

GLASGOW INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM, THURSDAY
11th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 6PM.

Author: AR Date: 11/02/2021

Present

Phil Zoechbauer	(President)	PZ
Alissar Riachi	(Hon. Secretary)	AR
Shona McVicar	(Vice-President)	SM
Andrew Hadden	(Vice-President)	AH
Sue Evans		SE
Sam Patterson		SP
Fiona Sinclair		FS
James Watson		JW
Bryan McGhie		BM
Karen Kalkreuter		KK
Victoria Scott		VS
Andrew Haggerty		AH
Stephen Doherty		SD
Massimo Sannino		MS
Chris Stewart		CS
Karen Nugent		KN
Andrew Frame		AF
Scott Abercrombie		SA
James Robb		JR
Raina Armstrong		RA
Robin Webster		RW
Elsbeth McNeill		EM

Apologies

Jude Barber	Scott McAulay
Darren Williamson	Shabnam Komai-Koma

Michael Dougall	Matt Loader
Will Gunn	Peter Smith
Chloe Yuill	Zalia Ivanova
Laura Paton	

		Action
1.0	Previous Minutes	
1.1	Previous Minutes agreed and taken as read	
2.0	Chair's Comments	
2.1	PZ introduced Andrew Haggerty and Bryan McGhie to the Council. BM to potentially take over as Treasurer	
2.2	Update and review of the constitution: PZ provided an update on the Steering group's proposals on the review of the GIA's Constitution. The review of the Constitution was voted for in 2019. The proposals seek to follow best practice to limit the liability of trustees and ensure that the GIA is acting in a manner that is transparent and accountable. This effectively incorporates the GIA as a SCIO, voted for at the SGM in December, which reduces the number of Trustees to 15, ensuring that they are elected by the membership. This makes provision for 2 RIAS students/associates to sit as Trustees, meaning they can take up any executive GIA position other than President. This also allows the GIA to co-opt Trustees, such as people who are not RIAS members. PZ noted a summary document is uploaded on Basecamp, along with a first draft of the Constitution. PZ suggested Council Members familiarise themselves with the proposals with further conversations to be had during an open meeting on the 18th of February to cover questions or comments. All Council comments must be communicated to the President by the 25th of February in order to collate the responses and incorporate them as a response to the legal advisor and later incorporate them into the revised Constitution. The indicative timeline plans for the Council to go back to the wider membership in an open consultation between March and April, letting GIA members pass their own comments and ask questions. Thereafter these comments will be interrogated and incorporated prior to passing the Constitution document to RIAS, provisionally in June, with the outlook of seeking RIAS approval at the end of June Council Meeting. Thereafter, a GIA SGM would be held in July provisionally.	All
2.3	PZ shared that RIAS will be holding their AGM at the end of June. GIA AGM needs to be 30 days before that. PZ proposed Thursday 15th of April for the purposes of holding the AGM, tying it to the GIA's annual lecture, both as digital events due to restrictions. Peter Clegg from	Note

FieldenCleggBradley was approached last year, which he was unable to deliver due to Covid-19 restrictions. PZ proposed Peter Clegg is once again approached.

- 2.4 PZ noted that Darren Williamson will be stepping down as Treasurer at the AGM. Bryan will potentially be taking the role of Treasurer. Bryan introduced himself. Handover to be done from Darren to Bryan over the next couple of months.
- 2.5 PZ noted that this year is Glasgow's turn to host the RIAS Convention. Note
The GIA will take a leading role as an organiser. RIAS prefer the risk averse option of a digital event. Dependent on circumstances, should these change by September, some events could happen physically. The initial idea for a theme is Innovation and Collaboration. The Convention falls close to COP26. CS noted that the SWG (Sustainability Working Group) is also coordinating with the RIBA Small Practice Conference which happens at the same time as RIAS Convention
- 2.6 PZ noted that the EAA and the Landscape Institute for collaborating on various events in the run up to COP.
- 2.7 PZ noted he has been attending RIAS Chapter Presidents' Meetings. Ideas such as streamlining and collaborating on CPDs across all chapters have been discussed, particularly considering the promotion of competency-based assessment proposals for the Architect's Act. Another point discussed is that of branding and how all chapters' branding can refer to the RIAS as one umbrella, but also retain Chapter identity. Furthermore, the legal status of all chapters has been discussed. Despite having different constitutions, not all chapters are charities and the RIAS Chapter Presidents are hoping to engage in a discussion on moving towards a standardised legal entity for all chapters.

