

Minutes

5 July 2019 at Jurys Inn, Nottingham

Meeting held at 12.45

Present	Paul Seddon (President in the Chair), Sarah Platts (Senior Vice President), and 28 members of the Society (a full list of those who attended is provided at Annex A).
Apologies	Paul Barnard, Victoria Geoghegan, Mike Holmes, Steve Ingram, Phil Kirby, Alice Lester, Stewart Murray, Dave Simpson and Andrew Wright

Item	Notes	Action
19/01	<p>Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 June 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting were received and <u>AGREED</u> as a true record</p>	
19/02	<p>President's report</p> <p>The President presented his report on the Society's activities over the previous 12 months. He was pleased that the Society had adopted a new business plan during the year with a strong diversity agenda, and that he had been able to attend the enthusiastic and lively launch of the POS North East region in early June. He had been heavily involved in the work of the Labour Party Planning Commission and was hopeful that the outcome would be helpful to the profession.</p>	
19/03	<p>Report of the Chair of POS Enterprises</p> <p>David Evans as the incoming Chair of POS Enterprises presented the report on behalf of the POS Enterprises' Board. The report had been previously available via the Society's website and was noted by the meeting.</p>	

19/04	<p>Appointment and election of Officers and Directors of the Society for 2019-20</p> <p>The Board of Directors of POS had nominated the following to be Officers and the Board of Directors of the Society for the following year:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 383 1278 954"> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Sarah Platts (Kent CC)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senior Vice President</td> <td>Richard Morris (Sevenoaks DC)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Immediate Past President</td> <td>Paul Seddon (Nottingham City)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Graham Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair, POS Enterprises</td> <td>David Evans</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair, Dev Management Network</td> <td>Network appointment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair, Spatial Planning Network</td> <td>Network appointment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair, POS NOVUS</td> <td>Network appointment</td> </tr> </table>	President	Sarah Platts (Kent CC)	Senior Vice President	Richard Morris (Sevenoaks DC)	Immediate Past President	Paul Seddon (Nottingham City)	Treasurer	Graham Jones	Chair, POS Enterprises	David Evans	Chair, Dev Management Network	Network appointment	Chair, Spatial Planning Network	Network appointment	Chair, POS NOVUS	Network appointment	
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19/05	<p>Election of Junior Vice President</p> <p>2 valid nominations for the post of Junior Vice President had been received. Following a paper ballot, including a number of postal votes, Victoria Geoghegan (RB Greenwich) was elected for the year 2019-20.</p>																	
19/06	<p>Election of Chair of the POS Board</p> <p>Only one valid nomination for the post of Chair of the Board had been received and Mike Kiely was duly elected for the period 2019-2022.</p>																	
19/07	<p>Inauguration of President for 2019-20</p> <p>Sarah Platts received the Presidential chain and thanked the outgoing President for his leadership of the Society over the previous year. The full text of her speech is attached at Annex B.</p>																	

Signed _____
President

ANNEX A

ATTENDANCE LIST – 5 JULY 2019

Paul Seddon	(President), Nottingham City Council
Steve Barton	LB Ealing
Liz Beighton	East Suffolk Council
Bob Bennett	(Chair, DM Network), Individual Member
Sarah Dilley	LB Brent
James Doe	Dacorum Borough Council
Linda Durnal	POS Secretariat
David Evans	(POS Board Member), Individual Member
Peter Geraghty	Southend Borough Council
Stephen Hill	(Secretary, DM Network), Individual Member
Toby Huntingford	LB Brent
Graham Jones	(Treasurer), Individual Member
Mike Kiely	(Chair), Individual Member
Rob Krzyszowski	LB Haringey
Nicky Linihan	POS Communications Manager
Vsevolod Lobov	LB Ealing
Richard Morris	(Junior Vice President), Sevenoaks District Council
Tony Newman	City of London
Kim Pang	LB Brent
Sarah Platts	(Senior Vice President), Kent County Council
Desi Read	East Suffolk Council
Catriona Riddell	Individual Member
Christine Sarris	Ashfield District Council
Jasmin Tailor	LB Brent
June Taylor	LB Brent
Nigel Turpin	Nottingham City Council
Sara Whelan	POS Policy Manager
Luke Wrigley	Gateshead Met Borough Council

