again this year. The East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework is also being looked at and an application to Historic England has been made to write the modern chapter and update for 20th Century elements.

MB suggested the Framework could be promoted through the Branch. It was noted that built heritage is not represented on the Steering Group. SW would be interested in joining the group to address that gap.

MB advised that LM had made a request for standards in built conservation advice to be discussed at the meeting. As Liz was not able to join the meeting the item was carried over to the next Branch meeting, excluding the AGM.

There will be no Branch meetings over the summer so any urgent matters arising will be dealt with on an ad-hoc basis between now and the AGM on 6 October 2025.

Date of Next Meeting:

AGM – Newark – 6th October

Written Reports:

Leicestershire

Nottinghamshire

Derbyshire

Lincolnshire

Northamptonshire