



IHBC YORKSHIRE BRANCH AGM 2021

5 October 2021 at 7.50pm

Virtually via ZOOM

Persons present. David Rawlins (DR) (Acting Chair), Stan Driver (SD), Liz Humble (LH), Hilary Byers (HB), Maria Calderon (MC), Emma Gibbens (EG), Naomi Kempton (NK), Eric Carter (EC), Keith Knight (KK), Rebecca Thompson (RT), Stephen Walker (SW), Louise Winrow (LW). Annabelle Richer Hill (ARH), Simon Revill (SR)

D Blackburn, Margaret Barnes, Zoe Kemp, I Santos, C Bradley, E Papakonstatinou, Jo Needham, Craig McHugh, Lisa McIntyre, Sarah Neville, T Hart, Shannon Edwards, Ally Lu, K Newell, Sheena Campbell, Sue Wrathmell, Russell Trudgen, Richenda Codling, K Harris, Bev Kerr, M Cook, R Batt, P Ward, K Mitchell.

Apologies were received from Andrew Shepherd (AS), R Storah, G Bogojevic

Welcome and Introduction: DR acted as Chair and welcomed everyone to the AGM. DR apologised for the delay due to computer glitches experienced by RT, preventing anyone connecting to ZOOM. DR gave thanks to ARH for setting up a new ZOOM connection. This shows that Virtual events are not fool-proof! Unfortunately, there were still some who had registered who were unable to connect. Due to the delay getting started, no request for introductions was made.

1. Minutes of the last AGM 14 October 2020:

These were presented and approved by those present. Following a questionnaire sent out after the last meeting, we have decided to continue operating meetings virtually for the time being.

2. DR (Acting Chair):

We continue through odd times due to COVID, with virtual events not without potential problems! This year, our Chair, Simon Revill has decided to step down due to ill health. We wish him all good recovery and health soon. Membership Secretary, Liz Humble, has also decided to move on due to her very heavy workload. Liz has been part of IHBC Yorkshire Committee for over 10 years and has contributed greatly to the Committee during that time. We wish her well, and ask that she does not work TOO hard! Thank you.

There are therefore vacancies on the Committee, but there have also been some requests for a change to roles:

- a) a) Membership Secretary to be taken by Naomi Kempton meaning that North Yorks Rep now vacant.
- b) Hilary Byers to move to Events Sub-Committee, swapping with Stephen Walker who will take over as East Yorkshire Rep.
- c) North Yorkshire Rep. (vacated by NK). Annabelle Richer Hill has put her name forward for election. DR then read out an email from ARH which outlined that she is a recent graduate of Archaeology & Heritage (York Uni) & has just applied to become an Affiliate of IHBC, having lived in North Yorks all her life. ARH has worked recently with MC and is about to start work with SW. As a young member ARH is keen and motivated & therefore someone who could bring new ideas to the table. AH also responsible for today's ZOOM connection after the initial problems experienced by RT.
- d) The position of Chair will come from the elected Committee members and therefore open up the position to at least one. Nominations are therefore still welcome.

DR offered congratulations to EG for her significant efforts on the recent publication of the Autumn edition of IHBC Yorkshire Newsletter, which has already received good feedback. Those present concurred. Of course, if anyone has any article, blog or news items that can be placed in the next Newsletter or on our Twitter Account, such as relating any Project you have been working on, please get in touch. Indeed, we would welcome anyone who can give or arrange a talk about any matter, Project etc, which they think will be of interest to members. For the time being, LH, KK, and MC have a number of events in hand, to be announced shortly (or see the Newsletter.)

All members are invited to IHBC Council on 13 October (1.30pm for 2 hours, virtually). To register, see <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1007891940886114318>. This is expected to update members on the modernisation of the IHBC. This will be followed by Branch Reconnection Day on 11 November, when the Committee will nominate 3 to attend (virtually). Hence, if anybody can think of any matter that will help our membership and the evolution of the IHBC, please be in touch.

Congratulations to Gaby Rose, Sarah Neville and Beverley Kerr on the attainment of Full membership.

Branch Officers' Reports:

(a) Branch Rep (SD)

SD reported that there are changes to the Constitution of the IHBC in hand. For the present, the Branch does not have a Trustee role. SD is due to attend the Branch Reconnection Day on 11 November, which will finally decide the process of Regulations and Byelaws that will be followed. To date discussions have been very informative. Before then, members can have an input to the virtual IHBC Council meeting to take place on 13 October. See DR's comments above.

(b) Treasurer: (EC)

EC reported that the branch's financial year ended on 30 September 2020. Since there have been no external activities requiring expenditure, the balance on the Branch's bank account remains at £1488.18. EC now working on the Business Plan for 2022 & therefore would welcome notification of expected events for 2022. The Business Plan is required by HQ to help allocate resources. The business plan will probably provide for at least three seminars, lectures, or visits to places of recent building conservation activity with significant CPD value, as well as for potential expenses towards Room Hire. However, expenses for Room Hire and for on-site visits are likely to be kept low whilst this Pandemic continues. In EC's opinion, we are in a reasonable financial state. EC will ask SR to sign off before sending to HQ.

Funds are kept for the benefit of members. We need a small reserve to cover payments in advance when required. The Committee members have not claimed expenses to attend Committee meetings. We would normally make a small charge to cover the cost of **events**. Some members have yet to pay their subs for the year.

