

4 June 2020

PAPER CLASSIFICATION: OPEN

Board of Trustees

WOMEN'S ENGINEERING SOCIETY TIME CAPSULE

(Note by Mr Andrew F Wilson. If you have any questions on this paper before the meeting please contact Mr Andrew F Wilson by email afwilson@theiet.org)

1. Issue

To advise the Board of Trustees of the decisions taken with respect to the Women's Engineering Society (WES) time capsule.

2. Timing

Board of Trustees meeting, 5 June 2020.

3. For Note

The Board of Trustees is invited to note this report.

4. Women's Engineering Society Time Capsule

4.1. As part of the Women's Engineering Society's centenary celebrations it has created a time capsule to be opened by the Directors of the Society in 2119. The IET has agreed to hold the time capsule in its archive.

4.2. Because of a concern that the time capsule might be forgotten or discarded accidentally in the next 100 years, the WES Board of Trustees has added an Article to its governing document to tell the Board's successors of the time capsule's existence and its location. To ensure this Article is never deleted, and thus the existence of the time capsule is not forgotten, the WES Board of Trustees would have to ask the IET Board of Trustees for permission to delete the Article.

4.3. A copy of an explanatory letter from the Women's Engineering Society is attached as an Appendix.

5. Risk

None known.

6. Resources

None known.

Nigel Fine, MBA BSc (Hons) CEng FICE FIET
Chief Executive Officer and Secretary
Institution of Engineering and Technology
Michael Faraday House, Six Hills Way
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 2AY

Appendix to T(20)52

2 June 2020

Dear Nigel

Women's Engineering Society's Time Capsule

As part of the Centenary celebrations for the Women's Engineering Society we have created a time capsule to be opened by the Directors of the Society in 2119. The IET has kindly agreed to hold the time capsule in its archive.

It is a concern that the time capsule might be forgotten or discarded accidentally in the next 100 years, and so the Women's Engineering Society Board of Trustees have formulated a method to ensure that our successors know of the capsule's existence. It was determined that the Society's Articles are an enduring document that could be used to let future Directors of the Society know that the capsule exists and should be opened in 2119.

We have therefore added an Article to our governing document to tell our successors of the time capsule's existence and its location. Our solicitors have advised that to ensure this Article is never deleted, and thus the existence of the time capsule is not forgotten, that the WES Board of Trustees would have to ask the IET Board of Trustees for permission to delete the Article.

The following Article has therefore been added to the WES Articles.

10.3 In 2019 the Directors created a time capsule to be opened by the Directors of the Society in 2119 including letters from the President and the Chief Executive Officer to their successors in 100 years' time. The time capsule is located in the archive of the Institute of Engineering and Technology (registered as a charity in England & Wales (no 211014) and Scotland (no SC038698). This Article shall not be deleted from the Articles without the prior written consent of the Board of Trustees of the said Institute of Engineering and Technology or their successors in title.

I trust that this letter is sufficient to inform your Board of Trustees of our intentions.

There is no obligation on the IET Board, except to be aware that if the Women's Engineering Society wishes to delete this Article it will need the written consent of your Board. I do not expect that such consent will ever be sought.

I would be grateful if you could write to me and let me know that the IET Board has agreed to this proposal. We are grateful to the continued support that the IET offers WES, not least in hosting our archive.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Donnelly, MSc FRSA MRAeS MINCOSE
Chief Executive Officer
Women's Engineering Society