



MINUTES OF THE 153rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GLASGOW INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS HELD VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY APRIL 15TH AT 6PM.

PRESENT: Phil Zoechbauer (President), Isabel Garriga (Past President), Shona McVicar (Vice-President), Andrew Hadden (Vice-President), Alissar Riachi (Hon. Secretary), Darren Williamson (Hon. Treasurer), Bryan McGhie, Sue Evans, Elspeth McNeill, Tim Gray, Natasha Lucic, Colin Hastie, Karen Kalkreuter, Phil Lebessis, Nick Domminney, Robin Webster, Thierry Lye, James Watson, Andrew Frame, Fiona Sinclair, James Robb, Zalia Ivanova, Karen Nugent, Stephen Doherty, Nicola Wilson, Jim Hair, Jude Barber, Victoria Scott, Christina Graiger, Sandy MacMillan, Cheryl Lee, Christopher Stewart;

WELCOME

The President welcomed the members to the 153rd Annual General Meeting of the Institute.

1. APOLOGIES

None Received.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

Minutes of 152nd AGM held on 11th June 2020 were proposed by Shona McVicar and seconded by Alissar Riachi and were agreed by the Council.

3. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Honorary Treasurer, Darren Williamson reported on the GIA accounts from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020.

The accounts are generally in a healthy condition, with a surplus of £3549 due to a reduction of GIA costs during the pandemic, particularly in relation to event costs.

The General assets fund stands at £133,080 made up of £93,518 unrestricted capital funds and £39,562 restricted funds.

The Alexander Thomson fund stands at £3,492 and Student Awards fund stands at £5,649. Further breakdowns of these can be found in the report issued prior to the meeting.

All the accounts are in a healthy condition including the W B Whitie Benevolent Fund which stands at £30,421. The Fund had 4 calls on it throughout the financial year for the amount of £2773, as part of the GIA's Covid discretionary donation.

The investment portfolio experienced a dip in performance during the first 6 months of the pandemic; however, the investment manager has taken strategic action in order to restore the portfolio to pre-pandemic levels.

Darren Williamson paid thanks to the GIA accountant, Robb Ferguson and to Rathbone Investment Management for providing guidance.

The accounts were proposed by Andrew Hadden and seconded by Karen Kalkreuter and on vote the accounts were accepted by the members present, with 18 in favour and 2 abstentions.

4.0 PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT

President Phil Zochbauer noted how much he has enjoyed serving as GIA President for the past year, with no doubt that the past few months have been hard as a result of the pandemic. The President thanked the committee for their hard work and noted that prior to the pandemic it had a limited digital outreach, but have quickly reorganised their events to a much more digital focus.

Conservation

The Committee launched the Hamilton Mausoleum and Keeper's Lodge Competition, with over 100 entries and a renown judging panel, which was won by John Kennedy. The committee is now progressing plans for a physical exhibition at the Hamilton Low Parks Museum, which is aiming to launch over the course of the summer. The Committee is working on the digitalisation of the GIA archive, which is being posted on the *History* page on the website. Any information and drawings from members are welcome.

Practice and CPD

The committee has organised over 10 events over the past 10 months. All of the events have been excellent, popular and well-received, having covered a variety of topics from GIA Award winning presentations, Design Risk Management, Conservation and the effect of Covid. The CPD events in total provide 21 points towards the required CPD training. The GIA further appreciates that moving these events to a webinar format makes them more accessible to an unrestricted number of attendees. The event recordings are available via the GIA website. Any proposals and suggestions for CPD series are welcomed by the Council. In the background, the Small Practice Group is to

meet as well via Zoom and will enable sharing practice knowledge via Basecamp, which is available to all small practitioners.

Education

The committee have continued work in regards to the Annual GIA Student Awards, which recognise the tremendous work produced by students in both the Glasgow School of Art and the University of Strathclyde. The awards winners then presented their projects at 3 events titled *Behind the Prize* over the Annual Glasgow Doors Open Day Festival, asking students to present their projects to the general public. With the absence of studio culture, the Education Committee ran an event called *The Cross School Studio*, which is a peer-led review series between both schools of architecture, where students could present their project work to their peers. Looking ahead, the Committee will be running the tri-annual Alexander 'Greek' Thomson Travelling Scholarship, as well as plan a cross-school project between Mackintosh School of Architecture and the University of Strathclyde in the run-up to COP26.

Communications

The committee has focused on developing an online presence following the Covid-19 pandemic. The introduction of Zoom was the beginning of the GIA's digital overhaul, which has increased engagement with members. This has been in tandem with a monthly newsletter and more social media campaigns. The most recent strand of the strategy includes an update to the website and the launch of the new online journal page called *What's the Chat?* which showcases short pieces and projects completed by members. This journal is open to all members for submitting projects and pieces. The 2020 Design Awards were also hosted entirely online, which was very well-attended, with 27 shortlisted projects and 21 awards and commendations. £711 were further raised in donations for the Architect's Benevolent Society. The Committee is also facilitating the Annual Lecture, delivered by Peter Clegg from the Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios.