In addition, the Committee will continue to respond to consultations, will ensure representation at IHBC Council meetings, and hopes to add practice or casework pages to the Branch website. A list of Committee members will be required. ANY requirement for funds should be notified to EC as soon as possible as the forms are tedious and difficult to fill out.

(c) Branch Secretary's Report (DR)

See earlier comments. There is a desire to recruit more committee members, improve communications with the membership and organise more events. It is essential that members notify Head Office or the Committee when they change email addresses / jobs etc, so that contact can continue. DR hoped members would contribute ideas for future activities and that the Branch could organise events in which more members could participate.

HQ have published Guidance for Branches in respect of Branch Operations & Activities and in respect of social media. There is a **Twitter** Account for Yorkshire Members (@IHBC_Yorkshire), thanks to SJ, to which members are urged to join. SJ & TB now to work

jointly as Branch Media Officers, with view to the creation of a **Blog** for Branch Members. Any input will be welcome.

(d) Membership Secretary's Report (LH):

LH is stepping down, and will be replaced by NK. DR indicated that membership for the Branch is 175, following some losses over the last year, replaced by new members, all of whom seem to be Affiliates. Hence, the need to encourage more Affiliates to become full members, bearing in mind that Affiliates are unable to use the term "IHBC" after their names, and Affiliates are not given time off work to study or any other incentive. The advantages of becoming a Full Member include:

- a) Training at reduced rate.
- b) Able to use IHBC after one's name / formal Accreditation.
- c) Able to offer Expert Witness Reports.

Anyone interested in helping, including as a Mentor to help Affiliates upgrade, to contact NK. Membership Application Forms are available and anyone needing advice on membership speak to her. MATES & MAGE events are now held on line. (Via Ramona Usher @ HQ). Members can sign up at any time as these events are now taking place regularly. MC attended one recently and found it very worthwhile.

(e) Events (LW)

As indicated, there has been a need for Events to remain on line and this is likely to continue, but LW pointed out that there are some in person:

- a) There is to be a Social Event on 13 November. This will involve a short tour, to include St Mary's Abbey, Museum Gardens, York. The walk could start 10.30am at Exhibition Square and finish at a pub around lunchtime.
- b) MC indicated that Building Limes Forum are to arrange walking tours on 6 November 2021. It's a hybrid conference, so available online and in person at one of the hubs. There will be two hubs in Yorkshire, one in York and one in Todmorden, tickets went on sale on the 1st September. The walk in York will include a scaffold tour of York Minster. Hub £50 (£70 non-members) includes tours & lunch. Hub £80 (£100 non-members) includes tours, lunch & evening meal or £30 if online. The Building Limes Forum exists to encourage expertise and understanding in the appropriate use of building limes and education in the standards of production, preparation, application and after-care. www.buildinglimesforum.org.uk maria@buildinglimesforum.org.uk.
- c) MC is also arranging in Traditional Building Skills events in 5 sessions, with a sixth in hand. Commencing on 13 November with Care & Repair of timber windows, with subsequent sessions in December on Traditional Mortars, Thatched roofs (January), Plasters / Renders (February) & the care / repair of timber structures (March). Cost of £35 per session to IHBC members. Places are limited, with some already taken. Details will be sent out following the AGM.
- d) KK will continue with his Conservation Course half-day events when he is allowed to operate with onsite visits. Clearly, these are difficult with COVID persisting. However, he has been talking to Barley Hall, and will do sessions for up to 15 people, if there is interest. As KK is now a York Guide and a Guide at York Minster, there are good options for 2022 provided on site visits are allowed by Government / Safe.

Members were encouraged to put ideas forward and to perhaps make the necessary arrangements with the help of the Committee. Ideally, such events should be aimed at providing Affiliates with case studies for each Area of Competence required to become a full member.

(f) County Representatives

Anyone interested but not wishing to commit immediately could approach DR at any time. It is important for the Regional Reps to keep in contact with the various Conservation Officers across the region, even if no formal meetings.

5 Election of Officers

Prior to the AGM, nominations have been received as following. MC pointed out that she joined the Committee without any specific role, and therefore the Committee would welcome even those who do not wish to take on a specific role.

Chair – Vacant

Treasurer – Eric Carter, Building Surveyor

Branch Rep – Stan Driver (Retired) and Maria Calderon (Conservation Officer for NY Moors National Park) to take over once she has achieved Full Membership.

Secretary – David Rawlins, Retired Chartered Surveyor.

Membership Secretary – Naomi Kempton (National Heritage Policy Advisor for Canal & River Trust)

Events Secretary – Louise Winrow supported by Hilary Byers & Tom Bromet, Architect (To offer guidance & coordination to those arranging events)

Regional Reps: North Yorkshire – Annabelle Richer Hill

East Yorkshire – S Walker (East Riding Conservation Officer)

West Yorkshire – Andy Graham

South Yorkshire – Andrew Shepherd (Architect & IHBC National Training & Standards Officer)

Branch Media Officers – Stephanie Jenkins (National Project Manager at *English Heritage*) supported by Tom Bromet.

Branch Newsletter Editor: Emma Gibbens

Education Officer – Keith Knight, Retired Conservation Architect

Heritage Environment Forum Rep – Rebecca Thompson (Senior Estates Manager for EH)

The committee members were seconded by MC & SR. As no other interest was forth-coming, the above members were duly elected and fully supported by those present. Subsequently, Illan Santos asked to join Committee in a non-specific role.

6. Any Other Business -

None

7. Date of next AGM - To be arranged.