
Council Courier

24.06.2021

This is an informal account of the discussions and decisions most recently taken at Council. Action notes and official minutes will be produced in due course.

Introduction

Obituary

Council resolved to send condolences to next of kin.

acknowledged and thanked. These included:

Declarations of interest

There were no new declarations.

Jo Bacon (National), Graham Boyce (Yorkshire), Ewen Miller (North West), Elsie Owusu (National), Valeria Passetti (East Midlands), Ian Standen (RSAW), Ryan Stuckey (RSAW President), Nicky Watson (North East), Richard Wooldridge (North West),

Minutes of previous meeting, 29 April 2021

Agreed as a correct record subject to one amendment.

President-elect Simon Allford gave a vote of thanks to outgoing President Alan Jones, praising him in particular for his work on the President's Fact-Finding Mission and on strategy, and his work to foster an improved working relationship with the ARB.

President's report

Highlights of presidential activity for the last three months include:

- 1-1 Meeting with Chris Pincher MP, Housing Minister, MHCLG
- Way Head events – Americas, Asia + Australia Regions
- Sust. Housing Futures - speaker
- CiC Strategy Working Group – meetings
- Royal Gold Medal live event
- FRIBA & Hon FRIBA event
- CIOB Adapt Conf (Speaker)
- Regulation of Function Working Group Meetings
- ACE General Assembly
- RIBA Future Architects - Meeting
- APSA Spring Forum (Speaker)
- SPACES Conf – Net Zero Carbon & Climate Emergency (Keynote Speaker)
- Global Presidents Call

Strategy

2034 Masterplan

Council discussed and agreed the proposed 2034 Masterplan and agreed to recommend it to the Board.

2022-23 Biennial plan

Council discussed and agreed the proposed 2022-23 Biennial Plan and agreed to recommend it to the Board.

Relationship with CIAT

The President led an exploratory discussion on the relationship of RIBA and its members with technologists and the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT).

Outgoing members of Council and other members standing for re-election were

Report from Chair of RIBA Board

Since the last Board report to Council on 25th March Board had met formally four times and its sub-groups had met on a weekly basis. The topics that have been considered included:

- Committee Structure
- Delegations
- Staff structure and organisational design
- Transparency Board / Council
- Policy
- Diversity
- Housing and Planning
- Climate Change
- Building Safety
- RGM arrangements
- Board of RIBA 1834 - S de Gale appointed a director
- Professional Issues via regular reports from Executive Director of Professional Services, Adrian Dobson), including Professional Standards and Competency
- Survey of the profession
- Fire safety
- Climate Change
- Future Architects Front (FAF)
Future Architects Network (FAN)
- Regulation of Function
- Fee Calculator
- PII
- Inclusivity / Diversity
- Strategy
- Finance
- Investment Strategy
- China - Registered office in Hainan Governance of
- International Chapters to regularise

Audit Committee Chair

Council noted the Nomination Committee recommendation and

endorsed the appointment of Mark Jarvis as Chair of the Audit Committee.

Volunteer's handbook

The latest version of the handbook was briefly discussed and more work would be carried out to improve it for Council's sign off before the end of the session.

Inclusion and diversity report

Marsha Ramroop, Director of Inclusion, made a presentation to Council on progress to date with the roll out of the 'Cultural Intelligence' programme across the RIBA workforce. 'Cultural Intelligence' (known by the abbreviation 'CQ') aimed to make the organisation more inclusive through a range of training measures to be implemented during the rest of the year. There was also explanation of the RIBA halting use of the term BAME and how CQ will be introduced to the membership and their practices. The presentation was enthusiastically received by the Council.

Regulation of function working group

Roger Shrimplin gave a report to Council on the output from the working group. His paper set out the case for a stronger degree of the regulation of function in the construction sector, identifying three core activities referencing the proposed Gateways in the Building Safety Bill: planning permission, full plans building regulation sign-off and completion stage which would benefit from regulating who is able to carry out an activity. While the paper did not call for these activities to be exclusively reserved for architects, it made the case for the role of Architects in the process due to their involvement at all stages of the construction process and their extensive and ongoing education.

A discussion ensued during which the importance of ensuring access and entry

into the profession was raised. The draft position statement was agreed.

Further comments were invited offline by Roger Shrimplin, and Council would be able to review the position statement after it had been shared with the ARB.

Chair of the RIBA Board Jack Pringle invited Roger Shrimplin and other members of the working group to attend and brief the Board.

It was noted that a paper on the extent of pathways into the profession would be brought to a future meeting of Council by the student and associate Council members.

Committee Restructure

Council had a lengthy discussion about the membership and proposed Terms of Reference for the Global & Local (working title)Committee, which will bring together Nations & Regions with International Committee. It was noted there was also related discussions on the role of Regional Chairs. It was agreed more work needed to be done on these matters outside the meeting by setting up an advisory group which Council members were invited to join.

Expert Advisory Groups

Terms of reference: Council approved the template Terms of Reference for all new Expert Advisory Groups – which includes Conservation. Council Members interested in being the allocated Council Member for one of the Groups were asked to notify the Board and Council Secretary of their interest by 5pm on Friday 2nd July 2021 by email, confirming their willingness to fully engage with Nominations Committee on the selection process.

2021 elections

VP Membership:

Council

- approved the role description for VP Membership;
- ratified the current electoral college list of regional chairs;
- agreed to the embedding of the list of RIBA electoral regions in the RIBA website.
- Agreed hat arrangements for 2022 onwards should be considered.

Any other business

Council's attention was brought to policies that had been added to the online document folder.

Reports for noting:

- Finance report
- Chief Executive's report
- Professional Standards
- Audit Committee
- Membership
- President's diary
- Responses to questions from Mark Benzie (RIBA South)