

**COUNCIL COURIER: MINUTES OF MEETING
DUNDEE INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
Tuesday 9th February 2021
Virtual meeting hosted by Jon Frullani, PDIA**

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

2.0 Apologies: R.Cathro. J. Purves.

3.0 Matters Discussed

3.1 GS and JS to discuss Martin Jones Award further with University and RIAS. It was hoped that that DR's suggestion of people who knew Martin could be included in the judging panel.

3.2 JF stated that the "re-branding" of Chapters was being discussed at RIAS. Considering the challenges facing the RIAS and the profession in general it was felt that his was tinkering and there was no real appetite to initiate or encourage this initiative. The DIA logo, colour, etc had been the result of a member competition and was felt appropriate rather than a corporate image foisted upon the Institute. This would require to be discussed with DIA Council and agreed with the DIA membership whether any change was worthwhile.

3.3 Thanks were issued to Kerry Smith for her assistance in the Building Control webinars.

3.4 It was noted that new candidates have simply replaced those retiring on the RIAS Conservation Accreditation Scheme.

3.5 It was noted that HES had launched an initiative looking for more practical solutions to Building Warrant issues and noted that a guidance note will be issued in due course.

3.6 It was minuted that the search for a new RIAS CEO had now commenced.

3.7 It was reported that the Church of Scotland was disbanding CARTA and this responsibility would be deferred to the general Trustees.

3.8 CP voiced dissatisfaction with Fife Council Planning authority. There are clearly issues with this Local Authority as this concern was reinforced by a number of those on Council. IM is to pen a letter on behalf of the DIA and its members to the Director of Planning raising those concerns.

3.9 RJHB reported that good progress had been made over the Sustainability Awards event and entries were now being received. Deadline is the 28th February. Awards will be announced at the AGM. Certificates are to be generated. Suitable reusable / recycled prizes were discussed including an innovative one that an old trophy could be used and 're-labelled'. Further thought is to be given to the actual Award. Judges are to be Jon Frullani (PDIA), Jack McKeown from the "Courier" and Richard Slater (President Aberdeen Society of Architects). Council thanked RJHB for his efforts in pulling this together.

3.10 DMcL had attended the RIAS Strategy Working Group. This included discussions over re-branding and outreach. This included providing 'postcards' to those applying for the CEO post. Images and quotations were being sought and DMcL asked Council to provide some if they could.

3.11 AM had attended the RIAS CPD Group A on 26th January where a straw-poll survey was requested regarding Core Competences and their priorities. This has been shared with Council members and responses had been received.

3.12 KS reported that the new website launch was imminent. KS thanked Molly Sinclair who had been invaluable in formulating the new site. All Council expressed their gratitude to Molly and KS for the hard work involved.

3.13 GS and JS have continued to contribute to the RIAS Education Working Group. Student involvement with the University of Dundee NP&L course was ongoing and it was hoped this would be expanded in future. GS is still very hopeful of a more structured local practice involvement with students and academics being developed and will keep Council updated. GS confirmed that it seemed from his discussions with students that it is mentorship that they are seeking as well as employment.

3.14 DR noted the change running through Church of Scotland and the rationalising/restructuring of congregations with around 50% of Church properties on the western isles and Orkneys being put up for sale.

3.15 JS suggested a networking event for students to meet the profession. This could be via ZOOM. JS voiced a real concern over the lack of employment opportunities available to students with the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and practices who have already furloughed staff. JD to discuss with GS and report back to Council the potential of such an event in April before the students are looking for placements. This would be a targeted approach to Years 3 and 5. This may even take the form of practices providing past/historic actual projects and providing the student with these files to analyse. It was accepted that copyright and some details may need to be redacted /protected.

3.16 Doors Open Days 2021 was discussed. Although now is the time to issue invites to venues it was accepted that due to the closure of many public buildings there would be little merit in pursuing a full list of buildings for this years event. It was decided to investigate further the potential of opening one or two buildings and focussing on them. Alternatively; some Architects offices may wish to open to promote local buildings and architecture. FM to investigate further.

3.17 A date for the AGM was agreed as Thursday 25th March 2021 at 7 pm. A DIA Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd March 2021 to ensure all necessary preparations have been made. Council members may be required to meet separately to allow judging, etc of DIA Sustainability Awards.

17.0 Date of Next Meeting

6.00pm Tuesday 23rd March 2021. Notification will be issued in due course over the hosting of this meeting which will still be by 'virtual' attendance.

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