

2022 Annual General Meeting Unapproved Minutes**Tuesday 10th May 2022****FM Global, The Leadenhall Building, 122 Leadenhall St, London EC3V 4AB****Attendance**

Alan Brinson EFSN, Alistair Brown Angloco, Andrew Lynch FireKnowledge, Chris Pateman EPIC, Dave Russell Angus, Dennis Davis FSF, Gary Laird IOSH, Ian Moore FIA, John McAleer UKFA, John Morton FSF, John Spencer FSF, Lesley Routh-Jones Hainsworth, Mark Hardingham NFCC (part), Michael Harper FSF, Nick Coombe NFCC, Ólöf Jonsdottir Rockwool, Sarah Adamson Angloco, Suzanne Prince Gore, Simon Storer IMA, Tom Roche FM,

1 Welcome

On behalf of FM Global TR welcomed members to the company's London office and then handed over to Chairman MH who in turn welcomed all members to this 'in person' AGM and hopefully a return to more pre-pandemic style meetings.

2 Receive Apologies for Absence

The executive officer DD advised apologies had been noted and these were: Ade Robinson FOA, Bob Bantock-NT, Chris Miles UL, Chris Auger BAFE, John Davidson NSI, Jonathan O'Neill FPA, Mike Wood ASDMA, Mike Burrows STA, Niall Rowan ASFP, Nigel Taylor-Brown IFPO, Peter Wilkinson IFE, Peter Murphy NTU, Philip Tasker Bristol, Ronnie King APPFRSG, Simon Ince UL, Steve Chappell GGF, Steve Skarratt FSC, Steve Hamm IFE, Tom Brookes Zeus, Trevor Rogers LABC,

On a question of quorate a simple majority of those attending satisfies the Articles of Association given no decisions were required on constitutional matters.

3 Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10 May 2021

The previously Unapproved Minute of the 2021 AGM were considered and proposed by MH and DD were then approved as circulated.

4 Receive and adopt the Director's Report for the year ending 31 March 2022

The Chairman introduced the previously circulated Director's Report. Firstly he recalled with sadness the tragic passing of Sir David Amess and the sudden loss of Paul Fuller, both had been staunch supporters of the Federation and are missed.

MH then extended his thanks to Board colleagues and those members whose companies had freely allowed of their time and resources to assist in the Federation's work. He briefly introduced what he regarded as a particularly important matter for the meeting, the formation of a Fire Safety Panel, inviting those present to offer their thoughts and views during discussion on this item.

MH, noting the Directors present, then invited questions and discussion on the Report. Favourable comments were made by a number of members who had found the report useful and informative. The report was unanimously adopted.

5 Receive and adopt the Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2021

The Chairman invited the Treasurer DR to present the financial statements. DR referred to his own previously circulated Financial Report and the draft Directors' Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 prepared for Fire Sector Federation Limited by Hawsons Chartered Accountants.

Referring to the reported loss of £1,530 DR explained last year had in fact been positive with success in collecting the previous year's arrears from subscriptions and a reduced expenditure on meetings due to pandemic restrictions. Additional expenditure had arisen in year due to legal support related to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry although this had been more than offset by the FPA, which had directly supported two Federation officers.

The Board had approved a £15,000 reduction for "other creditors" and retention of an operating reserve of £50,931; with current assets of £128,214 DR reflected overall this represented prudent satisfactory performance. MH thanked DR and requested questions following which, proposed by DD and DR, the Statements of Account were adopted.

6 Re-Appoint Auditor David Owens of Hawsons Chartered Accountants

After a brief discussion on costs it was proposed and accepted that David Owens of Hawsons Chartered Accountants be reappointed Auditor

7 Consider and Approve 2022-23 Budget

A budget proposal had been prepared and previously circulated. It was introduced by DR who explained subscriptions were to rise by a modest amount to recognise increased activity (Ordinary £865 and Associate £350). The budget also clearly indicated where financial support from the FPA was being received, for which the Board was very appreciative.

Added income was shown from the Fire Summit for this year, which would see direct involvement by the Federation. Positive comment was made on the value of continuing the support for the APPFSRG and on the new technical officer's post. The need to stretch the income target was also raised to allow the Federation's work to expand given the additional work anticipated from the new building safety regime. After questions and answers the budget, proposed by DR and DD, was adopted.

8 Establishment of Fire Safety Strategy Panel

This discussion, on the formation a group to investigate and prepare a fire sector strategy, was introduced by MH and DD. The initiative was part of a policy approach aimed at improving fire safety progress post the Grenfell Tower fire.

The approach was to review what was now becoming a far clearer landscape, particularly for safety in the built environment, so as to support the Federation in providing a broader strategic view and technical expertise to government. A draft paper had been prepared and circulated that explained in some detail the background, purpose, terms of reference, membership and organisation, of a proposed strategic panel that would address this subject.

Commenting upon the proposal a number of members first sought much greater clarity on the aim and purpose and questioned if a further group was required. Inclusion of non-Federation members was also raised and addressed by the explanation this was intended to gain technical advice and knowledge from organisations that the fire sector needed to engage with but were not themselves directly part of the fire sector. Clarity was also given that the internal organisational arrangements proposed were designed to ensure there was a clear reporting and approval process in place.

Other members expressed support for the opportunity represented by establishing a panel and of being able to offer broader strategic advice; some cited experiences of observed lack of awareness in government. This prompted questions on the government's likely outlook towards external commentary of this kind, stressing success in influencing national policy really required such support; this point was generally accepted.

Further comments suggested a mission statement would help better define the panel's purpose, and a focus more on specific targets that were achievable using the existing systems, rather than seeking major strategic change, would work better; suggested examples included the smart city approach and a firm focus on sustainability. The theme of working with government was echoed by others together with the suggestion that a plan of action should be developed to better inform members of the panel's overall objectives.

In conclusion MH thanked all for a very informed and constructive discussion, which would now inform the Board on the next steps in the panel's development.

9 Appoint the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors had recommended two appointments of: John Spencer as Deputy Chairman, to allow a smooth transition as successor to MH in 2023, and, Steve Hamm as Technical Director, assuming part of the dual role currently undertaken by DD.

In addition all other existing directors had indicated a willingness to continue their directorship appointments of: M Harper (Chairman), D Russell (Treasurer), D Davis (Executive Officer), J O'Neill (Strategy), T Roche (Active) and N Rowan (Passive), and Ólöf Jonsdottir (Communications). MH requested further nominations and none were offered so all those nominated were duly elected.

8 Transact Any Other Business

There being no other business the meeting was concluded with a thanks being extended to FM Global and their staff.

D Davis
Executive Officer

13 May 2022

Introduction to the NFCC

Following the business of the 2022 Annual General Meeting a presentation entitled an “Introduction to the NFCC” was made by Mark Hardingham, QFSM. Mark, currently Chair of the National Fire Chiefs Council and previously Chief Fire Officer of Suffolk, gave an informed presentation of the current arrangements within the NFCC.

Firstly highlighting NFCC priorities and providing a background of organisational development the presentation expanded to offer insight into the NFCC structure, the role of the Board of Trustees, and the NFCC relationship to the Fire Reform Agenda and Fire Standards Board. He then touched upon some key aspects of the People and Fire Protection programmes and other national work

The presentation was followed by an open question and answer session during which Mark confirmed that NFCC were happy to engage with the Federation in technical seminars to expand each organisations awareness and knowledge. Members commented that they found the whole session very helpful and useful in aiding their understanding of the NFCC.

Concluding MH commented that having NFCC as a member was very much welcomed by the Federation and thanked Mark Hardingham for his interesting and informative insight. A copy of the presentation is available.