

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Virtual event via Zoom

Minutes of the CIWEM Annual General Meeting 2021

1. Attendance

Present: Laura Foley (LF), Gordon Barry (GB), Darragh Hobbs (DH), Trevor Montague (TM), Lucy Crockford (LF), Lisa Egan (LE)

CIWEM staff | Barbara Woods (BW) Branch Liaison Officer.

Apologies: Eliot Taylor.

2. Welcome and introduction

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3. Minutes of previous AGM

- After the meeting came to order, the minutes of the 2020 AGM were read out (as posted on CIWEM website) and adopted on the proposal of Darragh Hobbs, seconded by Trevor Montague.

4. Matters arising since previous AGM

- No matters arising since previous AGM.

5. Chair's report (GB)

- Chair's report was read out by Gordon Barry.
- A copy of the Chair's Report is available on the CIWEM website
- All sponsors were thanked for their sponsorship during the year.
- The Chair's Report was adopted by the meeting. Proposed by Darragh Hobbs and seconded by John Carley.

6. Honorary secretary's report (LF)

- The Honorary Secretary's Report was read out by Laura Foley.
- The Secretary's Report was adopted by the meeting. Proposed by Gordon Barry, seconded by Darragh Hobb

7. Treasurer's report (TM)

- The Honorary Treasurer's Report for the year was presented to the meeting by Trevor Montague. Items of income and expenditure were presented.
- The opening and closing balances, total income and outgoings for the year end (31/12/20) were noted as follows:

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
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o Opening Bank Balance	€5,393.20
o Total Income	€1,470.00
o Total Outgoings	€1,355.40
o Closing Bank balance	€4,397.92

Total Assets: €6,602.53

Net Assets: €6,602.53

- The Accounts were adopted by the meeting. Proposed by Gordon Barry and seconded by John Carley.

8. Report on CIWEM Headquarters Activities

- Barbara Woods thanked committee members for their ongoing contribution to CIWEM ROI and presented on HQ activities as all events moved to digital format due to Covid.

9. Election of Officers and Committee for 2021 - 2022

The proposed officers for the year 2020/2021 were read out (noting Darragh Hobbs as the Chairperson proposed for the coming year, and Trevor Montague as the proposed vice Chairperson proposed for the coming year).

No New officers are elected. The officers remain as:

- Honorary Treasurer: Trevor Montague
- Honorary Secretary: Laura Foley
- (Past Chair: Gordon Barry)

Non-officer committee members are elected as follows:

- SM Ashekuzzaman,
- Olivia Holmes,
- Jer Keohane
- Anna Murphy,
- Joe O'Reilly
- Tom O'Reilly
- Gordon Barry
- Darragh Hobbs
- Trevor Montague (Vice Chair)

There are two new nominations to the committee; Lisa Egan and Eliot Taylor. As there are less candidates than positions on the committee, Lisa and Eliot are deemed elected without ballot.

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
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10. Any other business

Lucy Crockford or the Rivers and Coastal Group Section of CIWEM

- The Rivers and coastal group seek to encourage increased interaction with the branches
- There are 1700 members in the River and Coastal Group LinkedIn group and 15 members on committee
- Note that the Irish committee might look for someone to participate in rivers and coastal

Gordon Barry noted it would be good to bring membership of EU perspective to panel/groups/policy teams and for CIWEM to move toward more outward looking; currently somewhat UK-centric. The RoI branch in a key position to influence/be part of EU participation (policy pages, etc.). Parliamentary engagement of CIWEM UK; is lots of scope for similar engagement of Ireland on EU level, which would be good to explore.

Trev Montague noted all events shared on CIWEM RoI LinkedIn page.

11. Date of next meeting

- TBC but approx. July and likely again virtual.

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
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Appendix A | Chair's report for 2019 | 2020

A very strange year started very positively for the Branch with the continued rejuvenation of the committee and the appointment of a number of new members at the AGM. This positive boost was maintained, with a tangible increase in energy around the committee table during the course of the year, which was a very welcome step in the continued growth of the Branch.

The Branch hosted a number of CPD events, with sponsored receptions this year. This was a very successful innovation and provided a welcome opportunity for members and guests to network and develop bonds and relationships amongst their peers. We are very grateful to the companies which sponsored these occasions, specifically:

- J. B. Barry & Partners Ltd;
- T. J. O'Connor & Associates;
- Glan Agua Ltd; and
- Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd

The networking events unfortunately halted with the arrival of Covid19, but the CPD events did manage to continue with a further online talk.

2019 also saw the elevation of David McHugh to the role of President of the institution, with the induction event being held at UCC. This was a significant honour for David and the Branch are proud to acknowledge the achievement. The Branch would also like to acknowledge the contribution by Fehily Timoney & Co. to the hosting of the event.

I have spoken on previous years about the need for the continuous rejuvenation of the committee and I would strongly encourage any members who would like to become more involved in their institution to introduce themselves and consider becoming a member of the committee.

The role of committee members is not a lifelong commitment, but rather an opportunity in your professional life to give something back to the profession and the institution for a few years, with the intention of then stepping back down and encouraging others to step up.

This year the Committee members stepping down are

- ❖ Pat Murphy, who has contributed a number of years service as Branch Secretary
- ❖ Richard Flynn;
- ❖ Richard Kent; and
- ❖ Joe O'Reilly

The Branch would like to gratefully acknowledge their contribution over their years of service.

