

21 October 2024

**PAPER CLASSIFICATION: OPEN**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
COUNCIL**

**held on Thursday, 3 October 2024 at 15.00 hrs (BST)  
at Savoy Place, London WC2, and via Virtual Meeting**

Present: Mr Alkis Spyrou (Chair)  
Mr Rob Anderson  
Dr Imran Shafique Ansari  
Mr Wolf Byttner  
Dr Jeremy Creasey  
Professor Andy Downton  
Dr Will Drury  
Mr Warren East (President)  
Dr Nike Folayan  
Mr Jez Green  
Ms Sophie Harker  
Mr Andy Hughes  
Mrs Katherine Jackson  
Ms Susan Jones  
Miss Macauley Kenney  
Professor Callum Kidd  
Dr Chiew-Foong Kwong  
Mr Yew Kee Lim  
Ms Senamiso Mathobela  
Mr Ben Obiri-Bonney  
Dr Kenny Otiaba  
Mr Sam Presley  
Dr Stephen Pybus  
Ms Anusha Rammohan  
Mr Farooq Yaqub  
Eur Ing Dr Ahmed Zobaa

By invitation: Ms Yewande Akinola (Trustee)  
Ms Anni Feng (Trustee)  
Dr Simon Hart (Trustee)  
Ms Samantha Hubbard (Trustee)  
Dr Carol Marsh (Trustee)  
Professor Paul Needham (Trustee)  
Ms Dawn Ohlson (Trustee)  
Ms Mamta Singhal (Trustee)

In attendance: Mrs Toni Allen (Chief Engagement and Growth Officer)  
Mr Ed Almond (Chief Executive and Secretary)  
Mrs Morna Dason-Barber (People Director)  
Ms Fiona Dew (Strategic Planning Manager)  
Ms Sandra Godman (Head of Strategy)  
Ms Sara Killingworth (Portfolio and Product Management Director)  
Mr Christopher Knibb (Governance and External Engagement Director)  
Ms Eloisa de la Maza (Governance Executive)

Ms Sara Sharman (Interim Operations Director)  
Mr John Sullivan (Chief Technology Information Officer)  
Mr Simon White (Chief Finance Officer)  
Mr Andrew F Wilson (Head of Governance)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr King On Lee, Eur Ing Dr Larissa Suzuki and Ms Thilini Wasundara.

**2. Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

**3. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 June 2024 (CO(24)M2) were approved and signed as a correct record.

**4. Actions Taken or Outstanding**

- 4.1. Council noted a report on actions taken or outstanding since the previous meeting of Council (CO(24)7).
- 4.2. Council noted a report on tracking the outcome from proposals made by Council over recent Sessions (CO(24)8).

**5. Council Constitution and Terms of Reference**

Council noted the constitution and terms of reference of Council (CO(24)6) and the Volunteer Handbook.

**6. Council Business**

Council noted the outline of Council business for the Session 2024/25 (CO(24)9).

**7. Breakout Session**

- 7.1. Mr Spyrou introduced a World Café discussion on Understanding and Developing Future Income Streams (CO(24)10). Council members participated in three breakout sessions.
- 7.2. Following the discussion, the meeting reconvened in plenary and the staff made oral reports summarising the points made in each breakout session.
- 7.3. Group one had discussed IET events as an example of co-creation and the opportunities for IET Communities and the cross-promotion of IERT products and services.
- 7.4. Group two had discussed IET activities on subjects of interest to industry, including net-zero and standards, joint activities with other Professional Engineering Institutions, and IET activity to influence young people.
- 7.5. Group three had discussed how to simplify IET processes to encourage member participation, improvements to the enabling technologies used by volunteers, and increasing the activities of Local and Technical Networks.

## **8. President**

- 8.1. The President spoke about his plans for the Session 2024/25 focusing on the theme of his Presential Address, which was the role of the Professional Engineering Institutions in the engineering ecosystem. He thanked Council members in advance for their support during the coming Session.
- 8.2. Council discussed the President's remarks.

## **9. Chief Executive and Secretary**

- 9.1. Mr Almond gave an oral report on the priorities of the charity and recent IET activities. He drew attention to the Future Tech Congress held in Bangalore on 2 September 2024, which had attracted an audience of 245, plans to re-establish the financial stability of the IET, following several years of operating deficits, the need to improve the IET's member and customer experience and volunteer support, and changes to the staff structure.
- 9.2. Council discussed Mr Almond's remarks and commented on the plans to refurbish the headquarters of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the opportunities for collaboration between the Professional Engineering Institutions, the use of the IET's volunteer email system, improvements to the existing IET products and services, and problems experienced with professional registration processes outside the UK.

## **10. Vote of Thanks**

Mr Almond proposed a Vote of Thanks to Mr Andrew F Wilson, who would be leaving the IET shortly. He drew attention to his contribution to the IET and support for Council over many years. The Vote of Thanks was carried with acclamation.

## **11. Main Boards**

- 11.1. Council received oral reports from the Chair of each Main Board.
- 11.2. Mrs Deacon gave a report on the meeting of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Board held earlier in the day and drew attention to the planned review of the EDI Strategy in 2025, and proposals for EDI targets, particularly non-gender targets.
- 11.3. Ms Akinola gave a report on the meeting of the Knowledge Services and Solutions Board held earlier in the day and drew attention to the re-launch of the IET Digital Library and the IET Books publishing programme.
- 11.4. Professor Needham gave a report on the meeting of the Membership and Professional Development Board held earlier in the day and drew attention to proposals for Membership Discounts and a Regulation on the Categories of Membership, plans to promote fellowship, and CPD monitoring.
- 11.5. Dr Marsh gave a report on the meeting of the Volunteer Engagement Board held earlier in the day and drew attention to its discussion of volunteer KPIs, expenses policies, and fund-raising activities.

## **12. Report to the Board of Trustees**

It was noted that there were no matters to be reported to the Board of Trustees.

## **13. Feedback on Council Meeting**

The Chair invited Council members to give feedback on the Council meeting.

**14. Dates of Next Meetings**

- 14.1. Thursday, 20 March 2025 at 15.00 hrs (GMT) (virtual meeting).
- 14.2. Thursday, 19 June 2025 at 15.00 hrs (BST) (at Austin Court, Birmingham).