

Minutes of the 2020/2021
Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Hospitality (IoH) Scotland Branch
was held virtually by Zoom Link on
Thursday 27th May at 5pm.

Present.

Robert Richardson FIH CEO. Institute of Hospitality
Alistair Sandal FIH Head of Professional Development. Institute of Hospitality

Branch Officers

Gordon MacKintosh MIH Chair
May Stark MIH Secretary
Brian Humphries MIH Treasurer
Douglas Campbell MIH Membership Officer

Committee Members

Andrew Thomson MIH; Colin McGrath FIH; Julian Demetriadi FIH; Ken Alexander MIH;
Peter Walker FIH; Denise MacArthur MIH

Members

Craig Hill-Lyons MIH; Peter Lederer FIH; Andy Morris MIH; Nico De Freltas MIH;
Barry Clark MIH; Robin Allan MIH; Benjamin Carey MIH; John Willis MIH Retired;
Douglas Logan FIH Retired; Graeme Strachan MIH Retired.

Minute 1 – Chairs Welcome and Introductions

Gordon MacKintosh, Branch Chair, welcomed the members present, and thanked them for taking the time to join the Institute of Hospitality, Scotland Branch, 2021 virtual AGM. He reassured members that while times seems to pass very quickly, it was only 8 months since the last AGM. Following the members roll call the committee members introduced themselves.

Robert Richardson IoH CEO

Gordon explained that since our last AGM the IoH had appointed a new CEO, Robert Richardson. Robert was Vice Chair of the Supervisory Board for 2 years, prior to taking over from Peter Ducker, who resigned earlier this year. Gordon said he was delighted that Robert could join us, and asked Robert to introduce himself.

Robert said that he would be brief but that he would be happy to take question at the end.

Starting by thanking Gordon and May for the kind invitation and all those who had supported his recent appointment, Robert explained that he had been overwhelmed by the reaction and positivity and was very grateful.

He went on to provide an interesting, informative and encouraging insight. Making mention of what a genuine pleasure it had been, as Vice Chair of the IoH and now as CEO, to watch the development of the Scotland Branch over

the last year. He was delighted to note that the Scotland Branch had over 30 new members since 2019, and that he was looking forward to continuing to drive membership, which globally stands clear of 13000, in conjunction the new Head of Membership, who joins next week, and the appointment of the business development person who will be dedicated to driving growth and supporting the Scotland branch.

In recognising that these are challenging times, he also recognises that as an industry we are resilient and will adapt to the change in landscape. The fact that the conference in November attracted 500 registrations was testament of the great work of the Scotland Branch and that hospitality is alive and well.

Before taking questions Robert thanked Chair Gordon Mackintosh, for his leadership and the committee for their hard work and dedication.

Questions:

1. Peter Walker asked about the other Branches round the UK, as we all recover after Covid. Are they strong and being driven?

Roberts Answer's: There has been a huge amount of activity from the Branches, and lots of different content. As we come out of covid some branches have reduced their output, as available audiences diminish with people returning to work. Branches are in a 'Sweet Spot' at the moment, as we see how things evolve as businesses open up. Three new UK Branches will open before the end of the year. Branches will continue to development.

2. Colin McGrath asked about membership and its importance to Robert and the IoH. 13000 members globally – how many in the UK? He had perceived previous to the current Board that Education was more important than membership.

Robert's Answer: 'There are 9725 members in the UK. Education and Membership go hand in hand. We need to drive membership to allow us to provide more events, CPD opportunities and more development for our members. The new Head of Membership will have a different remit from that of Sheetal and his role in conjunction with the business development person in Scotland will be to 'get out' and drive individual membership. Membership focus is very much on my mind'.

Colin then asked for Roberts view on employers looking for applicant to have IoH membership.

Robert's answer: 'I certainly hope so. Recently a Hotel in Canterbury – one of the hiring criteria for the GM was that they have a MIH or FIH. I hope that when someone applies for a job the fact that they have the accreditation from the Institute means something to them. I think our visibility is strong, however we have some work to do but we start from a position of strength.'

