



## IHBC MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Issue 37: June 2020

### **Pivoting in a pandemic – Building conservation advocacy with new APPG, VP, Schools and more**

This newly named '*IHBC Membership Matters*' offers updates to members on recent meetings of - and reports to - IHBC trustees, as well as providing a little more context to our NewsBlog service updates.

This issue covers the three trustee meetings over the period from February 2020 – when 'pandemics' and COVID-19 were still far from our radar – to June. Now our Brighton School is postponed until 2021; we've pivoted to an alternative format and platform for a [2020 Virtual School](#); and trustees are addressing genuine concerns across members and the wider sector over the IHBC's capacity to maintain our current legacy of accessible support to the full diversity of our membership and their networks.

Yet not all has been about threats and pivots. While our AGM has had to be postponed – a precautionary stay, to December 3 – the planned resolutions will remain: on our *Corporate Plan* for 2020-25, ('[CP25](#)'), updated as far as reasonable, and our new constitution, starting with 'Articles of Association', in line with the '[Proposal for future Governance...](#)' as approved at our [2019 AGM](#).

Similarly our ongoing efforts to establish a new [All Party Parliamentary Group](#) (APPG) for advocacy in the political terrain is securing a solid list of founding members, even if the formal establishment has been delayed due to the need for an in-person meeting in Westminster.

We have also made a more substantial – and for many, long overdue – pivot towards digital support, even encompassing the planned priority CPD 'Local Delivery Pilots' to be offered to our Branches. And though we have dispensed with the 2020 School issue of [Context](#), to manage outgoings, our publications are continuing as normal otherwise: two issues of *Context* have been issued since the last *Membership Matters*, one is in hand, and our [Yearbook](#) is imminent, with introductions from our future APPG Chair as well as Griff Rhys Jones, no less!

So, while bleakness maybe pervasive just now, it is not inevitable. The reality too is that some changes arising from the pandemic

have positive impacts for conservation: our international networks have received an invaluable shot in the arm with the Virtual School, while we welcomed both a new IHBC Vice President and a [Memorandum of Understanding](#). In many ways, if our immediate plans have been hampered, our trajectory is at once more substantial and sustainable than ever before.

### **Trustees' general business**

Among the most welcome news over a period with so many ups and downs is the agreement of [Lucie Carayon](#), director of the [Ancient Monuments Society \(AMS\)](#), to serve as the new IHBC Vice President.

Trustees also received and agreed the Annual Report, a process somewhat convoluted by it being caught up in new, mid-pandemic regulations requiring accountants to sign off on the viability of a company specifically in light of COVID-19 impacts. This entailed a detailed mid-year scrutiny of our accounts, which the IHBC passed comfortably, even if looking to the added security of our reserves.

In addition to these, and more immediate or urgent (or both) - responses to the pandemic – trustees have continued to oversee developments already notified to members, including:

- Formally agreeing the postponement of the AGM to December 3, and to a corresponding flexibility in the executive roles of trustees – as Committee Chairs – to facilitate planned transitions. In that context, our current Education Committee Chair, Andrew Shepherd, will take on responsibility for the Membership committee, and Chris Wood, formerly of Historic England, will take on the Chair of the Education Committee. This means that David Kincaid can finally secure his long-planned retirement as Membership Committee Chair, and we will comment further on that after he stands down formally from his role.
- Reviewing the beta website for the IHBC's new charitable fund, our '[CREATIVE Conservation Fund](#)'. Its publication was brought forward due to needs and opportunities. These include supporting donation options in our [expenses form](#), but also the addition to the Virtual School booking arrangements of an option to donate to the fund. In addition trustees have just agreed 'in principle' to accept from the trustees of the Gus Astley Memorial Fund its remaining funds, so as to maintain the founding part of our Awards programme, so closely tied to Gus's name!
- The now-delayed '[Local delivery \(Branch\) CPD training pilot](#)', will be preceded by introductory 'webinars', or 'Virtual'

seminars, where possible, with the events also promoted through them.

- The planned new, conservation-focussed All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) has its new chair agreed (Layla Moran MP); a name agreed, if not yet formally registered – ‘Conservation, Places and People’; and a functioning spread of founding members, as well as a precise mission:

*To support built and historic environment conservation as the means to deliver successful places, which are economically, environmentally and socially sustainable. This includes using heritage to help places adapt to the diverse needs of current and future communities, whilst supporting enterprise, transport connectivity, health, climate change efforts and quality of life.*

We now await only the easing of lockdown in Westminster that will allow the members to sit and establish the APPG formally. In the meantime [Powerscourt](#), our advisers - working *pro bono* - continue to help lead on progress.

