

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**Meeting:** Annual General Meeting  
held at 1.30pm on Tuesday 9 June 2015 in room T20-21, Scottish Parliament

Ref: EM R10 AGM Minutes 2015-06-09

### PRESENT

Linda Fabiani MSP  
Mike Mackenzie MSP  
Patricia Ferguson MSP  
Drew Smith MSP  
Jean Urquhart MSP  
Eugene Mullan RIAS  
Christopher Dingwall  
Peter Riddoch  
Kirsteen Thomson

### APOLOGIES

Craig McLaren RTPI  
Neil Baxter RIAS  
Jocelyn Cunliffe  
Les Hutt  
Lewis Macdonald MSP  
Ingval Maxwell  
Ann Packard  
Robin Turner  
Ruairidh Campbell Moir  
Annabelle Goldie, MSP

### 1.0 Welcome, Present and Apologies

1.1 Linda Fabiani MSP welcomed all present to the AGM of the Group. Linda noted, on the basis of the current MSPs that are members of the group, the apologies and the MSP's present it was clear that there is adequate support for the Cross Party Group on Architecture and the Built Environment.

1.2 Linda acknowledged the involvement and contribution of a number of organisations in support of the Group

- RIAS
- RTPI
- Built Environment Forum Scotland
- Architecture + Design Scotland

- PAS (Planning Aid for Scotland)
- Landscape Institute and
- RICS

## **2.0 Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the AGM Meeting on 12 June 2014 were available for consideration.

2.2 These minutes were proposed by Linda Fabiani MSP and seconded by Eugene Mullan.

## **3.0 Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising from this meeting which will not be covered under the Agenda..

## **4.0 Annual Report by Convenor**

4.1 Linda Fabiani outlined Group activity over the last year:

4.2 The Group had 37 Subscribing Members in the 2014/15 Year

4.3 **Community Control: Gift or Liability? – the Implications of the Community Empowerment Bill** (04 November 2014) – 41 people attended (3 MSPs)

Presentation by Derek Mackay MSP – The Minister for Local Government and Planning

“Not a chancers charter!” / “Transfer of Trash” / “The islands response to mad and bad owners” / “Not a magic pill” / “From victim community to community control”

Stephanie-Anne Harris, Strategic Development Manager, Culture and Sport, City of Edinburgh Council provided the practical experience from the Council perspective including a number of recent successful examples.

Peter Peacock from community Land Scotland highlighted the difference between empowered and disempowered communities.

The most heartfelt “one liner” was provided by Ian Menzies, Trustee and Treasurer of Locus Breadalbane who provided the community perspective. He was asked “How does a community group look ?” to which he promptly replied - “FRAZZLED!”

4.4 **Housing – People – Places – Supply – Delivery** (09 December 2014) – 28 People attended (3 MSPs)

Craig McLaren RTPI Director of Scotland and Ireland, - outlined Ten Propositions to Support Planning for Housing. He noted the importance of actually making things happen, rather than just producing more policy, most notably calling for housing to be de-politicised at local level and prioritised at national level.

Archie Rintoul Vice Chair of RICS Scotland, highlighted the RICS (Building a Better Scotland) Report dated July 2014, with fifteen recommendations on how delivery of housing can be improved.

Calum Murray - Director CCG Scotland Ltd gave a presentation on the successful design and delivery of the Commonwealth Village, Glasgow.



Linda's appointment was agreed.

- 6.2 **Depute Convenor** – Drew Smith has confirmed that he would be prepared to act as Depute Convenor. Drew was proposed for the role of Depute Convenor by Christopher Dingwall and seconded by Peter Riddoch. Drew's appointment was agreed.
- 6.3 **Treasurer** – Craig McLaren current Director of the RTPI has confirmed that he is willing to stand as Treasurer. His election was proposed by Drew Smith MSP and seconded by Mike MacKenzie MSP. Craig's appointment was agreed.
- 6.4 **Secretary** – Eugene Mullan confirmed that he is happy to continue in this post. His election was proposed by Drew Smith MSP and seconded by Linda Fabiani MSP. Eugene's appointment was agreed.
- 6.5 Therefore the officer bearers for the group are as follows:
- Convenor – Linda Fabiani MSP
  - Depute Convenor Drew Smith MSP
  - Treasurer – Craig McLaren of RTPI
  - Secretary – Eugene Mullan of RIAS

## 7.0 Any Other Business

- 7.1 Christopher Dingwall highlighted that there is a new organisation titled "Scotland's Garden and Landscape Heritage" (SGLH). He is on the Committee of this organisation and hopes that they will be supportive of him representing the group at Cross Party Group meetings.
- 7.2 Eugene noted that there is one meeting arranged for next year 17 November 2015 in relation to the Year of Irish Design 2015. This is being hosted with the Irish Consulate. The theme will be about Scottish and Irish designers working together and it will also relate to the commencement of the Festival of Architecture 2016.
- 7.3 It was noted that at our AGM in 2014 we had considered using some of our additional funds to organise a specific meeting, unfortunately this did not take place. Eugene suggested that there is a possibility that the Festival of Politics in 2016 will have a strong feature of the Festival of Architecture as part of the programme and that the Group could provide some funding towards this event. All present agreed that this would be an acceptable idea.
- 7.4 Mike MacKenzie MSP offered to sponsor a member debate on the Festival of Architecture 2016. He will consider the title, content and timing of this and will liaise with RIAS and Eugene on the details. The debate could be supported by an exhibition outside the debating chamber raising the profile of the Festival of Architecture with MSPs. This timing of this debate in the context of the Irish Design 2015 meeting may be worth considering. Availability of exhibition space is to be investigated.
- 7.5 There was a request that there is an update on the Festival of Architecture as a standard agenda item for all meetings in 2016. This was agreed.
- 7.6 **Vote of thanks to Office Bearers** – the Group thanked all Office Bearers for their work during

the year in support of the Groups' activities.

- 7.1 **Organising meeting** – It was agreed that a meeting between Linda and the various organisations which support the Group should take place on 8 July 2015 at the RIAS, 15 Rutland Square, Edinburgh at 10.00 am to discuss the programme of meetings for the next year.
- 7.2 **Submission of Annual Return** – It was agreed that Eugene will draft the CPG annual return for submission by Linda Fabiani (must be within 30 days of AGM).

## **8.0 Next Meeting**

- 8.1 The date of the next AGM has yet to be finalised and will be notified to all subscribing members in due course.

## **9.0 Official Close of Meeting**

- 9.1 The Convenor thanked all present and the meeting was formally closed at approximately 14.10.

## Cross Party Group on Architecture and the Built Environment

### Treasurer's Report

Financial Statement to 29 May 2015

OPENING BALANCE    4 June 2014                      £1069.95

#### INCOME

Subscriptions		370.00
BEFS	(Catering 4 February 2015)	102.89
Bank Interest (to 30 April 2015)		<u>0.45</u>
	TOTAL	1543.29

#### EXPENDITURE

Sodexo (Catering 12 June 2014)	12.24
Sodexo (Catering 4 November 2014)	111.83
Sodexo (Catering 9 December 2014)	156.77
Sodexo (Catering 4 February 2015)	186.41
Dugald Forbes Educational Services (Speaker's Travel Expenses)	85.40
Sodexo (Catering 21 April 2015)	82.68
Bank Charges	<u>nil</u>
	TOTAL £635.33

CLOSING BALANCE    29 May 2015                      £907.96

**Craig McLaren**