

Subject: 6th IINI AGM Minutes Ref: FC/IINI28042022

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**Council Position** Secretary

Date 28th April 2022 @12pm

President: Vincent McIvor in the Chair

The President gave a very warm welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the 6th Session of the Insurance Institute of Northern Ireland. Meeting held in the Clayton Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ormeau Road, Belfast on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 12.00pm.

# **Notice of Meeting:**

Notice of the AGM of the 6th Session of the IINI was taken as read.

**Apologies:** David Ussher, T Balendran, Jackie Elliott, Gary Ennis, Liam Foley, Brian Gibson, Geoff Clarke, Peter Kelly and Brendan Mooney, no other apologies received.

# Minutes of the last AGM 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

The minutes of the 5th Session IINI AGM were taken as read & signed by the President.

Minutes Proposed by Sandra Craig Seconded by David Gamble

# **Annual Report & Statement of Accounts:**

A copy of the Annual Report & Statement of Accounts was submitted by email in advance and placed on our website, the President recorded his thanks to all for submitting reports in a timely fashion to allow our Secretary to compile the Annual Report and extended thanks to Tim Graham for ensuring that the accounts were submitted in order and audited on time.

The President invited our treasurer Tim Graham to present and comment on the accounts:



# **General Account**

- Tim greeted all attendees and referred to the copy of the accounts and finance report submitted online
- Extended thanks to the external accountant, A1 Accounting for auditing accounts in a timely manner.
- As stated, the Year End balance in the Barclays Deposit account was £15,386.03 (up from £1 in 2021/22) with just interest accruing during the year.
- In our current account with Danske Bank the opening balance was £ 60,645.29 and the closing balance was £64,358.65
- Given the year that was (continued COVID-19 impact), our total income for the year decreased by 57% giving a total income of £31,931.74 2021. CPD income understandably suffered most, with reduction on 2021 with only one in person events held at the beginning of the last year and no season tickets sold or sponsorship requested/received for the 2020/2021 series. The CII Grant was not paid this year.
- Total expenditure for the year was £28,216.86 in 2021 with many events not taking place due to COVID restrictions; it is hoped that we can return to some form of normality in Q2 2022.
- The IINI finances remain in a healthy position at this point in time and Council will continue to remain focused on costs but at the same time continued awareness of providing value for our membership.
- In conclusion I would like to thank our independent auditors, Steve Thompson from A1 Accounting for their time examining the accounts.
- That concludes my financial report for 2021, does anyone have any questions?

Tim Graham

No Questions raised regarding the reports.

The President asked for a proposal for the adoption of the Annual Report & Statement of Accounts.

Proposed by: Ashley Murphy, Seconded by: Gary Ferguson



#### **Election of President:**

The Secretary advises the Council nomination is Lesley Gillanders. The Secretary asked for someone to formally propose Lesley Gillanders as President for the term, 2022/2023 session.

Vincent McIvor proposed Leslie Gillanders and delivered a brief synopsis: "Leslie has been a great support over my term as President and I want to thank him for all his support and commitment. Leslie started his career in 1980 with Hibernian Insurance in Dublin in Personal Lines underwriting and sales and progressing into Commercial Insurance held various supervisory and management roles within the company. Completed his ACII in 1990. In 1991 Leslie moved to Belfast to head up the Commercial Broking division for Northern Bank Insurance Services and held this position for 7 years. He left in 1998 to take up a position to head up First Trust Insurance Services. In 2010 he was seconded to manage the Bank's complaints unit during the height of the financial services crisis, handling all aspects of Banking, Insurance, and Financial Services complaints. More recently his role has been focused on the finalisation of PPI complaints.

In 2021 he achieved accreditation with the Pensions Management Institute as a Professional Pensions Trustee and is a Trustee Director of AIB UK pension scheme for 8 years and is chair of the Governance and Administration committee.

He was appointed recently as a Consultant for Lodge Financial Advice Limited an independent financial firm based in the north coast. Leslie has been on council for over 13 years and served 6 years as the CII Area Representative for Northern Ireland and IINI Secretary in 2019, other roles included Auditing the IINI Accounts for several years, assisting in Education Awards event and lastly Deputy President for 2 years. He is married with 3 grown up children, boy and girl twins aged 22 and a daughter aged 27, keen interest in football, running and classic cars"

The Secretary asked for someone to second Vincent's proposal.

Gary Ferguson seconded the proposal of Leslie Gillanders appointment. The Secretary declares Lesley Gillanders duly elected as President taking office from today.

#### **Election of the Deputy President:**

Leslie announced that the Council nomination for Deputy President was Fiona Coulter,

Leslie advised that he is delighted to propose Fiona as Deputy President for 2022/23 term:
"I am absolutely delighted Fiona has agreed to be the Deputy President for the year. Really looking forward to working with you. Fiona is without doubt made and continues to make a significant contribution to this Institute. Her role for the last 2 years as Secretary and prior to this for a number of years Education, Awards Ceremony very much calls this out."

