



GLASGOW INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO. 04 OF SESSION 2011/12
HELD AT THE OFFICES OF GLASGOW CITY HERITAGE TRUST, 54
BELL STREET, GLASGOW G1 1LQ ON THURSDAY 12th JANUARY 2012
AT 5.30 P.M.**

PRESENT

President Ian Hamilton (Chair), Fiona Sinclair (Past President) Martin McKay, Sandy McMillan, Callum Houston, Steven Innes, Rob Campbell, Catherine Cosgrove, Michael Dougall, Martin Docherty, Victoria Batters, Nick Walker, Gordon Reid (Honorary Treasurer) and Elizabeth Reid (Secretary)

1.0 APOLOGIES

1.1 Stuart Gray, Tim Gray

2.0 PREVIOUS MINUTE

2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting on 13th October 2011 were agreed.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Honorary Treasurer advised that Profit & Loss information had been prepared for the Queens Park and Kilcreggan Competitions and passed to the AP&P Committee.

3.2 Update from Martin McKay on A+DS not yet available.

3.3 Communication Committee continue to monitor costs to come up with a pricing strategy for non GIA use of the website.

3.4 CPD Committee have received website training

3.5 Callum Houston advised that there had been no further contact from Lansdowne Publishing.



- 3.6 Fiona Sinclair advised that she would update on the format of the Alexander Thomson Scholarship as part of the Education Committee report.
- 3.7 Rob Campbell advised that not all Council members/practices are supporting CPD events.
- 3.8 Martin McKay has not yet spoken to Branka Dimitrijevic about Webinar.
- 3.9 Secretary arranged CPD certificates for first three events.

4.0 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

- 4.1 The Honorary Treasurer reported that since the last meeting it had been a busy period with the dinner, awards and CPD. The majority of CPD had been paid for via Paypal and this had initially proved problematic. However with assistance from Stuart Gray and various emails to Paypal the problems have now been resolved.
- 4.2 The Honorary Treasurer reported that although negotiations with the Lighthouse regarding fees for venue hire for CPD had not yet been finalised and once other expenses have been taken on board it looks like the events will have generated a small profit.
- 4.3 The Honorary Treasurer reported that a few outstanding invoices are awaited for the Members' Dinner, however, it looks like it will have made a loss in the region of £2,000. The sponsorship obtained from Altro of £1,000 helped to reduce the loss.
- 4.4 As the Main Account is in a healthy financial condition, the Honorary Treasurer recommended that £2,500 be transferred to the Reserve Account. In conjunction with those contingency funds invested with Speirs & Jeffrey, this will re-establish the reserve funds at a traditional historic level of £34,000. The Honorary Treasurer confirmed that all these funds are easily accessed if required. Council agreed to this recommendation.
- 4.5 The Honorary Treasurer advised that the books are with Robb Ferguson the GIA Auditors for audit in advance of the AGM.
- 4.6 Past President asked if Angus Kerr had been in contact regarding transferring funds from the now defunct Scottish Architects' Educational Trust. The Honorary Treasurer advised that Angus had not and the Past President stated that she would contact him.



- 4.7 Rob Campbell advised the Honorary Treasurer that he was sure that not all CPD payments were made through Paypal and that Stuart Gray had passed on some cheques. Honorary Treasurer advised that he will investigate and report back at the next meeting.
- 4.8 Rob Campbell advised that he was negotiating with the Lighthouse regarding CPD venue hire. He asked Council what else he could offer the Lighthouse for example other meetings organised by other Council Committees, the Student Awards, the Members Dinner. After much discussion Council agreed that it should not support just one venue with all of its events and that the reputation of some of the events has developed through the use of existing venues. It was agreed that the Members' Dinner should continued to be held in Oran Mor, the Student Awards at the House for an Art Lover and that the Lighthouse should be asked to quote for CPD and meetings from other Committees.
- 4.9 Rob Campbell asked if it was usual for the Member's Dinner to make a loss. It was confirmed that it was and this was associated with the cost of the top table guest and the hire of audio visual equipment. Council agreed that what was required was sponsorship of the dinner and a discussion followed on what form that should take and who could be potential sponsors. It was agreed that members of Council would forward the names of potential sponsors to Rob Campbell and he would contact them with a view to obtaining sponsorship for the Members' Dinner to be held on Friday 9th November 2012.

