17 October 2023

PAPER CLASSIFICATION: OPEN

Minutes of the Meeting of the
COUNCIL
held on Thursday, 5 October 2023 at 15.00 hrs (BST)
at Savoy Place, London WC2, and via Virtual Meeting

Present:	Mr Mark Goudie (Chair)
	Mr Rob Anderson
	Mr Paul Ash
	Dr Imran Shafique Ansari
	Mr Wolf Byttner
	Mr Jolyon Caplin
	Professor Andy Downton
	Dr Nike Folayan
	Ms Sophie Harker
	Mr Russell Jobbins
	Ms Susan Jones
	Dr Gopi Katragadda (President)
	Miss Macauley Kenney
	Mr King On Lee
	Professor Wai Yie Leong
	Mr Yew Kee Lim
	Ms Senamiso Mathobela
	Mr Ben Obiri-Bonney
	Mr Alan Palmer
	Mr John Peckham
	Mr Sam Presley
	Dr Stephen Pybus
	Mr Ami Singh
	Mr Alkis Spyrou
	Ms Thilini Wasundara
	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 Ronjon Nag (Trustee)
	Ms Dawn Ohlson (Trustee)
	Colonel Andy Rogers (Trustee)
	Ms Mamta Singhal (Trustee)
	Mr Adam Wright
In attendance:	Ms Toni Allen (Director of International Strategic Marketing and Engagement)
	Mr Ed Almond (Chief Executive and Secretary)
	Mr David Bunyan (Director of Finance and Planning)
	Ms Morna Dason-Barber (Director of Human Resources)
	Ms Sandra Godman (Strategic Planning Manager)
	Mr Giles Grant (Director of Knowledge Services and Solutions)

Mr Christopher Knibb (Director of Governance and External Engagement)
Ms Eloisa de la Maza (Governance Executive)
Ms Michelle Richmond (Director of Membership and Professional Development)
Mr Simon White (Chief Finance Officer)
Mr Andrew F Wilson (Head of Governance)

1.   Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Eur Ing Dr Larissa Suzuki.

2.   Conflicts of Interest

Mr Byttner declared that he was a Trustee of Foothold.

3.   Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 September 2023 (CO(23)M4) were underlined 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(23)16).

4.2.   Council noted a report on tracking the outcome from proposals made by Council over recent Sessions (CO(23)17).

(Staff Note: A revised document (CO(23)17(revised)) is circulated with these Minutes.)

5.   Council Constitution and Terms of Reference

Council noted the constitution and terms of reference of Council (CO(23)18) and the Volunteer Handbook.

6.   Council Business

6.1.   Mr Goudie introduced and Council noted the outline of Council business for the Session 2023/24 (CO(23)19).

6.2.   It was agreed that Council should discuss the online fora it used to discuss topics and formulate proposals.

7.   IET Strategy 2030

7.1.   Ms Godman introduced and Council noted a report on Council's engagement in the IET's annual cycle of strategy review and planning (CO(23)20).

7.2.   Several members commented that the Council Working Parties to discuss strategy input and the international value proposition during the previous Session had been successful. It was suggested that a similar process should be followed in the current Session.

7.3.   Council noted the emphasis on sustainability in the IET Strategy 2030. Mr Almond commented on the target to achieve a net zero Institution by 2030.

7.4.   Council discussed the opportunities for further engagement in the annual cycle of strategy review and planning but did not identify any matters to be recommended to the Board of Trustees.

7.5.   Ms Godman introduced and Council noted a report on the IET's priorities for strategic review in 2024 (CO(23)21).

7.6.   The following core products and operational areas were proposed for review:

- Volunteer Engagement and Experience.
- Events.
- Practitioner and Professional Markets / Codes and Guidance.
- Innovation.

7.7.   Ms Godman undertook to provide details about the matters to be reviewed and the respective Working Parties, so that members of Council could become involved.

7.8.   During discussion the following comments were made:

7.8.1. Professor Downton commented that the IET now had differing approaches for its programme of subsidised events, which were mostly the responsibility of the Technical Networks and Local Networks, and its revenue-generating events managed by the Knowledge Services and Solutions Board.

7.8.2. Mr Byttner commented on the need to promote engineering ethics for members.

7.8.3. Dr Marsh commented that since 2006 there had been a reduction in the IET's emphasis on electrical engineering and electronics.

7.8.4. Mr Almond commented on the IET position since 2006 as an inclusive Institution, with members in all registration categories, both Professional Engineers and Technicians, and an interdisciplinary Institution covering many disciplines.

7.9.   Council noted the invitation to present a view on priorities for action to the Board of Trustees and agreed to discuss this further at its next meeting.

8.   Member News

Mr Goudie drew attention to the vacancies for two Council representatives on the Member News Steering Committee for the Session 2023/24. Mr Anderson and Dr Pybus undertook to fill the vacant positions.

9.   President

9.1.   The President spoke about his plans for the Session 2023/24 focusing on the theme, "Engineers and AI: The key to delivering a resilient future." He intended to prioritise the following key areas:

- Engineering Data Framework.
- Engineering AI Framework.
- Diversity and Inclusion in AI.
- Global Impact.

9.2.   Council discussed the President's theme.

10.   Chief Executive and Secretary

Mr Almond gave an oral report on the priorities of the charity. He drew attention to the re-launch of E+T magazine, the operational focus on member recruitment, events, volunteer experience, and Corporate Partners.

11.   **Main Boards**

11.1.   Council received oral reports from the Chair of each Main Board.

11.2.   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 performance of the revenue-generating activities managed by the Board and the planned closure of the IET Academy.

11.3.   Ms Hubbard gave a report on the meeting of the Membership and Professional Development Board held earlier in the day and drew attention to the discussion of recruitment and retention and the Technician Hub.

11.4.   Dr Marsh gave a report on the meeting of the Volunteer Engagement Board held earlier in the day and drew attention to discussion of mandatory policy sign-up, volunteer recruitment, and the engagement survey.

11.5.   Mr Wilson reported and Council <u>noted</u> that at its meeting on 4 September 2023 the Board of Trustees had agreed to increase the number of Main Boards from three to four and create a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Board. Following the approval of the terms of reference at the next Board of Trustees meeting, action would be taken to decide the initial membership of the Board. Members of Council would be asked their preference for Board membership and the Nominations and Succession Committee would consider how best to redistribute members from the existing Boards among the four Main Boards. Mr Almond explained that the new Board would replace the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Party.

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

It was <u>noted</u> that were no matters to be reported to the Board of Trustees.

13.   **Feedback on Council Meeting**

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

13.2.   It was <u>agreed</u> that a less-formal virtual meeting should be held later in the year to allow Council members to interact with each other.

13.3.   It was <u>agreed</u> to ask the Council Agenda Team to consider how best to structure future Council meetings to allow the greatest participation by members.

14.   **Electrical Safety**

Mr Peckham drew attention to the contribution of The Rt Hon Lord Rooker, an IET member, to the recent House of Lords debate of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill, during which he had spoken at length about neutral current diversions.

15.   **Young Professionals Summit**

Ms Harker asked about the follow-up to the debate at the recent Young Professionals Summit. Mr Knibb reported that the proposals had been referred to a staff group which was planning changes to the IET Technical Networks.

16.   **Dates of Next Meetings**

16.1.   Tuesday, 12 December 2023 at 13.00 hrs (GMT) (virtual meeting).

16.2.   Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 15.00 hrs (GMT) (virtual meeting).

16.3.   Thursday, 20 June 2024 at 15.00 hrs (BST) (at Savoy Place, London WC2).