



Emergency Planning Society South-East Branch

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7th December 2021 on the Zoom platform

Attendees

Kevin Claxton (acting chair)
Tom Crellin
Steve Scully
Richard Highgate
Andy Gaffney
Nathan Hazlehurst
Paul Collard
Peter Boorman
Chris McGonigall
Kate Maynard (member from another branch)

Apologies were received from Ian Taylor

Reports

The meeting opened at 19:02

Secretary

Tom Crellin, reported that branch membership currently stands at 88, with 23 new members during 2021 and 20 cancellations. The majority of new members joined on the recommendation of an existing member. Tom expressed thanks to those who had made a recommendation. Of those who gave a reason for leaving, the most common reason was that the employer was no longer willing to pay the membership fee.

Tom also reported that the branch has an available balance of £2647.35 in the national accounts. There have been no transactions this year due to Covid other than membership fees. National sets aside a sum of money from each membership fee for the branch to use in furthering its objectives.

Membership Secretary

Kevin reported that he plays an active part at national level in assessing applications for full membership. He also undertakes routine correspondence with new and existing members.

Chair

As acting chair, Kevin reported that the branch had seen very little activity during the Covid pandemic but had been supporting the National initiatives such as the resilience huddle and had been supporting individual members. Kevin asked members to continue to support the National events and initiatives and said that, as Covid is not going away, the new branch committee would look at ways of holding events and activities in the near future despite the ongoing situation.

Kevin also mentioned that he had undertaken some work in support of the celebrations of the EPS reaching its 30th anniversary. He has reached out to the longest serving branch members but, so far, has not received any response.

Kevin expressed the committee's gratitude to Ian Taylor for his service as branch chair.

Events

Richard reported that, whilst there have not been any local events for a while, there are plans in place to hold events with Dungeness Power Station, the Air Accident Investigation Branch and the Kent Multi-Agency Information Centre (MAIC). He also encourage people to let him know if you have suggestions for speakers, topics or venues for future events.

Election of Officers

The following were elected unopposed:

Chair - Kevin Claxton (nominated by Tom Crellin)

Membership – Nathan Hazlehurst (nominated by Kevin Claxton)

Secretary - Tom Crellin (nominated by Kevin Claxton)

Events - Richard Highgate(nominated by Tom Crellin)

Committee members - Steve Scully and Andrew Gaffney (nominated by Tom Crellin)

Other Business

Steve Scully, on behalf of Kent Fire and Rescue Service, used the occasion to present Richard Highgate with a Collaboration Award recognising the work that Richard has done in the Kent MAIC.

Steve also announced that Richard is being seconded to the Kent Resilience Team for the coming year.

In receiving the award, Richard said "it was a team effort!"

The meeting closed at 19:24 and was followed by a talk delivered by Nathan Hazlehurst.