

AGM minutes

THE INSTITUTION OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

Minutes of the Ninetieth Annual General Meeting

The NINETIETH Annual General Meeting of The Institution of Chemical Engineers was held at One Portland Place, London on Tuesday 22 May 2012.

PRESENT:

Sir William Wakeham (President) in the Chair, Mr R M Scott (Deputy President), Professor D C Shallcross (Vice President – Qualifications); Mr R McCann (Vice President - International), and 37 other Voting members of the Institution.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from 22 members.

NOTICE:

The President welcomed everyone to the Ninetieth 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 2011 - 1 May 2012, noting in particular the passing of Past President Dr Graham Lawson; Honorary Fellow Ambrose Congreve; and Professor Sydney Andrew.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the Eighty-Ninth Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2011 and published in the April 2012 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 2011, as published in the Annual Review.

In opening, he remarked that the Annual Review for 2011 gave an encouraging picture both of chemical engineering as a profession and of IChemE itself. IChemE's four main goals remained the same: to build an international professional community on the basis of common standards and engineering excellence, competence and commitment; to provide first rate services to members and their employers; to help professionals communicate; and to engage with audiences from Government ministers through to school students in the interests of the profession.

He reported that good progress was being made with record numbers of young people applying to join chemical and biochemical engineering courses and that, in addition to new courses offered at Aberdeen, Bradford and Lancaster, along with the President he had recently helped launch the new chemical engineering programme at the University of Hull. IChemE's accreditation work was also growing in both universities and in companies around the world.

Dr Brown acknowledged that the support and volunteer work of many of IChemE's 35,000 members around the world was crucial in helping to achieve its goals.

Dr Brown acknowledged the work of IChemE's trustees, with particular reference to those members of Council who were retiring at this meeting – Professor David Shallcross, Mr Neville Brewis and Past President Dr Desmond King; the tireless efforts of the President, Sir William Wakeham; and also the staff, where Mrs Jan Althorp, the Executive Director in Melbourne, was stepping down after 10 successful years in the post.

Sir William Wakeham thanked Dr Brown for his presentation and, in the Honorary Treasurer's absence, went on to present the Annual Accounts.

Sir William Wakeham read out the opinion of the Auditors and also gave a brief overview of the accounts.

He reported that IChemE had had a satisfactory year overall, achieving a total income of £7.4 million, which included restricted funds of £1.2 million (£1 million of which related to the legacy fund bequeathed by Professor Sydney Andrew to be used to set up a scholarship and award in the area of heterogeneous catalysis). With expenditure for the year being £6.2 million, there was net incoming resources of £1.2 million.

The Institution's wholly owned trading subsidiary, IChemE Ltd, had achieved an operating profit of £544,000 which had been gift aided to the Institution. After taking into account the loss on the investment fund and actuarial loss on the pension scheme, the total of unrestricted and restricted funds carried forward at the end of 2011 was £6,100,000.

There being no further questions from the meeting Sir William Wakeham proposed the adoption of the accounts, this was seconded by Sir David Harrison and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF HONORARY OFFICERS AND COUNCIL:

PRESIDENT: Mr R M Scott, DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Ms J E Hackitt, HONORARY TREASURER: Mr K E Batchelor.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:

Sir William Wakeham declared the re-appointment of BDO Stoy Hayward LLP as the Institution's auditors and proposed that the remuneration of the Auditors for the year beginning immediately after the AGM should not exceed £23,000 (including work carried out in Australia). The motion was seconded by Dr King and, following a show of hands, carried unanimously.

In summarising, Sir William Wakeham said that he had greatly enjoyed the opportunity to serve as IChemE President and took immense pleasure in handing over the Chain of Office to the incoming President, Mr Russell Scott.

VOTE OF THANKS:

The President, Sir William Wakeham, called on Mr S P Vbranch 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 Sir William Wakeham, Dr D F King, Mr N C Williams, Mr K E Batchelor and Dr S Ion.

CLOSURE:

There being no further competent business the President, Mr Scott, declared the meeting closed at 17:24