RIAS Strategy

The committee has been working hard to develop the outreach of the GIA to the wider chapter area. The *Find an Architect* page was recently added to the website, where practices from the Chapter area are better represented to the general public. The committee recently launched a series of online chapter rep meetings, serving as bimonthly meetings open to all members to attend and discuss ideas and concerns about the profession. To facilitate this, the Chapter has been divided into 5 sub-areas with each having a dedicated representative who can raise any issues at the appropriate level. The next session is scheduled for the 17th of May and is open to all members.

Architecture People and Places

The committee was merged with the Glasgow Urban Design Panel Committee with the view of facilitating a broader reach and purpose for both. This has been a successful transition and the committee has facilitated the GUDP as digital panel, which is held every 6 weeks and reviews upcoming projects in Glasgow. The committee has also branched out to become involved in other Urban Design panels, such as Architecture and Design Helensburgh. For the year ahead, the committee have planned a number of events, which will take the form of a series of debates on issues rooted in architecture and urbanism on topics such as *Does Glasgow need more tall buildings?* and *How should we be extending historic buildings?* The team is also working with Glasgow City Council at the moment on a space to facilitate the planning process called *The Glasgow Room* where the general public can visit and become more involved in the planning process. Looking towards Cop 26, the committee is also planning on hosting a pop-up

shop front as part of the COP events and to act as a dedicated space for the GIA that showcases the work of the chapter during this important event.

Sustainability

The committee has been organising a Countdown to COP26 and organised 5 events online on topics ranging from post-occupancy evaluation, political lobbying in relation to climate change, and net zero architecture. Over the coming months they are developing a number of events in the run up to COP including a number of architecture walking routes in Glasgow, series of pop-up shop exhibitions across different architectural offices within the chapter area, the Ice-Box Challenge, and finally taking part in a number of cross-chapter activities which raise awareness about rising sea levels. The GIA is looking forward to working with other chapters and partners for these events and welcome the members and general public to join us.

W.B. Whitie Benevolent Fund

In June 2020 relaunched and publicised the fund for members facing financial hardship. The application process has been simplified. Due to the nature of the fund, the applications are limited to £500 per one-time grant and members are encouraged to visit the website for more information. Attention is drawn to the excellent work of the Architects' Benevolent Society.

Constitution and Governance report

The GIA is considering updating the Governance structure and Constitution to create a more modern, democratic and transparent organisation. The proposals have taken a significant step forward over the past 10 months, with the appointment of a legal advisor J Mitchell, who will work with to develop the GIA as a SCIO, with a refreshed governing structure, limiting liability of trustees and resulting in clearer accountability. Under these changes voting rights will be extended to students, associates, academics and retired membership categories to ensure that members continue to have their voices heard. Consensus has been given by the RIAS at the November 2020 Council Meeting, where GIA held an SGM to develop these proposals. The proposals are being developed by a steering group formed by the GIA President, the Past President, Conveners and Treasurer and others. Draft documents are available to view on our website and members are encouraged to view them and add any comments or queries before Sunday 2nd of May. After this any comments will be reviewed and changes agreed by the Council, with documents sent to RIAS for consultation, followed by a 2nd SGM to vote on adopting the proposals, which will hopefully take place in July this year.

Phil Zoechbauer thanked the GIA Council for their hard work.

5. RETIRING COUNCIL MEMBERS

No retiring members.

6. NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

The motion that Nicola Wilson be welcomed onto the GIA Council was

proposed by Isabel Garriga and seconded by Shona McVicar. The motion was accepted by membership with 20 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

7.0 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

It was proposed to the membership by Fiona Sinclair and seconded by James Watson that Phil Zoechbauer be re-elected as GIA President for a second term, with 22 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

8.0 ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

It was proposed by Fiona Sinclair and seconded by James Watson that Shona McVicar and Andrew Hadden are re-elected for a second term as Vice-Presidents, which was accepted by the membership with 22 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

9.0 ELECTION OF CONVENORS

9.1 Re-election of Convenors

It was proposed by Shona McVicar and seconded by Stephen Doherty that the following Committee Convenors are re-elected for a second term:

- Sustainability Committee: Chris Stewart
- Communications Committee: Shona McVicar
- Architecture People & Places Committee: Andrew Hadden

Motion is accepted by the membership with 22 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

9.2 Election of New Convenors

It was proposed by Andrew Hadden and seconded by Isabel Garriga that the following Committee Convenors are elected:

- CPD Committee: Karen Kalkreuter
- Conservation Committee: Fiona Sinclair
- RIAS Strategy Committee: Jude Barber

Motion is accepted by the membership with 19 votes in favour and 3 abstentions.

10. APPOINTMENT OF HON. SECRETARY

It was proposed by Fiona Sinclair and seconded by James Watson that Alissar Riachi is appointed as Hon. Secretary. The vote was accepted by the membership with 21 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

11. APPOINTMENT OF HON. TREASURER

It was proposed by Andrew Frame and seconded by Isabel Garriga that Bryan McGhie is appointed as Hon. Treasurer. The vote was accepted by the membership with 19 votes in favour and 3 abstentions.

12. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

It is proposed by Shona McVicar and seconded by Karen Kalkreuter that Robb Ferguson Chartered Accountants are re-appointed as auditors for the coming year. The motion was accepted by the membership with 22 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

14. NEXT AGM

Next AGM date TBC