I was unfortunately not personally in attendance at the annual dinner this year, but all reports are of a very successful and enjoyable evening. Our engagement with the Northern Ireland Branch has continued, with a representative in attendance at the dinner. Unfortunately, we were not able to return the favour and send a representative to their annual dinner, as it had to be cancelled due to Covid, as did the annual North-South visit.

Finally, I would just like to wish the incoming committee every success in the coming year, and hopefully we will see some respite from the pandemic restrictions.

Gordon Barry

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Virtual event via Zoom

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Appendix B | Honorary Secretary's Report for 2019 | 2020

- 1.** Annual General Meeting
The year commenced with the election of the Branch Committee at the 2019 AGM, which was held on Thursday, 29th June, at Irish Water's offices, Foley Street, Dublin.
- 2.** Presidential Induction
The Branch co-hosted the induction of Mr. David McHugh as CIWEM President for 2019/2020. The event took place on 12th September 2019 at University College Cork. The title of David's speech was *How to tackle the Climate Emergency*. The speech was followed by an address by Professor Jerry D Murphy (University College Cork).
- 3.** Technical Presentations
The Branch organised a number of technical presentations during the year, including.
 - ❖ 4 October 2019 | South-east Annual Seminar
National Sludge Management Policy | Irish Water
Thermal Hydrolysis at Osberstown Wastewater Treatment Plant | Veolia
 - ❖ 28 January 2020 | Health through Water: A study of the Need for and Provision of Healthy Water Supply Past, Present and Future
Liam Doyle (CIWEM Committee Member)
 - ❖ 25 February 2020 | Kerry Central WSS – Delivering Critical Infrastructure under Environmental Constraints
Andrew Driver (Glan Agua) and Gavin Reilly (Nicholas O'Dwyer)
 - ❖ 28 May 2020 | Characterising Irish Karst Aquifers: From Recharge to Discharge
Dr Philip Schuler (CDM Smith)
- 4.** Study Trip
There was no Study Trip arranged this year.
- 5.** Annual Dinner
The Annual Dinner was hosted in Kildare this year at the Killashee Hotel in Naas on Friday 15 November. We were delighted to welcome David McHugh, President of the Institution, and Mr. Warren Boal, Chair of the CIWEM Northern Ireland Branch to the dinner.
- 6.** North – South Visit
The annual joint field trip did not go ahead this year. Events were curtailed from March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 7.** Environ 2020
Environ 2020, organised by the ESAI (Environmental Sciences Association of Ireland), was scheduled to take place in April however it was postponed to October due to the Covid-19 pandemic and will take place as a virtual event. The Branch has previously sponsored a prize for the Best Water Related Presentation.
- 8.** Membership
The branch membership currently stands at 302 which is an increase on the previous year's count of 271.
- 9.** CIWEM Headquarters - Saffron Hill

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Virtual event via Zoom

The Branch engagement with the CIWEM headquarters at Saffron Hill this year included a number of meetings with the Branches, Groups, Networks and Panels (BGNP) group and discussions in relation to Public Liability insurance cover for the Branch.

10.

Acknowledgements

Finally the Branch Committee would like to thank everyone, both members and non-members, who volunteered their time and resources to assist with the running of the branch and its activities, whether as organisers, speakers, or sponsors.

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021

Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
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Appendix C | Financial report for 2019 – 2020



Republic of Ireland Branch

Bank Account Reconciliation		€
Cash at Bank 31/12/2018	Current	5,842.97
	Deposit	-
	Total	5,842.97
Starting Bank Balance		5,842.97
Add total lodgements to 31/12/19		7,704.37
Deduct Bank Charges to 31/12/19		91.50
Deduct Cheques issued and presented prior to 31/12/19		5,464.04
Deduct EFT payments by Branch		2,598.60
Calculated Bank Balance at 31/12/18		5,393.20
Actual Bank Balance at 31/12/19	Current	
	Deposit	5,393.20
	Total	5,393.20

Balance sheet at 31/12/2019	€	€
	2018	2019
<u>Assets</u>		
Debtors (Net)	2,572.73	2,842.73
Cash at Bank	5,842.97	5,393.20
Chairman's Chain	1,904.61	1,904.61
Cheques to be lodged	0.00	
Total Assets	10,320.31	10,140.54
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Cheques Issued & not cashed	125.00	375.00
Creditors	3,199.80	0.00
Total Liabilities	3,324.80	375.00
Net Assets	6,995.51	9,765.54

CIWEM Republic of Ireland branch Annual General Meeting 2021
Wednesday 12 May 2021 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
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Statement of Income and Expenditure		
	€	€
Details	2018	2019
Income		
HQ Transfers	0.00	0.00
2018 Golf Outing	2,100.00	
Sponsorship	150.00	
2017 Annual Dinner	150.00	-
2018 Annual Dinner	4,725.00	1,780.00
2019 Annual Dinner		5,000.00
Unexplained payment	-	777.63
Inadvertent payment to Branch	-	146.74
Study Tour (Portugal)	422.72	
Total Income	7,547.72	7,704.37
Expenditure		
AGM	0.00	117.50
Refund overpayment by sponsor (AGM '17)	443.00	
Refund overpayment by CIWEM Member		146.74
2017 Annual Dinner	2,814.25	-
2018 Annual Dinner	2,923.85	3,199.80
2019 Annual Dinner		4,598.60
Insurances	662.31	-
Bank Charges, Admin charges & Auditor Fees	99.85	91.50
Golf Outing expenses	1,860.00	
ESAI Sponsorship	250.00	
Joint Visit NI Branch		
Total Expenditure	9,053.26	8,154.14
Surplus (Deficit)	-1505.54	-449.77