

GLASGOW INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT KINNING PARK COMPLEX,
Wednesday 13th December AT 6PM.**

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| Author: | JR | Date: | 13/12/23 |
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| Present | | |
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| Jonathan Potter | President | JP |
| Justine Ramage | Hon. Secretary | JR |
| Karen Kalkreuter | Senior Vice President | KK |
| Isabel Garriga | | IG |
| Fiona Sinclair | | FS |
| Romain Charlet | | RC |
| Natasha Lucic | | NL |
| Victoria Scott | | VS |
| Karen Nugent | | KN |
| Felicity Parsons | | FP |
| Claire Rossett | | CR |
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| Apologies | |
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| Graeme Davidson | |
| James Robb | |
| Phil Zoechbauer | |
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| 1.0 | Previous Minutes | Action |
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| 1.1 | Previous Minutes agreed and taken as read | Note |
| 2.0 | Chair's Comments | |
| 2.1 | JP noted upcoming RIAS quarterly article focusing on retrofit projects, seeking case studies and volunteers from each chapter. KK to include in the newsletter and highlight on basecamp. | KK |
| 2.2 | JP reported on the successful RIAS live event with strong engagement during discussions. The planned fringe walks were cancelled due to the weather and will be available for summer events. | Note |
| 2.3 | JP to draft GIA handover documents including timeline of key actions throughout the year to aid new President and convenors. NL queried if it would be possible to add that information to the basecamp calendar in advance. KK noted that it may be more appropriate to have those reminders (eg. for seeking sponsorship) assigned to the convenor basecamp. | JP, KK, JR |
| 2.4 | JP noted that RIAS are reviewing the grant arrangements with a proposal that each chapter would be allocated funds based on activity. Currently each chapter receives a grant based on their membership numbers, and as the largest chapter the GIA could have reduced funding unless there is sufficient organised activity to require it. FS queried the processes for requesting funding and the obligations to deliver. IG noted that the GIA reserves provide a safety net for the short term, but the longer term would be more complicated. JP agreed that this would require a dedicated session for further discussion. | JP |
| 3.0 | Treasurer's Report | |
| 3.1 | Report not tabled. | Note |
| 3.2 | JP confirmed that the new bank account is open and functional. GD sends apologies however has noted that the accounts are in generally healthy position and outstanding RIAS grants have been received. | Note |
| 3.3 | JP to submit disbursement notes to the treasurer however all platform subscriptions are now assigned directly to the GIA card. | JP, GD |
| 3.4 | JP awaiting copies of the 'ism architecture magazine' for GIA record from AR | JP, AR |
| 3.5 | Web designers have been paid, with funding note to be appended to minutes. | JP, GD |
| 3.6 | FS confirmed there is no limit on treasurer term length. | Note |
| 4.0 | Communications Committee | |
| 4.1 | Report tabled and taken as read | Note |
| 4.2 | KK noted that the newsletter had been issued, to the updated membership list which was received from RIAS | Note |
| 4.3 | KK reported that corrected invoices have been issued for the Design Awards and photos from the event were uploaded to the communications | Note |

- drive. KK thanked the council members who donated raffle prizes as the design awards raised £1200 for the Architects Benevolent Society .
- 4.4. KK noted that Cottiers has been reserved for next year as the venue had a generally positive reception and can accommodate 190 people. FS suggested that an organist could be hired to take advantage of the recently restored organ. Note
- 4.5 JP suggested that a larger judging pool could allow for more visits to take place. NL highlighted that coordination of schedules is always difficult and it may be harder to ensure fairness and adequately compare projects when different judges attend different visits. These procedures should be agreed in advance of the next awards. Note
- 4.6 Design award points for ongoing consideration: the possibility of publishing a shortlist in future, targeted procedural guidance for shortlisting and visits, a general review of award categories (to include an emerging practice award every two years with portfolio requirement), drafting of suitable sustainability criteria and options for a revision of the physical award. Tie-in with student awards, showcasing work and inviting Y5 winners. Note
- 4.7 JP to compile timetable and guidance notes including the Student and Design Awards procedures/ timetable for GIA record and to assist with future handover. JP
- 4.8 KK highlighted the need for new members across committees and a renewed strategy for recruitment. FP suggested breaking down the barrier to entry with a call for specific skills and example tasks, as attending a council meeting can be intimidating. FP suggested streamlining the day to day formal aspects of council meetings to allow focus on a theme or committee, with a more modern format to encourage ideas sharing. SM offered to help with social media for the GIA accounts. General consensus that alternating council meetings between online and in person is offering flexibility for members and will continue. KK, FP, SM
- 5.0 Education**
- 5.1 Report tabled and taken as read. Note
- 5.2 RC reported that CG had drafted a plan for creating video resources via instagram, with aspirations for a full series of video interviews and visits with core themes around subjects relevant for students. GIA could be a Glasgow specific industry resource, supporting study through a real world professional lens. Note
- 5.3 RC previously noted that the scope of the student awards was too large, and more guidance was required for the judging criteria - allowing for transparency and for the universities to shortlist more effectively. RC also suggested that it would be beneficial to raise awareness of the GIA and judging panel in advance, via the GIA website or social media. RC
- 5.4 RC queried the ethos behind the Alexander Thomson prize scholarship, in order to assist the education committee in preparing for the 2024 edition. FS explained that there is usually a UK wide (though Scottish centric) student competition with a prize of around £1000 for a travelling RC, FS

