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Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting of Environmental Protection UK held 26th February 2020 at Corporation of London Offices, Walbrook Wharf, 74-78 Upper Thames Street.

Present:

Lord Whitty, President
Christopher Fry, Chairman Board of Trustees, (West Midlands)
David Muir, Chair of Executive Sub-Committee/Trustee (South West)
Sarah Legge, Chair of Air Quality Committee
Alan Bratt, Trustee
Peter Mitchell, Financial Consultant
John Murlis, Special Trustee
Stephen Moorcroft, Trustee
Ruth Calderwood, City of London Corporation/Trustee
Keith Budden, CENEX/Trustee
John Merefield, Individual Member (South West)
Graham Jukes, Vice-President
Robin Whitehouse, Chair of Noise Committee
Neil Turner, Vice President
Julian Hunt, Vice President
Alan Jones, Individual Member
Myles Quigley, TSI Industries
Bernard Fisher, IACEM
Nick Molden, Emissions Analytics
Neil Macdonald, Guest
Vanessa Tanner, EPUK Secretariat

1. Introduction and Welcome by Chair of Trustees.

Christopher Fry, Chair of Trustees welcomed Members to the AGM of the Society and thanked the Corporation of London for the venue.
He thanked Neil Macdonald for attending as a potential new Trustee with responsibility for marketing EPUK.

2. Apologies for absence:

Bob Deller, Trustee
Paul Cooney, Trustee
Stephen Holgate, Trustee
Adrian Quinn, Dudley BC
Ben Thomas, Smith Grant
Chris Lowe, Environment Agency
Daniel McCrory, Staffordshire Moorland

David Rudland
Dr James Ferguson-Moore,
Transport Systems Catapult
Ed Thomas, Robert Bosch
James Bee, Rodgers Leask
Environmental Ltd
Jonathan Cundall, NHBC
Julian Smith, Wycombe

Kate Ratcliffe, Broxtowe
Liz Ovenden, Ackworth Quakers
Mike Webley, Enviro Technology
Nicholas Marks, Newham Council
Nick Merriman, GVS
Peter Fleming, Campbell Associates
Richard Parker-Harding Rother
Robin Lancefield, Jacobs

Roger Braithwaite, Zero
Environment
Stephanie Bird, Walsall Council
Stephen Turner, ST Acoustics Ltd
John Allen, Honorary Member
Brian O'Hare, Honorary Member
Rob West, Honorary Member
Richard Mills, Honorary Member

3. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting held at Corporation of London Offices, Walbrook Wharf, 74-78 Upper Thames Street

- 3.1 The minutes of this meeting which were previously circulated were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings.
- 3.2 They were proposed by Sarah Legge and seconded by David Muir then agreed by those present at the AGM that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record of the 2019 AGM.
- 3.3 There were no matters arising.

4. Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2019

- 4.1 The AGM noted the audited accounts, which had been previously circulated to Members. It was proposed by Steve Moorcroft and seconded by John Merefield that the accounts be accepted.

5. Chairman of Trustee's Report 2019

Christopher Fry reported on the events and decisions of 2019. He highlighted the following issues in his report:

- EPUK faces challenges in the light of the Environment Bill which has its second reading. Sarah Legge has raised concerns regarding various aspects and continues to lobby.
- In 2018 EPUK celebrated 120 years since its founding. In order to continue successfully the Sustainability Plan has been agreed by Trustees. We rely heavily on subscriptions of our members for survival. Last year we gained, then lost, our first Gold Member (Bosch) so now we are looking more towards sponsorship of events. We need to think of ways our friends in certain companies can offer support without becoming members.
- The Air quality Committee was busy with the Clean Air Campaign. They were the first to set out their vision for the future with the other Policy Committees following suit in order to offer the Trustees a strategy for the future.
- EPUK continues to work with partners such as Marcus Patterson of Environmental Technology Publications Limited which produces the online publication Essential Environment.
- There have been regional seminars such as ALS Global Laboratory at Hawarden in North Wales, British Geological Survey HQ at Keyworth near Nottingham both of which hosted them as free venues. Further seminars will be offered with a contaminated land seminar in June and an Air Quality Seminar in May/June plus another at Jacobs in Cardiff later in the year.