Gordon thanked Robert for his time, and wished him good luck and good fortune in his new role. Commenting that 'It is an exciting time for the Institute'.

Minute 2 – Notice of the Meeting

May Stark, Branch Honorary Secretary, confirmed that proper notice of the Annual General Meeting had been issued in composite form, from Centre/Sutton Office 21 days prior to the meeting.

Minute 3 – Apologies for Absence

There were four apologies for absence:

Lynn Abernethy FIH

Gillian Delaney AIH

Chris Waynes-Wills FIH

Angus MacPherson AIH

Minute 4 – Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 2019/20 Annual General Meeting were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Colin McGrath and seconded by Julian Demetriadi.

Minute 5 – Matters Arising

Minute 8. Two notes of interest to join the committee. This is included on the Agenda at Item 8.

Minute 6 – Chair’s Annual Report

I would like to start by thanking the committee for their support and enthusiasm. They give their time, commitment and input, on a voluntary basis and I have appreciated that greatly in my time as Chair.

We have started to gain some traction as a Branch since our last AGM. We knew re establishing the IoH in Scotland, wouldn't be an easy task, and given the limitations on social interaction over the past year it has been especially challenging.

However, the committee has continued to work on the strategy outlined at the 2019/2020 AGM in October last year. We formed five sub groups - namely

- Engagement & Belonging Group*
- Education & Accreditation Group*
- Finance Growth & Stability Group*
- Industry Support Group*
- Brand Development Group*

We have placed emphasis on the need to focus on our core objective of promoting continuous professional development for managers and aspiring managers in the hospitality industry, whilst recognising the need to be engaging and interesting, and having some fun along the way.

The plan is to move away from webinars and virtual events, which I think everyone has had more than enough of at this point.

That said they have had their place during this last year and we have held three very successful virtual events since October 2020.

November 2020. Institute of Hospitality Scotland Branch Event - Institute of Hospitality Scotland Day.

A one-day conference in collaboration with the Scottish Business Network (SBN), and their team headed up by Russell Dalgleish, without whom we would have struggled to have produced such a successful event. We must express our

thanks to the SBN, and to those who took part in the interviews and the panels, from Scotland, the UK and indeed globally.

Thanks also go to the sponsors who helped make the event possible:

- Bespoke Hotels*
- Baxter Storey*
- Diageo*
- Coca Cola*
- Molson Coors*
- Corporate Utilities*
- Taski*

Taski gave a prize of a Suction Cleaner, which was won by Audrey Buckley of West Lothian College. Due to Covid restrictions we have been unable to present the prize to Audrey, but when we do so, we will announce it in the on the Branch website and media platforms.

February 2021. Tourism in Scotland – What will it look like on the other side of Covid? *Lord Thurso Chairman of Visit Scotland very kindly joined us for a webinar discussion on his thoughts and views on how the Tourism Industry in Scotland would look like post Covid. We thank him very much for his insight and involvement in what was a very interesting and enjoyable event.*

April 2021. Afternoon Tea on the Royal Yacht Britannia. *We joined Andrew Thomson, Head of Events, Fingal and the Royal Yacht Britannia, on board Britannia, to learn of the challenges the crew faced through lockdown and how they were approaching reopening the businesses.*

Future events.

The committee is currently planning

- A Golf Day in September at Auchterarder*
- Our first annual fundraising dinner on board The Royal Yacht Britannia in October*
- An Education and Industry Event in conjunction with City of Glasgow College. (This event had to be cancelled at short notice due to the first Covid lockdown)*
- A Burns Supper to be held at the Maryculter House Hotel in Jan 2022, hosted by Peter Walker FIH, committee member.*

We are conscious for the need for the IoH events to be held throughout Scotland and not be Central Scotland based.

Social Media – *We have relaunched and refreshed our social media presence thanks to Angus Macpherson our graduate committee member. Members and Non-Members can keep up to date with Scotland Branch news and up and coming events on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook and the Scotland Branch website.*

Quaiches –Many of you will know that IoH in Scotland, has, for a number of years presented Quaiches to the best hospitality student in a number of universities and colleges throughout Scotland.