3.0 Treasurer's Report

- 3.1 Report tabled and taken as read.
- 3.2 SP noted that the GIA platforms are tied to his credit card, which is due to expire. SP will manage the transition, but advised anyone who has issues to get in touch with him. PZ and SP to discuss transferral of subscriptions offline PZ+SP
- 3.3 SA enquired whether the GIA has moved to digital banking. PZ noted that this has not happened due to difficulties within the RBS branch, telephone and digital applications. PZ noted that the SCIO will require a new bank account and proposed that the current bank account is left as is, allowing a switch to a new one upon incorporating the SCIO. PZ suggested this could include a wider review of who the GIA banks with. PZ to query with EEA who they have set up their SCIO bank account with PZ

4.0 Communications Committee

- 4.1 Report tabled and taken as read.

- 4.2 SM noted award plaques have been posted to participants and noted she must follow up with Tobermore for sponsorship as it is not within the Treasurer's report. PZ noted outstanding sponsorship for 2019 from Tobermore. SM
- 4.3 SM noted that there will be a soft launch of the GIA Blog *What's the Chat?* featuring articles of interest by GIA membership, with the first article being SE's. SM to advertise the blog via the monthly newsletter. Articles are to be around 1500 words. SM urged Council to share the information with anyone interested in writing. RW enquired about including Go GIA in the blog. SM noted that Go GIA is a separate strand that she will include in the newsletter and any key actions could be referred to on the new blog. SA and FS to write a piece on the old GIA Medal's history. PZ noted this could bring the page back towards architecture and allow it to branch out. Note
- 4.4 SM noted that at the end of February we will back on the monthly newsletters and will include information on the Hamilton Mausoleum as well as GO GIA. SM asks everyone to share any relevant events or information with her for inclusion.
- 4.5 SP and SM to meet and go over GDPR and Privacy Policies. SP is still named as Data Handler. SP notes that the current policy builds on the transfer of Members details from RIAS to GIA and with Go GIA and the wider membership, it would be good to make sure this is up to date. SP+SM
- 4.6 AR noted Linktree is now available, so anyone wanting to upload more links to Instagram should get in touch with AR or SM.
- 4.7 JR enquired what the best channel for sharing information is. PZ and SM agree that it would be beneficial for each committee to have at least one member who has website admin rights, as well as log-in details for social media. Note
- 5.0 Education**
- 5.1 Report tabled and taken as read
- 5.2 AR noted delays to sending cheques to students from Student Awards 2020 due to Covid-19. The plan was to send the cheques to universities to distribute, however, schools have not been open since March 2020. PZ suggested we get in touch with students directly for receiving cheques. IG to follow up. IG
- 5.3 AR to check with Shabnam on survey development AR+SKK
- 5.4 AR introduced the Cross-School Studio between the Mac and Strathclyde in the form of peer workshops between the two universities to allow students to communicate and discuss their projects. Form to be released at the end of the week, where students can input their details and project descriptions and can align their work to one of 5 themes. This could become a recurring event every year/semester. AR, ZI and MS to facilitate the sessions. AR enquires whether someone from the Sustainability Committee would be interested in helping to facilitate the Climate Emergency/Sustainability Workshop. JR noted he would be happy to be involved. AR+ZI+MS +JR

- 5.5 AR noted the AGT Scholarship is on the list of events for the Education Committee. AR proposed a preliminary timeline of releasing the competition in June for submissions in August. AR to liaise with SA around May in establishing a theme. AR suggests topics such as crisis, diversity and pandemics. FS suggests using the theme of Thomson's design for cholera's epidemic as a precedent along with his glass-roofed streets as a historic precedents. AR suggested that putting the submissions together, much like the Legacy book, would also be a good idea. AR+SA
- 5.6 AR plans need to be developed for the student awards, taking restriction uncertainties into consideration. IG noted that MSA will be doing a digital exhibition, but is unsure about Strathclyde. AR noted the importance of doing a ceremony for the students. IG proposed doing a form of ceremony that allows students to meet their potential employers. SM proposed having a form of celebration for students and allowing them to have their own awards ceremony, rather than including a short overview within the design awards. AR proposed having a speaker at the event and inviting someone who promotes diversity and different role models. AR used the A+DS Awards as a precedent of a nice format with a lecture followed by a video of the winners/commended. PZ noted that it's good to have a special ceremony for the students. The current format includes some form of ceremony in June and Behind the Prize during Doors Open Day in September. IG noted this would mean we have to start preparing soon. PZ questioned how the prizes are revealed and whether the format will be more successful if it is a virtual prize giving. MS proposed combining that with Behind the Prize. JW suggested that students get a real go at explaining their projects to others and answering more questions. Ar+IG+MS
- 5.7 AR noted that the new blog could also be promoted to the students