Leslie asks for a seconder and the nomination was seconded by Vincent McIvor, Fiona is elected as Deputy President holding office from the end of the AGM.



#### **Election of Vice Presidents:**

The President declared that following an election process, the four elected from within their numbers to represent them on Council are:-

Vincent McIvor Iain Patterson Ashley Murphy Brian Caruth

John Laverty formally proposed nominations and seconded by Gary Ferguson.

## **Election of Office Bearers**

The President reads out the names of the Office Bearers who had been nominated individually in writing by four members of the Institute:

Treasurer	Tim Graham
Secretary	David Gamble
Education & Examinations Secretary	Sandra Craig
CPD Face to Face	lain Patterson
CPD Virtual	Fiona Cambridge
Public Relations & Website	David Irvine
Dinner Secretary	Gary Ennis
Sponsorship	Vincent McIvor
Office Rep. & Membership	Tammy Gamble
Careers Officer	Gary Ferguson
Insurance Charities	John Laverty
National Forum Representative	Brian Caruth
Diversity & Inclusion	David Ussher
PFS Rep	Geoff Clarke
PFS Chair	Debbie Connolly
Emerging Professionals	Liam Foley

The nominations were proposed by Brian Caruth and seconded by Fiona Cambridge

## **Election of Council Members**

The President also read out the names of Council Members who had been nominated individually by four members of the Institute as follows:

Russell Anderson Jackie Elliot Nick Mills Clare Bryson



These nominations were proposed by Sandra Craig and seconded by Ashley Murphy

The President declares all of the aforementioned Officers and Members duly elected and welcomes them to the IINI Council and extended particular congratulations to our new members – Liam Foley, Jackie Elliot, Nick Mills, Claire Bryson and Debbie Connolly.

The President thanked Peter Kelly, Brendan Mooney and Harvey Whiteside for their contribution on Council who have decided to step down from Council. They each brought a lot of experience over the years.

#### **Election of Auditors**

The Council confirmed appointment of an external auditor, Steven Thompson, A1 Accounting for the year ahead. Proposed by John Laverty and seconded by Tim Graham.

#### **Presidents Address 2022**

Vincent McIvor addressed attendees "I am not going to be long with this, after 2 years you're probably happy to see the back of me!!

It's been an honour to serve as President of our Institute in Northern Ireland.

I may not have been able to do all that I had wished to do but to have the privilege of being able to affect some change and maintain some normality over this period has been great.

Over the 2 years our Institute has had to adapt. The normal way of doing things all had to be rethought. CPD, Education and Exams, Charity and Social events.

We had to continue to support our members throughout and I'm proud we have been able to manage that Locally and also, put our views across to CII centrally when it came to difficulties with Exams and Communication for our Local students and Members.

On the Charity and Social front, we have struggled to maintain activities that could bring our members together to network and meet new friends as well as raise much needed funds for our Charities. I am looking forward to the next term when these activities will hopefully now be able to go ahead, and we can all make plans with a bit more certainty.

As a Council we have been at the forefront when it has come to Education & CPD. We have stepped up to the mark to deliver CPD to our members and deliver some excellent speakers. We have learned new ways of delivering CPD and I'm sure we can continue to use these learnings when we get back to face to face events again too. By virtual means we have been able to reach more of our membership and we must ensure we continue to engage these members and deliver what they require.

Examinations have been hit hard by the pandemic with all centres closing for a period. CII have tried to move to more remote invigilation however, they struggled to cope, and our members suffered. I'm proud that our Institute led the way to ensure this was rectified.



We now have two representatives on CII committees working on the Grant Allocation review and Communications throughout the membership – again an indorsement of how active and willing a Council we are to strive for the best for our membership.

We must maintain these connections within CII and develop the relationships built up as these will be key when we inevitably have issues in the future that need addressed.

The awards ceremony will be back this year too which will be a fantastic occasion for all involved.

I was delighted though that we went ahead with the Pantomime in 2021 – it was great day for our members and their families to get together. Again, more of these events will ensure we maintain the strength of our Institute locally.

We have maintained strong input from our PFS colleagues on Council and as I've said before our working relationship is as strong as anywhere in the UK and we want to keep it that way.

We even managed to squeeze in a Dinner. Not our normal Dinner but hopefully everyone who attended had an enjoyable evening as that was the main aim – to celebrate our Institute and bring our members together again.

Les, Fiona Coulter, Brian Caruth, David Ussher, Tim Graham have all been a particular important source of support to me and I thank you sincerely.

Thank you to all of you on Council, your support throughout these 2 years has been invaluable.

I am going to leave things there so that we can all here from our New President and a fantastic successor. Les as I I have just said has been a huge support to me throughout this period and he has given so much to Council over may years. I have no doubt he will do a brilliant job and I'm sure he'll get all the support from Council as I did.

