



Birmingham Insurance Institute have decided to update the Constitution. This is because the existing Constitution was out of date in some of its terminology and no longer matched the model Constitution promoted by the Chartered Insurance Institute. Copies of the original, model and new Constitutions are all available to view on the BII website. The new Constitution follows closely the current model Constitution but makes changes where these are specifically necessary for Birmingham and has been approved by the CII.

I would very briefly comment on what seem to be particularly salient changes between the old and new Constitutions below and this includes reference to the model constitution. Readers will need to refer to the various constitution documents to follow the changes:

1. Under Clause 4 we no longer have the ability to refuse to accept a member from out of our area - this is not seen as an issue
2. Under Clause 6 a new class of member has been created, Social Member, and Senior Members have been removed. As senior members don't exist anymore this is more accurate
3. Clause 10 – The President and Deputy President need to be nominated by Council not less than 28 days prior to the AGM. This is because we have to give members 21 days' notice of the AGM.
4. Clause 11 allows us to create honorary life Vice Presidents by a vote at the AGM where we deem it appropriate. Currently every VP has to be re-elected every year. This is an addition to AGM powers and therefore to the power of the membership and allows us to recognise those whose service has been exceptional.
5. Clause 12 d. We have retained a reference to YP's so that the YPs chair is an ex-officio Council member. In Clause 12 e, we needed to retain our reference to Clause 14. Having done this, we have Council Members as follows:
 - President and Deputy (2)
 - VPs (4)
 - Secretary, Treasurer, Education Secretary (or PD&E as we call it), Chair of YPs (4)
 - Any local Committee Chair (0)
 - Up to 8 other officers – currently these would be F&M chair, Exams, Programme, Careers, Charity, Diversity and Comms (7)
6. In Clause 12.2 of the model constitution there is a requirement for a written ballot where there are more candidates than positions. This would be a change to previous AGM procedures, but this seems appropriate.
7. Much of the remainder of the existing Clause 12 is out of date and has been dropped
8. Clause 16 removes the reference to Council's authority to appoint salaried officers
9. Under 25.5 in the model Constitution the quorum for a Council meeting is set at 3. Our current level is 5, which seems more appropriate for an Institute of our size.
10. Our quorum for an AGM has been set at 15.
11. The existing bylaws have been carried over with the exception of that referring to the BII Library, which does not exist.

The rest of the model constitution comprises additional items which seem logical. If anyone requires additional detail, then they are asked to read the various documents and then email any questions to the BII office so that these can be answered in writing.