

CIWEM Tyne and Humber branch Annual General Meeting 2019

31 October 2019
Jacobs Office, 1 City Walk, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS11 9DX

Minutes of the CIWEM Annual General Meeting 2019

Agenda

1. Introduction and apologies
2. Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 17 October 2018 and matters arising
3. Chair's report
4. Financial governance
5. Report on CIWEM headquarters activities
6. Election of officers by nomination and seconds and show of hands vote at the AGM

	2018-19 outgoing
Officers	
Chair	Mike Watson
Past chair	Richard Crowder
Honorary treasurer	Rob Berry
Honorary secretary	Andy Nichols
Non-Officer roles	
Vice chair	Nicola Hyslop
Ordinary committee member	Alannah Bolton
Ordinary committee member	Alex Fraser
Ordinary committee member	Anna Gee
Ordinary committee member	Anthony Myatt
Ordinary committee member	Clare Rodgers
Ordinary committee member	Matt Ross
Ordinary committee member	Niki Roach
Ordinary committee member	Phillip Raynor
Ordinary committee member	Richard Crowder
Ordinary committee member	Richard Whiteley

7. Any other business
8. Date and time of next AGM

Following the AGM there will be a presentation on SCIMAP and natural flood management.

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Introduction and apologies

Apologies were received from Rob Berry, Andy Nichols, Anna Gee, Rosalind Rogers and Clare Rogers.

Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 17 October 2018 and matters arising

No minutes were recorded at the 17 October 2018 AGM. This item was discussed and recorded.

Chair's report

The branch organised ten events during the 2018-19 year. The intention was to offer every event as an online webinar or accessible by local video conference hub. In practice, four events were hosted online. The other events involved careers drop in sessions, site visits, and the branch annual dinner. We'll look to improve accessibility for the coming year, which is particularly relevant since the climate and ecological declaration.

We held our annual New Generations competition which had a lot of interest and entries. Three speakers were shortlisted, all of which gave excellent presentations on a range of topics.

In July we held our annual dinner and awards evening, with awards in six categories. About 80 people came along to support the branch and participate in the awards.

Financial governance

Finances are published by head office quarterly, the most recent accounts statement covers the period until June 2019 and shows and in credit balance of £3,525. The statement covers part of the payments received as part of the annual dinner expenditure, but not all of the outgoings. Our initial estimate suggests we may end up with a deficit of approximately £1,000. Head office have advised that all branches have struggled to sell tickets for their annual dinners this year and may be a sign of tightened budgets.

Report on CIWEM headquarters activities

At the national AGM, CIWEM declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency. The declaration covers the activities of the twenty or so staff at head office, but also of the branches, networks, groups and its 10,000 members operating on behalf of CIWEM globally. The declaration includes seven pledges, most of which must be delivered at branch level. For example:

- Pledge 1 – create climate and ecological champions of our members. How can we educate, encourage and empower our members? Empowering our members is Pledge 6.
- Pledge 2 – advocating ambitions targets. While pushing ourselves with targets, can we bring others along with us and make their own similarly ambitious targets?
- Pledge 3 – Review areas of operation and become a net zero organisation. This will be particularly challenging. Every event we organise as a branch will almost certainly have an environmental cost, whether this is from travel to events in person or from the electricity that powers the likes of our conferencing systems. What can we do to balance the equation? Can we go further than net zero?
- Pledge 7 – working with other organisations to promote best practice. As an institution of professionals we are ideally placed to share best practice with organisations.

The new CIWEM President, David McHugh, has chosen his theme for the year to be the climate.

Election of officers by nomination and seconds and show of hands vote at the AGM

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	2018-19 outgoing	2019-2020 incoming
Officers		
Chair	Mike Watson	Mike Watson
Past chair	Richard Crowder	Richard Crowder
Honorary treasurer	Rob Berry	Rob Berry
Honorary secretary	Andy Nichols	Vacant
Non-Officer roles		
Vice chair	Nicola Hyslop	Nicola Hyslop
Membership secretary		Emma Bird
Ordinary committee member	Alannah Bolton	Alex Fraser
Ordinary committee member	Alex Fraser	Anna Gee
Ordinary committee member	Anna Gee	Clare Rogers
Ordinary committee member	Anthony Myatt	Kevin Haseldine
Ordinary committee member	Clare Rodgers	Matt Ross
Ordinary committee member	Matt Ross	Niki Roach
Ordinary committee member	Niki Roach	Richard Crowder
Ordinary committee member	Phillip Raynor	Richard Whitley
Ordinary committee member	Richard Crowder	Rosalind Rogers
Ordinary committee member	Richard Whiteley	Sophie Baker

Chair's welcome to the new committee

Clearly, the new committee have challenges. The climate and ecological emergency declaration is an ambitious set pledges to help focus our efforts. As part of that we need to review the way we operate as a branch. The president mentioned during his opening speech that people don't often respond to facts. Many of our members are scientists and engineers who respond to facts, but we may need to change the way we deliver those facts. Instead of concise reports or position statements, we may look to panel discussions, case studies and storytelling.

Some members have already contacted the branch looking for advice or an update since the declaration was made. We have a number of provisional events lined up for next year's events programme which includes site visits. We may need to review the mode of those events, including the likes of our New Generations competition and annual dinner and awards.

Any other business

Highlighted that head office are running fast track to chartership events for anyone who is looking for help in getting chartered.

Date and time of next AGM

Date to be confirmed. Niki Roach, the president elect, is a member of the Tyne and Humber branch and by convention the change in president coincides with the local branch AGM. At present we expect this to be in September 2020, but an exact date has not yet been fixed.