- Trustees also agreed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#), with the UK’s Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers ([ALGAO:UK](#)), laying a firm foundation for more integrated advocacy on behalf of local authority heritage infrastructure and values.
- The [Consultation](#) on the draft of IHBC’s *Corporate Plan* for 2020-25, ‘CP25’, will be delayed to the re-scheduled AGM on 3 December, in London. Trustees have noted that this will allow for further local member engagement – virtually as required – than was possible due to the distractions of the pandemic.
- The new constitution, or ‘Articles of Association’, in line with the ‘[Proposal for future Governance...](#)’ as [approved at the 2019 AGM](#) also will have formal consideration delayed to our re-scheduled AGM on 3 December, while no regulatory barriers to our continued future as a charity have been identified.
- Though the planned April [Council+](#) has had to be postponed to its next scheduled meeting, on 3 December, we are committed to ensuring that does not constrain the wider inclusive role it plays on the Institute!
- Evaluation of the [IHBC Marsh Award nominations](#) for 2020 also has been delayed but we hope to return to these in July when things may be more settled, or we just ‘go virtual’!
- We are also extending our call for thoughts and priorities for COVID-19 responses, following on from our Chair’s early NewsBlog call in [March](#). Trustees also have established a review programme and agreed outline infrastructure plans for our response. These include agreeing the recommendations

from our Treasurer, Jill Kerry, for a working group to monitor our financial situation more formally on these perilous times, and an additional (July) board meeting to review our situation then, with the benefit of more substantial data so trustees can look to planning for the new financial year in October.

### **New and newly accredited members**

In line with constitutional procedures, and as recommended by our hard-working Membership Secretary David Kincaid, the Board has agreed the following applications in line with their corresponding membership categories and Branches:

#### Full Members (Accredited in interdisciplinary conservation practice)

Andrew Elliot (SO), Chris Reynolds (SE), Clara Willet (SO), Clare McCallion (NI), Frances Swanston (SC), Hannah Cates (LO), Jack Watkins (EA), Katherine Harrison (SE), Oonagh Cranley (NO), Roger Catchpole (Z), Simon Britt (EM), Susanna Miller (LO), Phoebe Farrell (WM), Rhona Fleming (EA), Eloise Limmer (EA), Brigit Luffingham (SC), Sophie Piper (SE), Amy Saunders (LO), Vicky Simon (LO), Shona Simpson (SC), Katherine Steele (YO), Michael Tagg (EM), Tim Walder (LO), Mike Wood (Z)

#### Associate Members (Accredited in conservation practice)

Sarah Roberts (Management) (SO), Josephine Warren (LO) (Evaluation), Laabiyah Iqbal (EM) (Evaluation)

#### Affiliate membership (Non-accredited)

Thomas Ahern (SW), Colin Bannon (LO), Colin Betts (SE), Roger Bowdler (LO), Kirsty Braes (LO), David Butcher (SE), Joseph Critchley (YO), Emily Dee (SO), Wayne Derrick (SW), Alexandra Evans (WM), Anthony Goode (EA), Carol Heidschuster (EM), Victoria Holland (SE), Nikita Hooper (SW), John Houston (LO), James Hughes (LO), Imrum Khan (SE), Roshni Khunti (EM), Sarah King Head (OV), Ian Lapsley (EM), Joanne McClelland (SC), Georgina Murray (SW), Jose Oliveros (SC), Sarah Pearce (SC), James Richards (WM), Fiona Russek (EA), Birgit Schaffarra (SW), Thomas Shields (Z), David Wilkinson (NW), Adrian Gill (EM), Cameron Howard (SW), Shirley Murley (SE), Guy Kendall (SW), Jimmy Aitken (EA), Peter Dea (WM), Philip Freeman Bentley (LO), Ruth Mullett (SW), Caitlin Osborne (WM), Oliver Padmore (LO), Eleanor Scott (NW), Christiana Shovlin (SE), Hazel Taylor (EA), Martin Whelehan (LO), Lauren Williams (WA), Robert Haines (SE), Emily Jackson (SE), Ruth Mitchell (SE) Ananya Amarnath (LO), Jack Hanson (WM), Hannah Blackmore (LO), Andrew Henderson (SE), Richard Blackmore (SW), Hossam Mahdy (SE), Carmen Bowes (SW), Tony McKenty (SW), Colin Buesnel (SO), Paul Nichols (EM), Hayley Butcher (SO), Emma Robinson (EM), Ricky Clark (LO), Elizabeth