Before I do go however there is some unfinished business from the Dinner. The Albert Gillespie Award.

## The Albert Gillespie Award was presented by Vincent McIvor:

Vincent gave a presentation speech – "A person who has always given me so much support. Is always there for advice when anyone needs it and if you ever need anything at all he is always first with his hand up and volunteering.

I think he may have covered every role available on Council – certainly as Past President, Treasurer, Secretary. Involved in all committees within CPD, education, social activities and he particularly enjoys the family days out such as the Pantomime. He is our current Charity Representative for IINI.

Between these roles and his other commitments outside of work as a Councillor and a Foster Parent, I don't know where he gets the time.

In my opinion a fully deserving recipient of this award is John Laverty!"

"Finally, I'm delighted to announce and let you all know that our own Brian Caruth has been awarded an Exceptional Service Award which is awarded to those volunteers who have demonstrated outstanding or exceptional service for their members at either a local, regional or national level.



I think Brian covers all 3!! He'll receive his award in Birmingham in May at the Ambassadors in Action Conference.

Congratulations Brian - thoroughly deserved!!"

#### Presentation of the President's Chain

Vincent McIvor presentation of the President's chain to Lesley Gillanders, President for 2022/2023 term.

Final duties of the outgoing President was presented John Laverty with the Albert Gillespie Award for all his contributions over the years. Brian Caruth was congratulated for the CII Excellence Award for all his contributions locally and regionally. Brian will be presented with his award at the CII Annual Conference in Birmingham.

New President's Address -

Leslie Gillanders Address: "Thank you, Vincent, for your kind words.

I am delighted, honoured, and humbled to have been nominated and elected as President of the Insurance Institute of Northern Ireland.

I am sure like many who have stood here as elected President it is daunting, certainly for me, big shoes to fill and very high standards to be maintained. In all of my roles in my career I have never shied away from a challenge. So, I am up for this one.

I have always been impressed by the professionalism, dedication of our council members who give of their time to serve the members of this Institute, truly amazing. So, I take this opportunity to thank the newly elected members on council great to have you on board.

I thank Fiona for agreeing to become Deputy President and really looking forward to working with you. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of those council members who have stepped down thank you for your significant contribution.

I would encourage members to get involved and volunteer to help council with any aspects/activities such as CPD, Charity, Awards Ceremony and Annual Dinner etc.

As you have already heard my career has spanned across many areas of insurance, underwriting, sales, broking, complaints resolution, financial services, pensions and banking. Bit of a dolly mixture. However, the CII is all about promoting protection in its many forms be it homes, vehicles, travel, commercial business, protection of lives, protecting long term savings and investments etc.

So, my theme for the year is:

'Value for all members in everything we do.'

We as a Local Institute have always prided ourselves as being professional and demonstrating integrity in everything we do. Our members will be impacted by the following:

- The new era of Hybrid working from home and the office.
- Diversity and Inclusion has become more prominent in our society and everyone has a value and place in our world.



- Greater emphasis for Women in business and the significant role and part they play and continue to play but also Men in Business. It's all about the right balance.
- Health and Well-being will continue to be important and more so with the adjustment of going back to the office.
- Ever increasing Regulation which will continue to feature across all aspects of our business, fair pricing, value for money, more prominence of sustainability, ESG and climate change.
- Ongoing impacts of Covid still continues to emerge
- Impacts of the Ukrainian Crisis, Inflation, Cost of Living, Higher Premiums, reduced coverage, Interest Rate increases and volatile financial markets.

Over the last 2 years we have all missed and been starved of the social, engagement and networking opportunities.

Now more than ever we need to reach out and serve our members in whatever stage of their career journey they are on, the continued provision of technical aspects of insurance and as the CII recently acknowledged a greater focus on soft skills, in whatever profession they are in. I firmly believe that as a council when we spend sufficient time planning events our members will benefit and prosper.

We have a strong relationship with our PFS colleagues demonstrated by increased representation on Council and I want to enhance and strengthen this in my year in any way I can.

This institute is all about Education, CPD, Charity and Social gatherings and our plans are to introduce this aspect by hosting a number of live events and supporting our profession and adding value to all our members in everything we do.

Before I close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have encouraged me onto Council at the beginning Michael McClean, Steven McAnee. Thanks also to Vincent, Brian Caruth, John Laverty, Ashley Murphy encouraging me to take on this role and lastly to all on Council for your nomination.

Thank you."

## Presentation of Past President's Jewel

Presentation of Past President's Jewel due to Vincent McIvor.

## Presentation of the Deputy President's Chain

Lesley Gillanders presentation of Deputy President's Chain to Fiona Coulter.

**AOB** 

• Next Council Meeting – 11th May 2022 @ 9am @ Clayton Hotel Belfast.

There being no further business the Meeting was brought to a close.