

Council Courier

29.09.2016

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.

Obituary

Council resolved to send condolences to next of kin. Particular mention was made of Alfred J Rowe, Peter Blundell-Jones and Roger Coombs. Zdenek Makar (Deputy Manager of RIBA's caterers Harbour and Jones) was also remembered.

Declarations of interest

There were no new declarations of interest.

Minutes of 29 June 2016

Agreed, subject to minor amendments.

Matters arising from the minutes

Regional meeting dates to be reviewed by Nations & Regions Committee to ensure more effective reporting to Council.

Garden Bridge: the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan had announced an enquiry into the project's use of public money. The RIBA would be holding a meeting with Transport for London, outcome to be reported to Council.

Motion from Tzena James: Following the motion debated at the last meeting concerning the issuing of event invitations to former members of Council, Council agreed that on an annual basis Council members from the previous five years should be invited to RIBA events in accordance with the RIBA's complimentary ticket policy.

Fellows Assessment Panel: Membership Committee had made

further appointments to the panel according to its delegated authority and with attention being paid to equality and diversity. Membership Committee would also be asked to reconsider the proof of achievement element of the application process.

Appointment of Chief Executive

Council endorsed the appointment of Alan Vallance as the new Chief Executive of the RIBA.

Royal Gold Medal and Honorary and International Fellows 2017

Council supported the recommendation to award the Royal Gold Medal 2017 to Paolo Mendes da Rocha.

It also approved recommendations of the following Honorary Fellows: Iwan Baan (Photographer), Neil Baxter (Secretary & Treasurer, RIAS), Patricia Brown (Chair, New London Architecture), Martyn Evans (Director, London Festival of Architecture), Marcus Fairs (Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Dezeen) Stephen Howlett (Chief Executive, Peabody) Razia Iqbal (Journalist, BBC News), Jeremy Paul Melvin (Architectural Historian and Curator), Professor Frédéric Migayrou (Bartlett Professor of Architecture), Lars Müller (Publisher), Jo Negrini (Chief Executive, London Borough of Croydon), Ian Pritchard (Secretary General, Architects Council of Europe), Julian S Robinson (Director of Estates, London School of Economics), Dame Theresa Sackler (Dr Mortimer and Theresa Sackler

Foundation), Sonia Watson (Chief Executive, Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust), Nathalie Weadick (Director, Irish Architecture Foundation), Christine Murray (Editor-in-Chief, Architects' Journal and Architectural Review).

Council approved the following International Fellows:

Johan Celsing (Johan Celsing Arkitektkontor, Sweden), Izaskun Chinchilla (Izaskun Chinchilla Architects, Spain), Frederick Cooper (Cooper Graña Nicolini Architects, now CGGMS Architects, Peru), Philip Cox (Cox Architecture, Australia), Tom de Paor (Depaor, Ireland), Francisco Vieira de Campos and Cristina Guedes (Menos é Mais, Portugal), Bijoy Jain (Studio Mumbai, India), Siv Helen Stangeland and Reinhard Kropf (Helen & Hard, Norway and Austria), Vo Trong Nghia (Vo Trong Nghia Architects, Vietnam), Marie Jose Van Hee (Mjose Van Hee Architecten, Belgium).

Appointments of honorary officers, vice presidents and main committees 2016-17

Council voted to appoint the following:

- Elena Tsolakis – Honorary Librarian
- Caroline Buckingham – Vice President Practice & Profession
- RIBA Enterprises representative on RIBA Board – Paula Willmore (interim appointment)
- Directors of RIBA Financial Services Ltd Board: Alan Vallance (RIBA Chief Executive), Clem Brohier (Executive Director, Finance & Operations and RIBA Company Secretary) and Richard Whitbread.

Members of main committees for the 2016-17 session were confirmed:

British Architectural Trust Board, Education, Practice & Profession, Finance & Operations, Audit & Oversight, International, Membership, Communications, Library.

Council resolved to change reg 5.19A to reflect the change of name of RIBA Financial Services Ltd (formerly RIBA Building Better Futures Ltd).

Education Committee terms of reference – updates approved.

President's report

Presidential priorities remained business skills, international activities and support to members and practices of all sizes, as well as the engagement of students and young architects. YADA (Young architects and developers programme for under-35s) being rolled out. Presidential surgeries for members and RIBA staff to continue.

RIBA Board report:

Council noted the report.

Chief Executive's Report

Information noted on business and financial planning, long-term financial modelling, Key Performance Indicators, Defined Benefit Pension Fund and year-end forecast.

Update on RIBA response to EU Referendum Result

A summary of RIBA activity was given, which included emphasis on membership engagement and support. A joint statement with CIOB, RICS and RTPI had been issued in mid-September focusing on shared areas of interest.

Council endorsed the RIBA's policy briefing and approach to date. It also approved the creation of a non-standing committee of Council and non-Council

members chaired by the President or her nominee to oversee future RIBA post-EU referendum result activity.

Council further approved the delegation to this committee of policy approval between Council meetings in relation to the RIBA's policy position on leaving the EU.

Members emphasised the need for speed of response to government, prioritising specific requests on the needs of the profession (i.e. the practical actions required), and the importance of professional bodies working together in an integrated fashion.

Council representation review

Council approved the following recommendations from the working group:

- a) Student/associate members of the RIBA should become eligible to vote in elections for the RIBA President.
- b) Affiliate members of the RIBA should become eligible to vote in elections for the RIBA President.
- c) The term of office for student/associate members should be increased from one to (up to) three years.
- d) The number of student/associate members on Council should be increased from three to four.
- e) The role of Vice President for Students/Associates should be created (the role holder would not be a member of the RIBA Board but have an ex-officio place on the RIBA's Education Committee).
- f) The number of international members on Council should be increased from two to four, with elections on the basis of four international regions (Americas, Europe, Africa and Middle East, Asia and Australasia).

Suggestions were also put forward by the working group concerning possible models for the future size and composition of Council. After discussion Council agreed that this work should continue with a further report from the working group to Council in December. Comments from Council members concerning regional and national representation were noted. Any further comments were requested to be made to VP Membership (Anthony Clerici).

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) Report

Council agreed to note the report.

Professional Conduct

Council agreed to note the report, including the implementation of the Professional Conduct Review recommendations.

Professional Conduct Panel: chartered members were still sought to undertake appraisals and sit on hearings (a small honorarium could now be applied for in relation to this activity). Expressions of interest should be made to Adam Williamson, Head of Professional Standards.

Membership Reinstatements and resignations:

Council noted the election of

- 182 new student members;
- 33 new associate members;
- 489 new chartered members;
- 24 new affiliate members

including readmissions, together with resignations.

Sustainability discussion: A manifesto for responsible architecture.

Council heard presentations from: Lynne Sullivan, Chair of RIBA Sustainable Futures Group and RIBA Ambassador on Climate Change; David Adams, Technical Director Willmott Dixon; Judit Kimpian from AHR Global and ACE Sustainability Group, and Victoria Herring, Director of Refurbishment and Retrofit at Grosvenor Estate.

After debate Council then voted to agree the vision and recommendations put forward, including 1) energy literacy/Sustainability as a core competency; 2) Transparency of outcomes (post-occupancy evaluation and performance data collection/dissemination of research) and 3) Knowledge sharing.

The speakers were thanked for their contributions.

Reports for information:

- President's Diary;
- Visiting Board Report;
- Membership report

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