ACTION: Honorary Treasurer to move funds as agreed to the reserve account.

Past President to speak to Angus Kerr regarding transfer of fund from the Scottish Architects' Educational Trust.

Honorary Treasurer to investigate non Paypal CPD payments.

Rob Campbell to negotiate with the Lighthouse regarding venue hire as agreed for CPD and other committee meetings.

All Council Members to send names of suggested sponsors to Rob Campbell.

Rob Campbell to contact potential sponsors.



5.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Architecture, People and Places

5.1.1 Martin Docherty provided an update on the work of AP&P which had focused on ideas for a design competition. At the last committee meeting the following were agreed as potential competition concepts:

City Plan 3: -the High Street corridor and Govanhill were identified as potential areas worthy of further investigation. Open Space Strategy to be consulted in conjunction.

Westburn Viaduct Link: - potential competition to be held in conjunction with GCC (Seamus Connelly) and SLC to look at uses for the disused viaduct linking Carmyle and Broomhouse.

Springburn Park: - meeting held at Glasgow Building Preservation Trust. Masterplan study conducted 3 years ago identified opportunities for various areas of regeneration including refurbishment and reuse of existing derelict Winter Gardens structure.

Maryhill / Speirs Lock: - meeting held with Donna Brooks of GCC and Gary Watt of ISIS to identify potential areas of collaboration, particularly in relation to open space strategy between existing developments

5.1.2 Martin Docherty advised that the AP&P Committee hope to be able to identify and recommend one opportunity for approval at the next Council meeting.

5.1.3 The President advised that the local MSP Patricia Ferguson and Friend of Springburn Park would be keen to get involved if Springburn Park was the venue.

5.1.4 Malcolm McKay stated that it was essential that a community client body is involved in these competitions both to generate local interest and to share costs.

5.1.5 The President asked if the committee would be able to report on proposals at the AGM. The committee members felt that this was too tight a timescale as more work had to be done to choose the scheme for the competition.

5.1.6 Martin McKay advised that a retrospective look at both the Queens Park and Kilcreggan competitions and case studies on both would be available for the AGM and publication on the website.



5.1.7 The President asked what had happened at Kilcreggan since the competition. Malcolm McKay advised that nothing had happened but that he would contact Murdo MacDonald for an update.

ACTION: Retrospective studies of Queen Park and Kilcreggan to be prepared for the AGM and publication on website.

Malcolm McKay to contact Murdo MacDonald.

Proposal for next competition to be recommended to Council at the next Council Meeting.

5.2 **Communications**

5.2.1 Callum Houston advised that it was a relatively quiet time for the Communication Committee following the Awards and Members' Dinner and that the main focus at the moment was the maintenance and upkeep of the website.

5.2.2 Callum Houston reminded all committee conveners that training on website use was available for committee members and that each committee needed to nominate someone to be responsible for Facebook and Twitter.

5.2.3 Rob Campbell asked if it was possible to publish articles on the website. Victoria Batters advised that it was and that committee with articles to post on the website should send them to the Communications Committee Gmail address.

5.2.4 Rob Campbell asked if it was possible to publish pictures of Council Members on the website. Callum Houston advised that this was likely to be possible but the committee would need to investigate. Callum Houston suggested that the Communications Committee should look at the potential for additional use of the website and prepare some comment on what can be done.

5.2.5 Following earlier discussions of event venues Callum Houston advised that he will book Oran Mor for the Annual Members' Dinner on Friday 9th November 2012. .

ACTION: All committees to contact Communication regarding website training and nominate Facebook and Twitter representatives.

Communications Committee to investigate additional website facilities which could be used based on existing set up.

Callum Houston to book Oran Mor for Friday 9th November 2012.