6.0 Practice Committee

- 6.1 Report tabled and taken as read.
- 6.2 EM introduced all different CPD events for the next two months. There will be 7 events between now and 19/05/2021. CPD events available in the Practice Committee Report. All CPDs to be midday for about an hour. EM looking for suggestions for follow-in CPDs.
- 6.3 PZ and VS had been in touch about walking tours and whether that could be a part of Glasgow Doors Open Day. Some architects previously awarded could be included as part of these walking tours. IG questioned whether these would be physical or virtual. PZ suggested physical ones dependent on restrictions. RW suggested that a virtual walking tour of a building site would be a very useful event for students. VS
- 6.4 EM enquired whether login for HES events could be shared with the rest of the Chapters. PZ noted that this discussion is being held in the RIAS membership, particularly considering the virtual nature of the CPDs. SE noted that SCT's DOD survey has shown a broader uptake of digital uptake compared to the population who would normally attend, so some EM+RA

digital content will benefit people often excluded. CS noted that there's a sustainability rep in each of the six chapters, who speak to one another and jointly organise CPDs (SWG). IG questioned whether it would be good for other committees within the RIAS to collaborate similar to SWG, such as CPD. EM will take that on board and chase this up. RA noted that the strategy team is working on that - they are working on a Basecamp-like setup where everyone can keep track of how things work within all chapters. SP noted the consent of members to have their data shared between chapters and that all chapters should be on the same privacy policy. SP to chase this up as a structural issue under RIAS's umbrella.

6.5 EM noted that all practice details must be updated on the webpage and the recordings are currently still sitting on the calendar SM

6.6 EM noted they would like to promote the small practice group, which should be on the website

6.7 EM brought up gifts for speakers and that not everyone has received the Thomson book. EM suggested pursuing different books, but these need to be budgeted for. SE noted that bulk buying books may make it cheaper. AR suggested a recommended reading list from all committees. PZ noted that this was done as part of the newsletter and suggested that is brought back.

6.8 KK noted that she had spoken to Roger Curtis from HES, who is looking for recommendations for topics to be presented. PZ suggested the Conservation Committee can look at topics to be presented. FS+SA

6.9 VS noted that video upload on the website must be better coordinated. VS+SM

7.0 Conservation Committee

7.1 Report tabled and taken as read

7.2 SA noted bits and pieces are being received for the GIA archive from the open call in the newsletter.

7.3 Hamilton Mausoleum: KN noted that it is not yet confirmed when the exhibition is going to launch, but they are still hoping to create a physical exhibition at the Lowparks Museum when physically possible. The exhibition is not likely to happen before April, with staff suggesting it takes place about one month after the restrictions are lifted. The design of the exhibition and the schools competition are still to be developed and planned. A few other strands to be connected to it such as the virtual Hamilton Palace and Hamilton Mausoleum Trusts to reinforce a positive story of why the competition has nudged people forward. KN will come back with a budget for approval. PZ noted it would be good for a booklet to be prepared. AR and ZI have been tasked with this currently, but PZ suggested that others could get involved. IG noted it would be good to have the online exhibition as well. SA responded that it may discourage people from going to Mausoleum to view the exhibition in person. KN noted there is a schools competition, which would encourage children to visit as well.