- On the Land Quality front there are many issues to raise with the Government policy requiring 250,000 new houses each year.
- There has been a change in membership with a decrease in Local Authorities so EPUK needs to find ways of replacing this income with different types of membership such as reduced rates for joint LAs and more private sector businesses.
- JMs gave a report on EFCA and IUAPPA (in the absence of Richard Mills) highlighting the issue of ultra-fine particles, climate change and the general threats to AQ worldwide. He also spoke about the threats to indoor air quality. The bi-annual Clean Air Congress 2021 is in Singapore and will be hosted by the new President of IUAPPA, Young SunWoo.

John Murlis proposed accepting the Chairman's report and David Muir seconded this. The Chairman's report was agreed by the members present.

5.1 Matters raised by Members at the meeting

- On the issue of new house building, a question was raised by Lord Hunt on the issue of flooding and whether EPUK could become involved with organisations concerned with this problem as flooding releases contaminants from the land. After some discussion, it was felt that the Land Quality Committee could look into this. CF explained that EPUK is on the National Brownfield Forum which has flooding within its remit.
- On the issue of making new connections, it was mentioned that the Government are keen to see businesses connecting with the Science and Research Council. David Muir is involved with Innovate UK and UKRI which receives lots of funding and has links with the universities. It was suggested EPUK should ask for results of their research for sharing at seminars and Conference.
- Bernard Fisher mentioned the Research Excellence Framework and reminded the meeting that universities are organisations which require users of their research. The academic community should be further tapped so research can be shared and we can increase our membership. Neil Turner suggested it should be part of our visionary plan for the future.

6. Thank you to Lord Whitty

Christopher Fry thanked Lord Whitty, the former President, for continuing in the absence of his successor and for being a voice in the Lords. As the Secretary of State is obliged to respond to letters from a Lord, Lord Whitty's presence is very important. Under Article 48 the Board of Trustees will recommend election of a new President of Environmental Protection UK and Members will be asked to accept the recommendation and appoint that person under Article 88 once a new candidate is found.

7. Address by Lord Whitty, acting President of EPUK.

Lord Whitty said that as Brexit is now done and the EU law is transposed into UK law, now is the time to take it forward. The Environment Bill is in the Lords but some items are still not clear. There are new ministers in DEFRA and Zac Goldsmith has been appointed as the Lord for the Department of State and International Development. He could work in EPUK's favour.

Lord Whitty gave an example of how imports from new markets, such as the USA, might lead to the detriment of the quality of UK and EU agricultural standards. He felt that there is some commitment to the environment from the present Government but it is not strong enough. He thanked everyone in EPUK.

8. Re-Election of Vice-Presidents

To note that under Article 49 the Board of Trustees recommends the re-election as Vice-Presidents Neil Turner, Paul Cooney, Graham Jukes, Professor Jim Longhurst and Derek Osborn. Members are asked to ratify these appointments under Article 88. Proposed by the Board of Trustees and seconded by David Muir.

9. Election and re-election of Honorary Members of EPUK under Article 3(a).

There were none to re-elect.

10 To appoint Independent Examiners for the period ending 31 March 2019

Independent examiners are Taylorcocks Chartered Accountants, The Courtyard, Shoreham Road, Upper Beeding, Steyning, BN44 3TN

An addendum from Richard Mills, Vice President:

As you will be aware we are now in the transitional phase of moving the IUAPPA Secretariat to Korea. The corona virus epidemic is at present having a severe effect on activities there, but Young Sunwoo, the new Director-General, and his team are busy finalising arrangements for the new organisation, in particular the local registration and funding options.

Secretariat Contact Details

During this period, and until further notice, we would be grateful if you could continue to address correspondence to secretariat@iuappa.org, but with copies to the new Director-General, Young Sunwoo, (airsunwoo@gmail.com) and the Treasurer, JiHyeon Song (songih@sejong.ac.kr).

Forthcoming Meetings

Would any who have missed the earlier announcement please note that the next World Congress will be held in Singapore in the autumn of next year, 2021. The date, location and programme will be announced shortly.

Meanwhile, in cooperation with EFCA and UK colleagues, we hope to organise a major meeting in the UK in November 2020 in conjunction with the meeting of COP24 in Glasgow. Further details will follow in due course. You will be advised of arrangements for other meetings this year in Korea and elsewhere once the virus-related restrictions on large gatherings are eased.