Smith (LO), Darren Collings (LO), Laura Smith (SO), Daniel Corley (LO), David Strange-Walker (EM), Michael Edwards (LO) James Thomas (SO), Michael Falzon (LO), Harry Tonge (NW), Christa Gerdwiler (SC) Lakshmi Varma (LO), Roselle Goacher (SE), Neil Wright (SW), Dane Hammond (LO), Rowanne West (WA), Robert Hook (YO), Joshua Hunter (YO), Charlotte Carver (Z), Poppy Heneghan-Pickard (SC), Mihai Brasoveanu (LO), Aline Bronkhorst (SO), Jaideep Chakrabarti (LO), Christian Clarkson (SC), John Clifford (SE), Darren Collings (LO), Joanna Ecclestone (LO), Sam Falco (EA), Michelle Harvey (SE), Peter Haymes (NW), Nicola Mason (SO), Richard Pougher (NW) Jonathan Ramage (SW), Steven Sherlock (SW), Martin Sykes (NW), Mark Taylor (NO), Hugh Taylor (SW), Colin Tucker (LO), Laura Waterton (SO), Susan Alexander (LO), Jody Brister (EA), Richard Byers (WA), Daniel McCrory (NI), Mark Patterson (NI), Peter Booth (SC), Frederick Gatfield (EA) Sally Hartshorne (EM) Alexandra Harwood (SW), Chris Bowes (SC), Mario Citro (SE) Alison Dickens EA Megan Keates (SE) Katherine Gunderson (SC), Hadas Rix (WM) Kirubanidhi Karunanidhi (LO) Darren Watson (SW)

All have been welcomed and congratulated on their appointment to the corresponding membership categories and Branches noted above.

### **Branch updates, reports and our Branch Events NewsBlog**

Trustee meetings necessarily focus on statutory, regulatory and related general duties, including corporate plan delivery and oversight of finance and risk.

Recognising these restrictions, our individual [Branch webpages](#) carry such updates as part of our national support for local member networks. Local Branch content should be sent to IHBC's IT consultant, Peter Badcock, at [it@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:it@ihbc.org.uk).

Our website [NewsBlog](#) service also may carry relevant local Branch news *etc.*, with suggested content to be passed to our Professional Services Officer, Michael Netter, at [service@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:service@ihbc.org.uk).

*NB: All Branches are especially encouraged to announce their activities and publications on the [IHBC's LinkedIn Group](#), and take advantage of this open network to advertise their achievements across our digital networks.*

#### **Getting involved**

Remember: The IHBC is always very keen to secure, support and of course benefit from new volunteers – Branch representatives and board members especially – and the best way to prepare your skills for these roles is to join your Branch or National Committees as a volunteer, as discussed below.

## **IHBC Volunteering & Governance: An update**

### A cover note from our Chair David McDonald:

The IHBC is a charitable trust with a Board of Trustees - called the Council - responsible for its management. It comprises the nationally elected officers, including officers that chair our national committees, and the members nominated by the Branches. Any full member wishing to become a trustee needs to be well acquainted with the Institute's policies and ways of working. This can be achieved by any, or all, of the ways mentioned below, and by reference to our Yearbook and our website links from [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk).

As we all know, the strength of the IHBC lies in the willingness of its members to contribute to its activities. The Institute is always pleased to hear from members willing to contribute their skills, time and experience, either at local or national level.

It is easy to become informed about the IHBC and involved in its processes through our NewsBlogs, Membership Eletter and our in-house publications, Context and our Yearbook all of which offer opportunities for comment and feedback.

A starting point for active involvement for IHBC members of all classes of membership may be at national and regional Branch levels, where we offer programmes of meetings and CPD that many will wish to attend, participate in and advise. There are opportunities, also, to contribute to the governance of our Branches. Details may be obtained from Branch contacts and secretaries listed at <http://www.ihbc.org.uk/branches/index.html>.

Our Annual School – when not postponed - gives members the opportunity to meet members from other regions as well as the Institute's national officers, who use this event to help keep in contact with the wider membership.

Those with particular expertise or interest in aspects of conservation or development of policy might like to consider joining one of the national panels or committees. Participation in a committee or panel can lead to further responsibility in that area or in the general governance of the Institute.

The IHBC has reviewed its corporate structure and introduced a mechanism to extend interest in and engagement with the governance of the Institute. Operating under the title 'IHBC+', this establishes a process of 'experimental evolution' in our governance, as our Past President Trefor Thorpe titled the process. It includes an expanded half-yearly meeting called 'Council+' which widens access and representation. Participation in Council+ is one way of tasting the responsibilities of the Institute's Body of Trustees, our constitutional Council.

In line with our current Corporate Plan our planned new constitution will embed the lessons learned from this and other aspects of the IHBC+ programme. That evolution will take its next substantial step at the 2020 AGM – now postponed to December - when, following further extensive consultation, we hope to implement our new constitution.

Details of the legal duties and obligations of trustees and the various roles of the Institute's officers may be obtained from the IHBC Secretary, Jo Evans, at [ihbcsecretary@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:ihbcsecretary@ihbc.org.uk).