bursary and allowing for runner up awards would give additional incentive to entrants. FS suggested contacting the Alexander Greek Thomson Society to discuss possible contribution and ideas for the GIA theme for next year. KN highlighted St Vincent Street church as a possible focus for the competition, as the reuse of churches will be a significant issue and relevant resources are widely available online via canmore.

5.6 RC to upload student award winners to website RC

6.0 Practice Committee

6.1 Report not tabled - committee hiatus. Note

6.2 KK previously noted that the RIAS CPD recorded content is running successfully as a comprehensive resource. However, if there are ideas for additional events which would benefit members then these should be raised for discussion.

6.3 Other committees are organising relevant content such as sustainability visits and other upcoming events which are highlighted in the newsletter. Note

6.4 JP remains involved with planning responses, and the serious implications on the process on new development and small projects. JP noted plans for a new planning tsar and GIA drafted response. Note

6.5 Ongoing active small practice basecamp group and current topics of discussion including difficulties with domestic clients and rising contract litigation. Note

6.6 JP noted the negative reception from members regarding the recent changes to the ARB portal and membership process, including the new requirement for personal address and bank account details.

7.0 Conservation Committee

7.1 Report not tabled. Note

7.2 FS previously reported that the Cumbernauld competition has 14 entries on the shortlist which will be distributed to the judges. KN noted that the Cumbernauld Group is active and GIA involvement would be beneficial. FS, KN

7.3 FS confirmed that an exhibition is planned for next year to be held in the pyramid at Anderston, focused on work from all practices in the chapter area circa 1960s & 1970s. Glasgow city heritage trust have expressed interest in part funding. The intention would be to raise funds for a curated and designed exhibition, with some supporting material from the GIA archive and wider context included. FS noted that suggestions and sources are welcome. SM to donate drawing copies from old schools projects. JP indicated that his practice has archival slides. FP suggested using period appropriate equipment such as slide machines. FS, KN

7.6 FS requested note of attendees for the GIA record book, JR to provide. JR

7.7 JP highlighted the new scaffolding at the Greek Thomson church on St Vincent street and will discuss the current condition of building with council. JP

7.8 The GIA signed a letter of support from Save Britain's Heritage after the Ayr Station fire, which was widely covered in the media. Note

8.0 Sustainability Committee

- 8.1 Report tabled and taken as read Note
- 8.3 SM noted the successful programme of visits in 2023. The committee is keen to continue and open to suggestions, with future locations including the National Manufacturing Institute and Dumfries House. KN suggested the Govanhill Baths Preservation Trust as a possible visit and seminar space. Note
- 8.4 SM reported that regular meetings have been set up into the new year and upcoming collaborations include Lochohome, Civic House and the National Retrofit Hub. Note
- 8.5 JP noted that the GIA has helped to fund an upcoming Anthropocene Architecture workshop in 2024, and will receive outcomes from the event to be included in the newsletter. JRo, RC
- 8.6 SM highlighted the Glasgow material hub concept, focused on the issue of embodied carbon and reuse of construction material. If anyone is interested please get in touch with sustainability committee.

9.0 Architecture People and Places Committee

- 9.1 Report tabled and taken as read Note
- 9.2 NL reported on the GUDP and strong engagement from a number of available panellists. APP will have an annual review on the 14th of December with the intention to continue. NL
- 9.3 NL highlighted that the reports cannot be published on the website until the projects are in the public domain. Unfortunately, GCC do not currently inform APP when this happens.
- 9.3 NL previously noted that the competition concerning land for community in Govan did not receive funding. NL suggested that a Queens Quay masterplan walk, focused on the district heating energy centre drawing from the clyde, could be held next year. Note
- 9.4 JP highlighted a Hugh Anderson paper, from an urban renewal group keen to see Glasgow city centre improvement. JP to upload document to basecamp. JP

10.0 AOB

- 10.1 IG raised the issue of storage, as GIA assets and equipment are scattered. JP confirmed possession of assorted small items (banner, numerous vases, past presidents medals, gavel and badge). FS previously queried the location of the GIA golf trophies. Note
- 10.2 JR confirmed the new membership list has been received . Note
- 10.3 JR to confirm the AGM attendees JR
- 10.4 SP previously noted the role of GIA data protection handler is tbc Note