

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environmental Professional Sector Council
Wednesday 17th February, 11.00 HRS
Via Zoom

Present: Steve Burnage (Chair)
Dave Richards
Alan Fitzpatrick
Chris Tam
David McMorris
Stephen Tweed
Daniel Oether

In Attendance: Daniel Moir
Oliver Teasell

Apologies: Richard Battrick
Richard Roberts

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair noted the apologies and welcomed the group. Chris Tam introduced himself as the representative of SOE's Hong Kong branch and was welcomed as a new member of the Council.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Agreed and adopted.

3. Matters arising from previous minutes

The Chair ran through the list of actions from the last meeting, informing the council that the Terms of Reference for this PSC were accepted by the Board, however the sector would have to reach 1,000 primary members before the Chair would be offered a standing place, for next year it has been agreed that the Chair would be co-opted on to the Trustee Board; Chris Tam has accepted a place on to the Council as the Hong Kong representatives; The Chair had completed aligning the CEnv applications with SocEnv matrix and this has now been implemented.

A number of actions are ongoing, these are listed at the end of these minutes.

4. Report on activities

Content of the Society's journal and web

A discussion took place on the Society's landing page and construct of the website, it was felt that there should be better signposting of the sectors similar to the Hong Kong site. An explanation on the construct of the Society was also suggest.

Environmental Engineering of products and systems

A discussion took place on the name of the sector and IEnvE, EnvE, EnvEng, IOEE, SOEE were all considered however the Council agreed on Environment (Env)

The Chair informed the Council that he had been invited to sit on the Improvement Working Group to address purpose, sector needs, relationships, branding and communications plan. It was clear that there is a number of historical issues that need resolving but the importance of maintaining the prominence of the Environmental sector was emphasised.

Sustainable technologies and methodologies

The Chair reported that they sat in on NI IRTE Hydrogen webinar. Excellent example of covering all sectors Transport, Plant, Safety and Environment. We need more of this. A strong candidate would be 'Domestic energy using H2'. Issues around Hydrogen Embrittlement, seals and ageing infrastructure. Talked to TWI, IOM3, IGEM, Surrey & Sheffield about considering a conference / webinar. IGEM involved with National Grid in addressing issues of Plant and Service surety and Safety of Operation. Shall approach National Grid to ask if they are prepared to present to the SOE in a webinar.

Action SB

Provision of engineering knowledge and influences of environmental activities

Discussed in the previous topic. Also the introduction of an Environmental Engineer of the Year award for 2021 was agreed and a call for any potential candidates. Application form to be generated.

Action ST

Collaborating in establishing and applying best practice and standardisation

Dave Richards reported that he was approached about a BSI position and asked for confirmation that the Society was nominating organisation, Daniel Moir agreed to find out. He also made clear that the Society approved the CEES support.

Action DM

5. SocEnv registration

It was agreed that all members of the Environmental PSC should have or be working towards SocEnv registration.

The council agreed that this sector should take the lead in quality assuring this process. It was agreed that the Env PSC will take the application from Claire, review then agree route / suitability, and arrange an interview. Once completed the Council will make recommendations to the Membership and Professional Standards Committee for approval. It was also agreed that this Council would control and influence related application forms and guidance.

The Council agreed to the suggested strap line for REnvP badging on website. Oliver Teasel to confirm exact wording.

Action OT

It was agreed that Oliver Teasell will present on progress on the REnvP roll out at the next meeting.

Action OT

6. Any other business

The Chair informed the Council that Richard Battrick is to take the role of Chair for the Marine Industry Group (MIG), part of the Marine Science Co-ordination Committee (MSCC) a cross-government committee which aims to coordinate scientific knowledge, resources and communications to support marine policy decisions. MIG is a sub-group to help consider how science might be better used to enhance industry performance and to ensure that science addresses industry needs. A further update will be given at the June PSC.

Action RB

It was suggested that we use the CEnv route via the Society to canvass MIG members in an effort to broaden the Society Environmental membership base.

Chris Tam found it difficult to log on to the portal by which the agenda and previous

A reminder was given to the Council about the upcoming elections and encourage would be given to anyone interested.

The Chair thanked the group for attending and closed the meeting.

Date of next meeting: 2nd June 2021