

CIWEM Tyne and Humber branch Annual General Meeting 2020

Wednesday 11 November 2020 | 12:00 pm

Virtual event via Zoom

Minutes of the CIWEM Annual General Meeting 2020

Attendance

Present: MW, NH, RB, BW, RW, AF, NR,

Apologies: CR

1. Welcome and introduction (MW)

Mike Watson opened the AGM and explained differences around holding the meeting virtually, the format of the AGM and highlighting the use of the chat functions for voting.

2. Minutes of previous AGM

Previous AGM minutes were accepted without revision. Proposed by NH, seconded by RB.

3. 4. Matters arising since previous AGM

None raised.

4. 5. Chair's report (MW)

The Tyne and Humber branch have a total of 1,242 members, an increase of 34 from this time last year. Approximately half of the members are chartered.

As a branch we've organised fewer events than in previous years. It has been a particularly disruptive year, with uncertainty in the early months of 2020 followed by a national lockdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our events programme had included plans for site visits and awards ceremonies which we weren't able to hold. We have now moved to a virtual events programme, and at our last committee meeting we discussed how we can still deliver events like site visits virtually. Hopefully members will see those on the programme in the coming year.

Our webinar on Property Flood Resilience in June saw our largest audience yet, with just under 300 watching live. The event was recorded and is available to view on YouTube, as are webinars from other branches. There is a lot of content already available on CIWEM's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CIWEMviews/videos>

5. Financial Governance (RB)

The end of year accounts for last year show we had a deficit of £1,897 for the branch, which was mainly a result of the branch's annual dinner and awards event making a bit of a loss last year of £1,888 and we started the year with a £9 deficit.

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Although the dinner made a loss we are also very grateful to have the support of the companies who purchased tables and agreed to sponsor the event, and to CIWEM HQ who underwrote the event and made the event possible.

2020 has been financially quiet, much of our income normally comes from events and sponsorship and our events programme has been entirely virtual on account of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The branch committee wanted to host an annual dinner again this year to keep with tradition, but again that has not been possible due to the ongoing restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic. The management accounts for 2020 currently show an income budget of £4,000 for the annual dinner and an anticipated income of £5,000. No income or expenditure has been generated from either of those.

The year to date for 2020 as of 30th June 2020 show a deficit of £1,897 in the accounts and we do not envisage any change for the remainder of the year.

6. Report on CIWEM headquarters activities

Thank you to all of the branch members for participating in the events and supporting CIWEM, and thanks to the branch for organising events during such difficult circumstances. We have received some very good feedback from those that have attended these events.

As you will be aware, CIWEM has effectively gone digital on account of the ongoing pandemic as previously mentioned. We have been unable to have any live events, and this will continue for the time being. We are trying to investigate new ways of making activities and events more interactive and would welcome any ideas.

We would like to highlight the Young Environmentalist of the Year award, the closing date for submissions is the 18th December 2020.

We have looked at the climate and ecological emergency declaration we made last year and have identified three main themes to focus on nationally and internationally: climate emergency adaptation and resilience, flood resilience, and land and water management. Some branch events will fall under those categories and will be linked in with other branches and national events.

In May and June we held our first international CIWEM webinars. The first was on nature-based solutions and the environmental land management scheme, and the second series was on property flood resilience.

7. Announcement of Chairperson

Nicola Hyslop was elected as Chairperson.

8. Election of Committee Officers and Members

The following Committee Members have opted to stand down, the committee thanked them for their support.

- Kevin Haseldine

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- Rosie Rodgers
- Sophie Baker

Outcome of election:

2020-21 committee	
Officers	
Chair	Nicola Hyslop (MW/CR)
Past chair	Mike Watson
Honorary treasurer	Rob Berry (RC/AG)
Honorary secretary	Mike Watson (NH/RB)
Non-Officer roles	
Vice chair	Richard Whiteley (MW/RB)
Membership secretary	Emma Bird (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Alex Fraser (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Anna Gee (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Carl Hodgeson (NH/MW)
Ordinary committee member	Clare Deasy (CR/JM)
Ordinary committee member	Clare Rogers (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Joe Shipperbottom (TM/MU)
Ordinary committee member	Matt Ross (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Niki Roach (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Richard Crowder (NH/RB)
Ordinary committee member	Rosie Hampson (EC/PW)

MW congratulated NH on her election as Chairperson and RW as Vice Chair, thanked the committee members who elected to stay on the committee, and welcomed new members who have just joined.

9. New Chair's Address (NH)

Thank you to everyone who has expressed an interest in joining the committee and to everyone continuing to support the branch. Thanks also to those committee members that are standing down today for your support in building the branch.

We have seen an increased interest in the committee recently and in the work we do. Our key focus is developing a really good programme for next year, connecting with our members in the branch and also using the digital platforms to connect with other branches.

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As we alluded to earlier, hopefully we'll be able to explore new ways of conducting site visits using digital and virtual technology.

In addition to the events programme, we'll continue to work with CIWEM HQ, help with professional interviews and reviews. We've seen an increase in membership which would be great if we can help that to continue.

Welcome to everyone and we look forward to working with you in the coming year.

10. Any other business (MW)

No items were raised.

11. Date of next meeting (MW)

The next AGM will be in October or November 2021. Further details will be circulated to the branch.