



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTE
OF AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANTS HELD ON FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 2023 VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING**

PRESENT: Simon Britton (Chairman)(SB), Tony Kernon (Vice-Chairman) (TK), Mike Greetham (CEO)(MG); George Cook (Chairman of Entrance & Disciplinary Committee) (GC), Victoria Bywater (Minutes, Administration) and 17 members.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Administration confirmed apologies had been received from 11 members.

2. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 28th March 2022 - Appendix A

The Chairman confirmed minutes of the meeting had been circulated to all members. The minutes were proposed as a true record by Simon Ward, seconded by Ros Gough and were approved unanimously.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chairman confirmed that no member wished to raise any matters relating to the minutes of the AGM held on the 28th March 2022.

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN, BIAC - Appendix B

The Chairman confirmed a report had been circulated to all members (Appendix B).

In addition to the report, the Chairman updated the meeting on the work of the Strategy Group and confirmed a survey of members would shortly be undertaken to understand what members want from their membership of BIAC.

TK asked for an update on TIAH.

The Chairman confirmed that BIAC continues to be represented at stakeholder groups of TIAH where the views of BIAC are given.

MG updated the meeting that the recent newly appointed CEO had been replaced and the replacement is due to start in June 2023.

Finally, the Chairman thanked members, the Council and the Administration for their support during the year.

5. REPORT OF THE CEO - Appendix C

MG confirmed a report had been circulated to all members (Appendix C).

In addition to the report the CEO reiterated the ongoing drive for BIAC for a monthly meeting Defra and RPA in addition to the work undertaken by David Meredith and Peter Walker where direct questions on behalf of BIAC members can be raised. The CEO confirmed he would shortly be asking the membership for any questions ahead of the start of these meetings.



The CEO reported excellent attendance at the BIAC 1 and 2 Foundation courses and thanked all contributors for their time and input into these courses.

The CEO reported ongoing progress with regard to Foundation 3 (Executive Programme) which will be delivered in June 2023.

The CEO confirmed after being CEO for nearly 10 years he intends to retire at the next AGM (2024).

The Chairman thanked the CEO for all his work during the year.

No questions were raised.

6. REPORT OF THE ENTRANCE AND DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE - Appendix D

GC confirmed a report had been circulated to all members (Appendix D)

GC further updated the meeting that the CPD changes made during 2022 had been well received and now provide a more structured approach to CPD points as well as consistency.

GC reported a good number of interviews had taken place for Member grade which is encouraging especially as the calibre is high and the age range is reduced.

GC thanked SB and Ros Gough for their ongoing support with regard to membership and Alex in the admin team for her work in the organisation of the interviews.

7. TREASURERS REPORT (Appendix E) AND ADOPTION OF THE 2022 ACCOUNTS (Appendix F)

VB confirmed a report from the Treasurer (Appendix E) and the draft 2022 annual accounts had been circulated to all members (Appendix F).

VB reported a healthy set of accounts due to good membership, good event/ training attendance and careful outgoing costs.

On the proposal of George Cook, seconded by Ros Gough, the accounts were approved unanimously by the meeting.

Ros Gough suggested that with healthy reserves that BIAC should put some funds to good use. The Chairman confirmed that this would certainly be a consideration of the Strategy Group work and also allows some support for the Executive Programme as well as an increased Scholarship fund for the year. The Chairman also suggested that some funds could go towards marketing/ advertising/ PR for BIAC with a view of how we can direct funds to promote membership and make BIAC the go-to for all farm/ agri/ planning matter. The Chairman urged any members with ideas to contact the office.

8. PROPOSAL FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR JANUARY 1st 2024

The Chairman confirmed that subscriptions remain unchanged for 2024.

9. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

SB proposed TK would remain as Vice-Chairman for the coming year, seconded by GC, all agreed.



11. ELECTION OF TREASURER

The Vice-Chairman proposed Adrian Cannon as Treasurer, seconded by James Valentine and with all in attendance in favour, Adrian Cannon was duly elected Treasurer of BIAC.

12. ELECTION OF COUNCIL

The Chairman confirmed that with no nominations for Council received, the Chairman proposed the election of Council en bloc, seconded by Simon Ward and with all in attendance in favour, Council was duly re-elected.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice-Chairman encouraged any members to contact the office with ideas on training events/ workshops.

Tony Kernon offered a vote of thanks on behalf of all members to Simon Britton for his chairmanship of BIAC.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 10.32am

DRAFT