



Emergency Planning Society South-East Branch

Annual General Meeting – 23rd January 2019

Held at the Council Chamber, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Mount Pleasant Road, TN1 1RS at 18:00

Present:

Kevin Caxton, Tom Crellin, Alex Darling, Andrew Gaffney, Richard Highgate, Rhiannon Roderick, Steve Scully, Ian Taylor, John Weeks

National representative: Scott Senior, Events Director

Apologies received from: Anthony Kimber, Luke Blackwell, Martin Blackburn (Finance Director), Stephen Gallagher (PWG Director)

Reports

Chair – Ian Taylor

It has been a difficult year for the branch committee who have all had pressing work commitments: two have changed jobs, one has been tied up with GDPR consultancy and another with Brexit preparations. As a result, the committee has not achieved as much as we had planned. However, this does seem set to improve in 2019.

At a national level, the EPS has a new chair and a new board and appears to be out of the turmoil caused by these changes. There is certainly plenty of work to do at both national and local level

The branch locally has a number of strengths. We have a good number of members and a wideranging skill-base spanning all sectors. We also have funding available. We would like to run at least three events per year.

Membership – Kevin Claxton

As mentioned above, membership remains strong. We have supported a number of members through the upgrade processes.

Events – Steve Scully

Attendance at events has decreased over the years. Much of this is due to employers cutting budgets for staff to attend events.

Steve introduced Richard Highgate as a potential successor in the Events role.

National Representative – Scott Senior

Scott notes and takes on board all of the comments above. Problems are similar in other branches. Scott believes the National plan is simple and deliverable. This will improve support for branches.

In response to a question about accreditation of local training, Scott has promised to get back to us.

A question was also asked about corporate membership. SE Branch is happy to run a pilot scheme with Steve Scully taking the lead.

Scott asked if one of the EPS event stands could be located in this area. Tom Crellin volunteered to store it.

The National AGM and study day will be held on the 12 and 13th September – venue TBA.

Elections

The following were nominated unopposed and duly elected by those present:

Chair: Ian Taylor 4402

Secretary: Tom Crellin 7632

Membership: Kevin Claxton 5395

Events: Richard Highgate 2847

In addition, the following volunteered to join the branch committee and were duly elected by those present:

Steve Scully 6227

Andrew Gaffney 12052

The AGM closed at 19:18 and was followed by a talk on Brexit preparations by Kent County Council