

# CIWEM East Anglian Branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May | 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

Virtual event via Zoom

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## Minutes of the CIWEM Annual General Meeting 2021

### 1. Attendance

Present: .

Apologies: .

### 2. Welcome and introduction

- Welcome from Harriet Robson, Chair
- Biodiversity moment - World Bee Day on Thursday (20<sup>th</sup> May 2021) + International Day of Biological Diversity on Saturday (22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021).

### 3. Minutes of previous AGM

- Previous AGM Minutes were accessible during the meeting for reference purposes.
- Barbara Wood requested confirmation of acceptance of the minutes from last year and no corrections or objections were made.

### 4. Matters arising since previous AGM

- N/A.

### 5. Chair's report

- HR started by thanking the team of committee members for their support this year following implementation of a new way of working with all meetings and seminars held virtually.
- The East Anglian branch membership has increased and now has over 900 members at the last count. The branch is run by a committee of nine people, comprising the Chair, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and six Ordinary Committee Members.
- It was a quiet start to the year as the committee built our programme of events with the challenges faced by remote working in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The events programme kicked off in March with a very well attended seminar on *Water Trading in East Anglia: the obstacles and opportunities* by Sustainable Water Solutions and Wheatley Solutions, which explored collaboration in water resource management and introduced the Watersource project, a cloud-based platform to promote trading.
- More events are planned over the next few months, so we encourage you to keep an eye out on the CIWEM website and email alerts for these.
- Our annual programme planning and ideation session will be held in the Autumn, so please do get in touch if you would like to get involved.
- HR thanked and reaffirmed the will of the branch to continue to drive talks from three hubs across the region, COVID-19 permitting, in Cambridge, Peterborough and Cranfield when the situation is considered safe by the host companies. Until then virtual seminars will continue.

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## 7. Treasurer's report

- Matthew Rickard provided a summary of the accounts for January to December 2020.
- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the branch was very fortunate and grateful to Atkins, Mott MacDonald and Northumbrian Water for hosting branch events at their offices in Peterborough, Cambridge and Chelmsford, respectively. The benefit in kind that they have provided with the use of these hubs are vital in aiding us to provide workshops and seminars across the region, and to have somewhere to physically connect with our members in this area. Hopefully we will be able to physically connect with our members again soon.
- Opening balance as of the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 was £8,429. The total expenditure in 2020 was £206, which comprised refreshments for the 2019 AGM and the Routes to Membership event, as well as travel expenses for a seminar presenter. Leaving a closing balance on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 of £8,223.
- Compared to 2019, the net spend in 2020 was £160 more. In 2019 the main expenses were refreshments for the 2019 AGM of £45.60.
- 2020 Expenditure consisted of beverages for 2019 AGM of £42, refreshments for Routes to Membership event of £112 and Travel for a seminar presenter of £53. Budgeted £500 income from delegates for a fund-raising event in 2020. However, due to the restrictions put in place in relation to COVID-19 it has not been possible to hold an event of this type. Hopefully it will be possible to organise a fund-raising event during 2021/22.
- Budgeted spend at end of August 2021 is £0, with an actual expenditure of £0 to date. Budgeted income to end of April 2020 is £0 with actual income to date of £0. Due to the restrictions put in place for COVID-19, it has not been possible to hold any events in person, and are thus making use of CIWEM HQ's zoom account which has proved an invaluable communication platform this year.
- As you are aware, we are a charitable organisation and thus I would like to ask, that if you, your organisation or any organisation you know of would like to become a sponsor, we would truly appreciate the support, particularly through these challenging times of remote working.

## 8. Report on CIWEM HQ activities

- BW thanked the committee and congratulated on the increase in members last year. The CIWEM membership team has been very busy in general last year.
- A new mentorship platform has been developed and will be rolled out shortly, with a new membership engagement lead, Chloe Goode.
- The Learning + Development team is busy running online courses. Environment magazine has continued publications throughout and the Water Environment Journal is now available digitally.
- Most CIWEM Awards continued last year, principally the Junior Water Prize, the Margetts Bursary and Young Environmentalist of the Year. EPOTY wasn't run but will be in 2021.
- There are numerous branch events planned over the next few months around topics such as nature based solutions, environmental land management, as well as the Flood + Coast Virtual Conference 2021 (June/ July) and Climate + Ecological Emergency Declaration events to come later this year with the run-up to COP26.

## 9. Election of officers

- Harriet Robson to continue as Chair with a unanimous Yes vote.

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- Matthew Rickard to continue as Honorary Treasurer with a unanimous Yes vote.
- Emma Hammond to continue as Honorary Secretary with a unanimous Yes vote.
- Steven Wallbridge and Paul Bradford were elected as Ordinary Committee Members with a unanimous Yes vote.
- Ghislain Juvanon, Maria Castejon Zapata, Tom Wayling and Katharine Smart to continue as Ordinary Committee Members with a unanimous Yes vote.
- There are opportunities to get involved and vacancies in our committee, so please do get in touch if you are interested.

## 10. Member issues

- N/A.

## 11. Any other business

- HR encouraged people to get in touch if they are interested in getting involved with committee activities. We are planning a 'Meet the Committee' section in our programme planning and ideation session this Autumn and would welcome all suggestions and inputs.

## 12. Date of next meeting

- Next AGM will be in 12 months' time, typically held in May (2022).
- Next Branch committee meeting is on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021, held on Microsoft Teams.