5.3 Education

5.3.1 Fiona Sinclair advised Council that the student awards on 13th October 2011 at the House for an Art Lover had been a well attended and very successful event.

5.3.2 Fiona Sinclair updated Council with regard to the Alexander Thomson Scholarship. She advised that she had had discussions with the Head of Building for the National Trust of Scotland in relation to Holmwood House which was designed by Thomson. What had been discussed was the concept of a digital design competition for one of the rooms, the Parlour, which has not been restored. Entrants to the competition would be asked to prepare a potential design for the room which could include furniture as the room has none. Fiona Sinclair further advised that the winning ideas could be passed to NTS for the future and recommended this concept as the way forward for the competition. Council agreed and Fiona Sinclair will prepare a brief to be launched at the AGM.

5.3.3 The President advised that a copy of Holmwood House was built in Adelaide Australia and he had recently visited. He wondered if there was any possibility of building some links with Australian architects through the Holmwood competition and the house at 20 Devonshire Street Adelaide

5.3.4 Fiona Sinclair advised that she was concerned about the lack of numbers on the Education Committee and expressed the hope that this will be rectified after the AGM.

5.3.5 Fiona Sinclair asked Council if any one had heard what was happening to School of Architecture at Strathclyde with regard to its location as she had been advised the school was moving. Council members did not have any further information.

5.3.6 Fiona Sinclair commented with regret on the death of Professor Izzy Metzstein.

ACTION: Fiona Sinclair to prepare brief for Alexander Thomson Scholarship based on Holmwood House to be announced at the AGM.

5.4 Practice/CPD

5.4.1 Steven Innes reported that Practice / CPD Committee have not held a committee meeting since the last Council meeting and still need to co-opt further members to the committee.



- 5.4.2 Steven Innes advised the committee ran a series of well received and successful CPD events towards the end of last year at the Lighthouse to tackle Practice Issues relating to architects, e.g. Contract Q&A, Appointments etc., at a cost of £15 per event, or discounted to £50 for those that bought the 'season ticket'. The first of the Practice Series events have proved to be successful with attendance numbers ranging from 46 at the first event to 25 at the second event (fewer numbers due to public sector strike). 39 places are booked for the "season ticket"; however £15 tickets are still available for the remaining events which will all be hosted at the Lighthouse.
- 5.4.3 Steven Innes advised that Rob Campbell also arranged a successful one off half day seminar, on 10th November 2011 hosted by Robin Thng past partner with the Holmes partnership and now a widely sought after presenter with Shirlaws. This event centred on "Creating opportunities in your business" and with around 19 in attendance and tickets priced at £30 each it proved to be a success.
- 5.4.4 Steven Innes reported that the next in the series of CPD events is scheduled for 9th February 2012 at 6pm in the Lighthouse and focuses on "How to Negotiate" with 42 places already booked. The guest speaker will be Russell Wardrop, an architect and past lecturer who now heads the highly successful communication training business Kissing with Confidence.
- 5.4.5 Steven Innes advised that he is organising a Building Standards update for 22nd March this year which will be presented by the Clyde Valley Building Standards Benchmarking Group and will focus on Sections 5 and 6 of the Regulations as well as advising on the Scottish Type Approval Scheme and the forthcoming introduction of Robust Detail Ltd into Scotland. This will be then followed by an event on 19th April with the first of what will hopefully become an annual Practice Services Catch-Up event, which will relate to recent changes to legislative, technical, regulatory issues etc.
- 5.4.6 Steven Innes reported that the final event of the 2011-2012 session to be held on the 24th May 2012. The subject will be "The design manager – how we operate" and the speaker for this event is still to be confirmed.
- 5.4.7 Steven Innes updated that the committee is still trying to identify events which could be targeted at small practices and Graduates and young architects.
- 5.4.8 Rob Campbell advised that the committee had been working on the possibility of running an all day "business" game were participants working in teams would have to work through a series of scenarios. Rob Campbell suggested that the cost for such an event should be in the region of £75. Council agreed.



