

# AGM minutes

THE INSTITUTION OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

## Minutes of the Ninety Second Annual General Meeting

The NINETY SECOND Annual General Meeting of The Institution of Chemical Engineers was held at the Enterprise Suite, Ambassadors Bloomsbury, Upper Woburn Place, London on Wednesday 28 May 2014.

### PRESENT:

Ms J E Hackitt (President) in the Chair, Professor G C Maitland (Deputy President), Dr A Jamieson (Honorary Treasurer); and 35 other Voting members of the Institution.

**APOLOGIES** for absence were received from 22 members.

### NOTICE:

The President welcomed everyone to the Ninety Second Annual General Meeting, declared a quorum present and the meeting open. The Chief Executive read the notice convening the meeting and the reply received to the Message of Loyalty sent to Her Majesty on behalf of all members.

### DEATHS:

Members stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect for those members whose deaths had been recorded during the period 30 April 2013 - 1 May 2014.

### MINUTES:

The minutes of the Ninety First Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 2013 and published in the May 2014 issue of tce were accepted and signed by the President as a true and correct record.

Dr D J Brown (Chief Executive) presented the Annual Report of Council for the year ended 31 December 2013, as published in the Annual Review.

In opening, he remarked that he believed IChemE was making strong progress with nearly 40,000 members in some 120 countries, with almost half of these members now coming from outside the UK. There had been an increase in Member Group activity with several Special Interest Groups having established 'chapters' in Malaysia and some excellent work being undertaken by local enthusiasts in regional Member Groups.

On governance structures, he reported that the UK Board was now well established; while in Singapore revised constitutional arrangements were being put in place after a period of growth.

In relation to the safety agenda, the Professional Process Safety Engineer qualification had been launched and rolled out, the Safety Centre was well under way under the direction of Trish Kerin in Melbourne, and a Memorandum of Understanding had recently been signed with the Mary Kay O'Connor Center, one of the world's leading centres in process safety. The recent Hazards conference in Edinburgh had seen a record attendance, and there had been an expansion of the Hazards conference brand to Australia as well as Asia Pacific.

Dr Brown reported on the continued close collaboration with a number of partner institutions both in the UK and overseas, and on the important *Chemical Engineering Matters* initiative which was spearheading much greater member engagement. It would be all the more important as the UK elections approached to stress the vital importance of science and engineering, and chemical engineering in particular.

Dr Brown thanked those members of Council who would be stepping down and, in particular, Ms Judith Hackitt for what had been a most effective presidential term, commenting that the Institution had seldom had a President who had put in such personal energy and commitment. He also thanked IChemE's staff who, in many cases, went the extra mile and, above all, he paid tribute to the innumerable volunteers among the membership who act on behalf of IChemE and the profession because they care about being engineers, and believe that what they do is worthwhile. It was their support that made IChemE's professional community a success.

Finally, Dr Brown made special reference to three influential IChemE members who had passed away during the past year: Professor Trevor Kletz, who through his safety work had almost certainly been responsible for a significant number of lives being saved; and more recently two Past Presidents – Professor Peter Rowe and Mr Gordon Campbell.

Ms Hackitt thanked Dr Brown for his presentation and invited Dr Jamieson to present the Annual Accounts.

Dr Jamieson read out the opinion of the Auditors and also gave a brief overview of the accounts.

He reported that overall IChemE had had another successful year, achieving a total income of £7.3 million, which included an additional £322,000 for restricted funds (relating to the Andrew legacy fund and the two technical centres EPSC and IPSC).

The Institution's wholly owned trading subsidiary, IChemE Ltd, had achieved an operating profit of £479,000 which had been gift aided to the Institution. After taking into account the market gain on the investment portfolio and actuarial gain on the pension scheme, the total unrestricted fund carried forward at the end of 2013 was £5 million.

There being no further questions from the meeting Mr S Harrow proposed the adoption of the accounts. This was seconded by Mr I Shott and carried unanimously.

Dr Jamieson expressed his appreciation to IChemE's Finance Director, Ms Joanne Downham, and her team for producing the accounts and getting a clean bill of health from the auditors.

### ELECTION OF HONORARY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL:

PRESIDENT: Professor G C Maitland, DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Dr A Jamieson, HONORARY TREASURER: Dr A Jamieson, PAST PRESIDENT: Ms J E Hackitt. ORDINARY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: Dr J Glassey & Mr I Martin

### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:

Ms Hackitt declared the re-appointment of BDO LLP as the Institution's auditors. Dr Jamieson proposed that the remuneration of the Auditors for the year beginning immediately after the AGM should not exceed £25,000 (including work carried out in Australia). The motion was seconded and, following a show of hands, carried unanimously.

In summarising, Ms Hackitt said that her time in office had gone by quickly and that it was particularly challenging in terms of continuity for any organisation where the President was only in place for one year. She had had the pleasure of working closely with Professor Maitland over the last year and would continue to support her successors and, in particular, would continue to drive *Chemical Engineering Matters* forward. She had been particularly keen to engage the membership during her term of office and while considerable progress had been made she acknowledged that there was still much more to do. She took immense pleasure in handing over the Chain of Office to the incoming President, Professor Maitland.

### VOTE OF THANKS:

The President, Professor G C Maitland, called on Professor A Livingston to propose the vote of thanks to the retiring President and members of Council.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chief Executive announced that the Presidential Nominations Commission for the forthcoming year would consist of the Immediate Past President Ms J E Hackitt (as Chair), Mr R M Scott, Dr J-P Sherlock, Mr W J Harper, Mr S F Harrow, Dr M J Kennedy and Dr S Ion.

### CLOSURE:

There being no further competent business the President, Professor Maitland, declared the meeting closed at 17:33