The committee is very keen for this to be continued, and in some cases reinstated, as a means of retaining contacts and building relationships with education providers.

A nod of thanks at this point to Colin McGrath who has kept this tradition alive through our 'Dark Period' in recent years, by ensuring the Quaiches were presented when requested by a number of educational establishments.

I am delighted to announce that we have attracted sponsorship for our quaiches from:

- The Royal Yacht Britannia
- Fingal
- Murrayshall House Hotel and Golf Club
- The Bonham Hotel
- Crerar Hotels
- Entegra Europe
- Carnoustie Golf and Spa Resort
-

The Best Student will be presented with a Quaich (engraved with the students' name) by a committee member or a member of the IoH local to the presenting College or University, a £100 Amazon voucher and one year's free membership of the IoH. There may be an opportunity for the student to gain work experience with the sponsors.

Educational Membership Scheme

With support from Alistair Sandall IoH Head of Professional Development, we currently have two Educational Establishments seriously considering joining the EMS. Thanks to Alistair

Scotland Branch Business Development Manager (BDM)

I intimated at last years AGM that the IoH had agreed to fund a BDM for Scotland.

The position is now advertised on LinkedIn. The successful applicant will report to the Membership Manager at Centre/Sutton Office and the Scottish Branch Chair and will be focused on growing membership in Scotland.

That concluded the Chairs Report.

Minute 7 – Report and Statement of Accounts.

Brian Humphries confirmed that the Annual Financial Statement of the Scotland Branch for the year ending 31st December 2020 had already been accepted by the Centre/Sutton Office. There has been little financial activity apart from the event in November and expenses relating presentation of the IoH Quiches in 2019. at Colleges and Universities by Colin McGrath.

Statement of Income and Expenditure -

Total Expenditure £1666.59

Balance £5.91

Main Account Income and Expenditure Account statement provides a breakdown of the Expenses.

The Financial Statement was Proposed by Douglas Campbell and Seconded by Julian Demetriadi.

Minute 8 – Committee Members

Over the last 8 months we have increased the total number of committee members from 5 to 13 and in doing so, we now have members located across Scotland with a balance of sector interests and are very pleased to have a student member. We were very conscious that the committee was Hotel centric. The Committee members Biography's can be found on the Scotland Branch website. There are two spaces still available on the committee. However, we are not looking to fill the spaces at this time unless approached by interested members.

Committee has met monthly and the strategy groups have worked on the strategy reporting back to the main committee.

Branch Officers

Chair. I am standing down as Chair and am delighted to inform the meeting that Andrew Thomson has put himself forward for the role of Chair.

Proposer - Peter Walker. Seconded by Colin McGrath.

Vice Chair. It has been agreed that we should appoint a Vice Chair and Ken Alexander has put himself forward for Vice Chair.

Proposed by May Stark. Seconded by Julian Demetriadi.

Treasurer – Brain Humphries has agreed to remain in post for another year.

Secretary – May Stark has agreed to remain in post until a replacement secretary can be found.

Membership Officer – Douglas Campbell has agreed to remain in post for another year.

Committee Members

The following have agreed to remain on the committee for another year

- Peter Walker
- Colin McGrath
- Chris Wayne-Wills
- Gordon MacKintosh

Proposer - Ken Alexander. Secunder - Andrew Thomason

Members who have joined the committee since the last AGM

- Gillian Delaney
- Angus MacPherson
- Julian Demetriadi
- Denise MacArthur

Proposer - Colin McGrath. Seconded by Brian Humphries.

Minute 9 – Any Other Competent Business

Douglas Logan could not be heard and Gordon suggested that we contact him after the meeting to deal with his question or comment.

Post minute note. Douglas confirmed by email that his comment was as follows:

‘I am now in my 61st year in membership and just wanted to congratulate the Committee on all the hard work that they have done over the last year. I joined the HCI in 1960 when I was a student at the Scottish Hotel School - then 2 versions of the HCIMA and finally the IoH’.

There was no other competent business and Gordon thanked everyone present.

The Meeting was formally brought to a close by the Chair at 17.45 pm.

Branch Chair: Gordon Mackintosh

Date: 27th May 2021