5.4.9 Rob Campbell and Steven Innes both advised Council that they felt that the committee had undercharged for the CPD events this session. Following discussion Council agreed that increases prices for events run next session should be considered.

ACTION: Committee to continue delivery of CPD events.
Committee to further develop Business Game Concept.
Committee to develop pricing plan for events organised for next session.

5.5 Conservation and Sustainability

5.5.1 David Millar reported that the committee had not been very active since the last Council Meeting. Like other committees ConSus need more members and would like to get more people involve. The committee have identified seven initiatives that they felt should be targeted.

Scottish Traditional Building Forum:- the committee would like to continue being represented in this forum. David Millar stated that he was happy to attend meetings and Fiona Sinclair advised that she would also.

Historic Scotland:- continued liaison with the Historic Scotland technical team. Council agreed that liaison with Historic Scotland should continue but that it was importance that the committee is seen to be representing part of the chapter and that RIAS should be kept informed. Fiona Sinclair suggested that someone from the committee speak to Neil Baxter.

2020 Climate Group:- Catherine Cosgrove advised that that she had been contacted by Maggie Barlow who is a member of the Built Environment Committee of the 2020 Group. The ConSus committee will continue to work with the 2020 Climate Group and Richard Atkins at RIAS with a view to presenting ideas to the next meeting of the Built Environment

Green Deal:- Catherine Cosgrove advised that the CON/Sus committee will be working on providing a briefing to the GIA on the governments Green Deal legislation.

CPD Events:- Catherine Cosgrove advised that the committee is exploring developing link with SEDA and the AECB regarding the possible provision on joint CPD events.



Research:- Catherine Cosgrove reported that there is a need to develop better links with the GSA, Strathclyde University and Caledonian University with regard to conservation and sustainability research. Initially this will be an information gathering exercise but it is hoped that best practice method will be identified and then promoted to others in the profession.

Publications:- Catherine Cosgrove advised that the committee will continue to write articles on conservation issues. This process has been started by writing articles for the GSPC but this can now be extended to the GIA website.

5.5.2 Catherine Cosgrove suggested that Maggie Barlow should be invited to join Council. Following discussion it was agreed that the President would contact her to discuss.

5.5.3 The President asked if the committee members had any ideas about getting new people involved. Fiona Sinclair suggested co-opting more qualified members onto the committee.

ACTION: Committee to work on the seven initiatives.

President to contact Maggie Barlow regarding Council Membership.

David Millar to contact Neil Baxter regarding links with Historic Scotland.

6.0 ADDITIONAL REPORTS

6.1 There were no reports provided.

7.0 AOCB

7.1 Ian Hamilton advised that he proposed to re-locate to Australia for a two-year period in February, and regrettably had to step down as GIA President. The procedure was that the outgoing President made a recommendation for their successor, but also invited any other member of Council to stand for election as President if they were so minded. Ian noted that his nomination for President was Michael Jarvis, who had been Fiona Sinclair's Senior Vice-President, but who had been unable to assume the Presidency on her retirement for personal reasons. No other members present indicated an interest in standing for election, and a vote of those present was taken. Michael Jarvis was nominated President Elect by a unanimous vote.



- 7.2 Fiona Sinclair advised that as a number of members were due to retire from Council recruitment of some new members was an imperative. Council agreed that the website should be used to advertising for new Council members who would be asked to contact the President in the first instance. Callum Houston advised that the Communication Committee could get something up on the website.
- 7.3 The President advised that he had received a copy of an email from Sandy McAllister, via the RIAS, highlighting issues with Scottish Water problems/delays with local authority planning officers, and Eligibility for Regional Selective Assistance. The President asked the Secretary to forward a copy of the email to Council members and for Council members to advise him if that had knowledge of these issues.

ACTION: Communications Committee to prepare Council Member recruitment information for website

Secretary to circulate to members of Council the email from Sandy McAllister

8.0 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 8th March 2012 at 5.30 p.m. in the offices of the Glasgow City Heritage Trust, 54 Bell Street, Glasgow G1 1LQ.

Elizabeth Reid
Secretary GIA

19th January 2012

