

MINUTES OF MEETING
DUNDEE INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
Tuesday 23rd March 2021
Virtual meeting hosted by Jon Frullani, PDIA

1.0 Attending: R.Brunton, J. Frullani, A. Macdonald, D. McLachlan, F. Middleton, I. Muir, C. Palmer, J. Purves, G. Sinclair, D. Reid, J. Shanks, K. Smith.

2.0 Apologies: R.Cathro. J Purves

3.0 Matters Discussed

3.1 The Martin Jones Award was discussed and both GS and JS stated that they disagreed with the RIAS Minute of the meeting. RIAS Council reps to bring this to the attention of RIAS Council on 31st March meeting.

3.2 DIA Sustainability Awards have been judged and are currently with President of Aberdeen Society of Architects for final appraisal. The Awards winner will be announced at the AGM.

3.3 JF thanked KS and Molly Sinclair for their efforts in getting the DIA website 'live'. It was unanimously agreed that Molly should receive a donation. (Post meeting note. Molly had responded to the DIA thanking them for this donation to her "student fund"!).

3.4 JF noted that the new RIAS CEO interview process had happened and although a decision to appoint had been made the successful candidate could not be revealed yet. This would happen in the near future when due process had been completed.

3.5 JF noted that this would be his last DIA Council meeting as his term would conclude at the AGM late in the week. JF thanked Council for their support and advice throughout his term as President.

3.6 IM noted the recent RIAS survey on practices enduring difficulties in placing their PII cover and experiencing large increases in premiums quoted. This was especially prevalent amongst larger companies who regularly specify external cladding panels.

3.7 IM noted that Building Standards were looking at ways to ensure compliance and that BCO's were now being asked to interrogate specifications beyond the product information. A "Compliance Manager" may be created (Clerk of Works inspection type role?) to demonstrate/approve what is built is compliant with Building Regulations. Although an opportunity for Architects it also has a huge responsibility attached to it. This may initially be adopted for larger developments and develop into a regulated role potentially ending 'Design and Build' type contracts.

3.8 Council agreed not to pay the final invoice to the website provider yet as KS and Molly Sinclair had carried out the lions share of the work. KS to pursue. More tutorial time would also be requested. Formal launch of new website will be announced at the AGM

3.9 CP had received the accounts back for the AGM. After discussion it was proposed to continue with 'Walker and Dunnet' this year. This will require ratification at the AGM.

3.10 CP noted that she would be stepping down from her RIAS Council Nationally nominated role in June. CP was thanked for all her considerable efforts in this post (and other roles that had ensued!).

3.11 RJHB reported that the Sustainability Award had been well supported. Council agreed that a framed certificate would be presented at the annual DIA Awards dinner and two tickets to the dinner would be included for the winner.

3.12 RJHB had attended the webinar with Dundee Architecture students and felt that it had been worthwhile. Some interesting and some odd questions asked but generally seemed to prove beneficial to the students and opened a dialogue / relationship with the profession locally. GS and JS thanked JF, RJHB and IM for their contribution

3.13 DMcL asked those present to offer up some 'snappy quotes' from Clients about something one had done to change your Clients life for a publication by the RIAS Strategy Working Group.

3.14 AMacd noted that there were 34 attendees currently registered for the AGM. It was confirmed the AGM would commence at 7pm sharp.

3.15 KS noted the "Cone on the COP", based around the COP26 Conference. AMacd to contact Rebecca Wade (UAD) to formulate an event involving DIA.

3.16 GS reported that nothing would appear to have progressed in relation to the RIAS Education Committee. GS to pursue RIAS.

3.17 GS stated that he had contributed to the University of Strathclyde students with an old project which they analysed and subsequently discussed. GS felt it was a worthwhile exercise and was interested to observe what they drew out of the process.

3.18 DR reported that he had received a call looking for contributions to "Below the Radar"; Belfast, looking for exciting home restoration projects. This would provide history of the build process and taking it through to completion and evaluating the 'before' and 'after'.

3.19 JS informed Council that it would be useful to provide students with an indication of salary that could be expected during year out and final qualification. JS to pursue Maryse at RIAS who may be able to assist.

3.20 FM stated that there had been no progress yet regarding Dundee Doors Open Days 2021 within a significantly revised format.

3.21 The AGM will take place on Thursday 25th March 2021 starting at 7pm.

3.22 Due to present circumstances the post of Vice-President would appear to be vacant. Although nominations will be sought at the AGM this is a concern. It was noted that there are five President/ Past Presidents sitting on DIA Council. New blood needs to be injected into Council to keep it fresh.

4.0 Date of Next Meeting

6.00pm Tuesday 13th April 2021. Notification will be issued in due course over the hosting of this meeting which will still be by 'virtual' attendance.

5.0 Distribution List

R Brunton/ R Cathro/ J Frullani/ A Macdonald/ D McLachlan/ F Middleton/ I Muir/ C Palmer/ J Purves/ D Reid/ G Sinclair/ J. Shanks/ K Smith/ PRIAS/ Secretary RIAS