8.0 Sustainability Committee

- 8.1 Report tabled and taken as read
- 8.2 JR noted that one Cone on the Cop event was held today with Glasgow Wood Recycling, who are looking to reuse old whisky casks
- 8.3 JR has spoken to Andrew about urban design panel and including sustainability more
- 8.4 JR noted that along with the RIAS SWG they have introduced the new SCTI (Scottish Carbon Transformation Initiative)
- 8.5 CS introduced a number of activities planned for the COP26 period and run-up thereto, including *The Biophilic Corridor; the Clyde; Run from the Cop walks: Heritage, Retrofit, Housing; Kelvin/Canal/Energy, Shopfront Exhibitions*. GCC supports the *Biophilic Corridor* initiative and may find funding for it. All
- 8.6 *The Clyde* to involve students from MSA and Strathclyde for the production of some of the information, particularly showing certain episodes of the Clyde in the past, present and future. CS has made contact with Derek Hill. IG suggested CS could get in touch with Kathy Li from MSA. CS and PZ suggested that it works as a form of an Open Call in order to make this a democratic process. KN suggested that students do these views as part of their sustainability workshops. RW noted that groups are looking at moving the weir at the Clyde and suggests checking the Glasgow LDP.
- 8.7 CS further suggested this could be a wider series of events across Scotland and beyond Glasgow. CS provided an overview of the budget for the project. RW suggested looking at Glasgow City Heritage Trust for support and for sharing some photographs.
- 8.8 PZ suggested creating a walking tour in the city from shopfront to shopfront. PZ and CS further suggest a wider shopfront project to include the whole chapter. PZ suggested a common theme that each practice takes on an aspect of and curates it.
CS noted that certain events could be held physically with social distancing, such as walking and cycling. SE suggested self-guided walking notes. KN suggested audio guided walks. SP suggested walkingheads.net.
- 8.9 PZ suggested GIA could make a financial commitment to COP26, due to funding availability as a result of the digital nature of the past year's events. RW suggested that external funding should be sought where opportunities present themselves.
- 8.10 CS suggested that the maps are up and running by the summer. He further asked for volunteers for these events, particularly for mapping All

9.0 Architecture People and Places Committee

- 9.1 Report tabled and taken as read
- 9.2 AH noted that the first meeting of the Glasgow Urban Design Panel will be held on the 18th of February

- 9.3 AH noted that we have teamed up with Helensburgh Design Review Panel –Becca Thomas of New Practice and Laura Paton of Bruach Design to assist with review of large-scale housing development
- 9.4 AH introduced Design Conversations, an event series ongoing, awaiting response from GCC.
- 9.5 AH noted they have made contact with Lateral North Site for COP26
- 9.6 AH updated the *Glasgow Rooms*, with two spaces that are being looked at: the Vacant Space and the New Glasgow Society. He suggested getting a hold of a space in advance of COP to organise meetings and anything in the runup, potentially tying to the Cone on the Cop shop front concept. This would further mean having a physical space near the COP 26 site. The costs are approximately 1800 per month for Vacant Space and a similar price for the New Glasgow Society. A longer term option for the Glasgow Room is the *People's Palace*, who AH has made contact with. AH suggested that if practices are curating their windows that so could we.
- 9.7 AH suggested People's Palace could be a form of permanent physical space for the GIA. He had mentioned to the People's Palace that the GIA has a lot of archive materials that could potentially be exhibited. PZ supports the idea of having a physical space of the city. PZ enquired whether architecture students from Strathclyde and GSA could build a model of the city to be pieced together in the middle of the space, on a block-by-block basis. AR suggested this model could be useful to students if made available for students later. RA suggests the individual blocks could be housed in places along a walking route in the future

Note

10. RIAS Strategy Committee

- 10.1 Report tabled and taken as read
- 10.2 RW noted that Go GIA is kicking off at the start of March and all reps are now appointed. RW enquired whether there is a script. PZ to double-check with Jude Barber. RW noted that an email must be sent out to all practices in places such as Oban or similar.
- 10.3 RW noted that RIAS Council is looking at the strategy and are looking to link that strategy and send it in the form of postcards to the politicians before they produce their relevant manifestos. The postcards are to include text on one side and illustrations on another. RA noted it will be a summary of the strategy. FS noted that this must be done immediately. JW noted presentations on Agents of Change and planning reform, with two points coming from that, these being the need to increase the presence of planners and the design of sensitive places. JW suggested that this is incorporated. RW emphasized the importance of showing that design matters. JW noted that he needs evidence that design matters. SP suggested the NHS estate work and how its design assessment process captures client concerns and the issue of users at the design brief with the evidence based on briefing stage coming through very well. SP gave an example of Woodlands Old vs Woodlands New. RW asked

All

- SP to encapsulate that in a number of sentences and images. SP suggested the quotes of the people at the briefing stage are examined
- 10.4 RA noted that they must map out communications across RIAS chapters RA is looking for a brief statement from everyone, which she can lift from the committee reports in the form of the descriptions of what committees are working on. PZ suggested looking at the handbook for a more general overview and the committee reports RA

11.0 AOB

- 11.1 AR noted the importance of starting to move to a digital archive and storage of information via Google Drive prior to the AGM. AR to create a folder structure to ensure a cohesive standard is maintained across the GIA PZ+SM+AR
- 11.2 SP to share minutes and reports from 2016/2017. IG can also share similar files.

NEXT MEETING

AGM Thursday 15th of April @ 6.00 pm via Zoom