



PLANNING OFFICERS SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2008

Minutes of AGM 18 May 2007

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Byrne, Jerry Unsworth, Peter Simms, James Caird, Lynda Addison, Mike Holmes, Jim Redwood, Garry Payne, John Kilford, Chris Collison, Geoff Cross & Stephen Tapper

2. Minutes of last year's AGM

The minutes were agreed.

3. President's Report

Hilary Herbert reported on an exciting, challenging and rewarding year as President. She outlined the Society's involvement in the development of the Planning White Paper, publication of which was imminent.

Hilary spoke about nurturing the Society's key relationships, which had been one of her themes for the year and drew particular attention to the importance of relationships with CLG, RTPI, LGA and PAS.

Hilary also noted that it had been a busy year for the internal organisation of the Society and explained the further changes being proposed by the Cabinet, with the aim of providing the capacity for POS to take forward its exciting agenda.

In closing, Hilary gave her personal thanks to Paul Watson, Chris Hughes, John Silvester, Steve Quartermain and Andrew Wright for their support during the year and also extended her appreciation for the contribution made by James Russell, who had retired during the year. Finally, Hilary gave her good wishes to Steve for a successful year ahead.

4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

Chris Hughes presented his report covering an overview of the year, the accounts for 2006/07, subscriptions and a preview of 2007/08. Chris then responded to members' questions.

The accounts for the year ending 31 March 2007 were adopted and the changes to subscription levels and categories were noted. The meeting noted that this was Chris's final event as Treasurer and thanked him for his services to the Society.

5. Publicity Officer's Report

John Silvester's report, which had been circulated in advance, was accepted. John indicated that he was willing to continue in the dual capacity of Publicity Officer and Spokesperson and Website and Communications Manager for 2007/08.

6. Report of the Chair of POS Enterprises

Paul Watson presented his written report covering current and possible future projects and the company's trading position. Paul confirmed that the Board remained committed to repaying the loan from the Society as soon as it was financially prudent to do so.

7. Proposed Changes to the Constitution

The proposed amendments to the Society's membership criteria and the deletion of the posts of Treasurer and Assistant Secretary were agreed.

8. Election of Officers for 2007/08

The following were agreed unanimously:

President	Steve Quartermain
Senior Vice-President	Phil Kirby
Junior Vice-President	John East
Secretary/Treasurer	David Hackforth
Publicity Officer	John Silvester

9. Election of Vice-Presidents Emeritus

Geoff Cross, Gill Gowing, Graham Jones and Paul Watson were elected unanimously.

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Inauguration of the President

Hilary Herbert officially handed over the Presidency to Steve Quartermain, who responded in his inaugural speech. Steve thanked members for their support in his election and thanked Hilary for her calm and assured guidance over the previous year.

Steve expressed his hope that over the year to come the Society would continue to build on the strong position it has achieved in advising

Government and key partners on planning matters whilst at the same time championing the good work of the planning profession both to other local authorities and to third parties. The Society would need to respond to the challenge of making planning a key corporate activity at the heart of the place shaping agenda.

Steve noted that POS members need a strong society and the society in turn needs its members' support. Consequently, a continuing theme for his Presidential year would be to forge closer links to the working and influence of the society topic committees and the regional membership.

In closing, Steve stated that we need to "step up to the bar" in more ways than one and show that we are passionate about planning and that we can make the new system work and deliver the outcomes communities desire.