ANNEX B

Incoming President's Address – July 2019

A year ago at Stamford, Paul reminded us that good planning is essential for delivering great places. Since then, and to this end, he has been committed to promoting POS's ideas – through working with the Core Cities Group and through representing POS on the Labour Party Planning Commission. During his term, the society has experienced significant progress – the start of a new north east branch of POS, the launch of a new website and the re-invigoration of NOVUS, for young planners. He has led on our POS Business Plan, providing a solid platform over the next five years for POS to continue as the credible voice of public sector planners and to provide resource and free networking. I would like to extend my thanks to Paul for his time and his energy over the past year and for a superb and thought-provoking conference. It's going to be a hard act to follow and I am sure that I shall be calling on him for his knowledge and expertise in the year ahead.

In the coming year, I want to lead POS in defining and shaping the planning of tomorrow. As public sector planners, we are often under-resourced, unseen and sometimes under-appreciated and yet each of us contributes daily to improving the lives of people in our community, whether on grand scale, such as new garden settlements, or in small and largely unnoticed ways, negotiating improvements to extensions. In the coming years, we are going to be facing new and increasingly uncertain challenges, with unprecedented demographic change, smart cities and really a growing awareness of the need to act to preserve our planet. So, I will be focusing this years' presidency on the future - future leaders, future technology and future planners.

Firstly, visionary leadership, that focuses on place making, will continue to be vital for creating communities and POS will support its members in this area. Many of us in this room already hold positions of responsibility, but looking ahead, some of the challenges faced will of course require different skills and competencies. The RTPI's research on Chief Planning Officers last year has prompted POS to explore how we can invest in high quality training and provide opportunities to support and upskill current and future leaders, at all levels within our membership.

Secondly, from the adoption of AI for validation, to the use of mobile apps for consultations, tech is already improving planning in increasingly innovative ways. Our services will all need to be prepared for the technology of tomorrow and I want POS to have a technologies specialist who can help planners to use cutting edge technologies in our services. We know that emerging tech is also going to affect how we plan. Whether this is how we respond to driverless cars, in terms of parking and road widths. Or how we respond to the impact of big data to more efficiently use space. POS will look at how it can provide the best benefit for our members and develop long-term strategic partnerships, to enable more dissemination and the take-up of digital technologies.

Finally, I will be committed to investing in the future of planning as a profession - in supporting those new to the job, and in inspiring future planners. We already have lots of talented young planners joining our councils. But recently published RTPI research highlights that in the past decade, there has been a relative fall in the numbers of public sector planners. I want young adults to see public sector planning as a profession that is not only worthwhile, but truly dynamic and inspiring with the potential to shape the communities of the future. The next time you ask a nine year old what they want to be when they're older, I want 'director of planning' to roll off their lips. In order to do this, POS will explore how we can work with organisations like the RTPI, to equip planners to go to our local schools and colleges and to inspire young people of the fundamental role they could have in shaping our environment.

POS isn't about doing things in isolation. There's lots of work being done already, and we will look to collaborate with partners, and work with industry and central Government in new ways, to best represent our members.

This promises to be a really exciting year for POS, and I'm delighted to represent the Society on this next step into the critical future of the profession. For this to work, I would really value your involvement. So my request to you is that you put yourself forward for one small opportunity over the coming year, to share your expertise, or to contribute to our work around future leaders, new technologies or planners of tomorrow, so we will continue to influence Government policy and promote the critical role of public sector planning, in what will be a transformative time ahead. Thank you.

Sarah Platts
5 July 2019