

Wrekin Branch Secretary:  
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## **Institution of Agricultural Engineers - Wrekin Branch Notice of Meeting**

**Notice is hereby given that the Forty Eight Annual General Meeting of the Wrekin Branch IAgRE will be held in the Agricultural Engineering Innovation Centre at Harper Adams University, Edgmond, Newport, Shropshire TF10 8NB on Monday 20th March 2018 at 6.30pm.**

### AGENDA

6.30pm

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 To receive and confirm the minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> AGM, which was held at 6.30pm on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Harper Adams University.
- 3 To consider any matters arising from the 47<sup>th</sup> AGM not appearing in this agenda.
- 4 Chairman's Report for the year 2017 – 2018.
- 5 Treasurers Report for the year 2017.
- 6 Election of Branch Officers.

Nominations are sought from individuals interested in joining the Wrekin Branch committee. All positions are available if anyone is interested in taking over a particular role? Please complete a nominations form and return this to the Branch Chairman or Secretary at the above address no later than Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

- 7 To receive a report from the President (or representative) of the Institution of Agricultural Engineers.
- 8 Any Other Business.

7.30pm The AGM will be followed by a presentation from Mr James Thomas of Syngenta on the subject of Getting the best performance from agrochemicals.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH IAgRE PROCEDURES

Mr D Clare  
Secretary Wrekin Branch

NOMINATIONS FORM:

Nominations are sought from the roles of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Information/Publicity Officer and Committee Members for the Wrekin Branch of the Institution of Agricultural Engineers, to serve on the Committee for a period of one year from April 2018.

Nominees must be members of IAGrE and each nomination should be proposed and seconded by members of the Institution, with the knowledge and agreement of the person being nominated.

Chairman – Name: ..... Grade: .....

Proposed: ..... Grade: .....

Seconded: ..... Grade: .....

Vice Chairman – Name: ..... Grade: .....

Proposed: ..... Grade: .....

Seconded: ..... Grade: .....

Secretary – Name: ..... Grade: .....

Proposed: ..... Grade: .....

Seconded: ..... Grade: .....

Treasurer – Name: ..... Grade: .....

Proposed: ..... Grade: .....

Seconded: ..... Grade: .....

Publicity/Information Officer – Name: ..... Grade: .....

Proposed: ..... Grade: .....

Seconded: ..... Grade: .....

Committee – Name: ..... Grade: .....

Proposed: ..... Grade: .....

Seconded: ..... Grade: .....

# IAgrE Wrekin Branch AGM

Minutes of the Wrekin Branch 47<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held at 6.30pm on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017, at Harper Adams University



The professional  
body for the  
landbased sector

**Present:**

Dave Clare (Sec)	Graham Higginson	David White	Ralph Alcock
Simon Cooper	Henry Thorpe	John Gittins	Richard Smalley
Phil Metcalfe	Ruth Metcalfe	Paula Misiewicz	Sam Vallone
Andy Newbold	Melvin Johnson	John Gough	

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from: Neal Dodd, Tom Bowers, Jim Loynes</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> AGM:</b> The minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> AGM were circulated before the meeting. The minutes were accepted as being a correct record of the AGM.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Matters arising from the 44<sup>th</sup> AGM</b> None</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Report</b> The Chairman thanked the committee for their support in organising the year's technical meetings covering a wide range of subjects.</p> <p>It was noted that attendance at technical meeting by the students had dropped off due to the Monday night events planned by the Students Union, and looked forward to next year's attendance being improved as the committee had decided to hold future technical meetings on a Tuesday.</p> <p>Thanks were due to John Gough and his efforts in getting LTA members more involved, with Sam Vallone now being on the committee.</p> <p>Having Wrekin Branch Young Engineers on the LAMMA Innovation Awards Panel was very successful in promoting the Wrekin Branches' support for Young Engineers and profile of the IAgrE in general.</p> <p>The Chair was about to retire and so would also be stepping down as Chairman of the Wrekin Branch, and thanked the members for their support over his term as chairman.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b> The branch received a grant of £1105 from Head Office and has spent £824 on meeting expenses.</p> <p>The total membership for the branch is stable. There is an increased number of student compared to previous years, Approximately 75-100. There are only ten LTA members.</p> <p>DW congratulated those who were responsible for student member recruitment.</p> <p>The number of LTA members (only ten), was queried and would be followed up with HQ.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Election of Branch officers</b></p> <p>David White nominated Simon Cooper as Chairman. David Clare seconded this. Simon Cooper accepted the nomination as current Vice-Chairman and was carried by all present.</p> <p>David White nominated John Gittins as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Simon Cooper. John Gittins accepted the nomination and was carried by all present.</p> <p>Richard Smalley nominated David Clare as Secretary. This was seconded by Simon Cooper. David Clare accepted the nomination and was carried by all present.</p>

	<p>John Gough nominated Graham Higginson as Treasurer. This was seconded by Richard Smalley. Graham Higginson accepted the nomination and was carried by all present.</p> <p>Simon Cooper nominated Bill Basford as Information Officer. This was seconded by John Gough and was carried by all present.</p> <p>Simon Cooper nominated the rest of the existing committee as committee members with the exception of Robert Fillingham, who was no longer living or working in the area, and so was resigning from the committee. In addition Tom Bowers, Ieuan Evans and Kit Franklin were putting themselves forward as committee members. This was seconded by John Gittins and carried by all present.</p> <p>In summary the committee is as follows:  Chairman                      Simon Cooper  Honorary Secretary        D Clare  Honorary Treasurer        G Higginson  Vice chairman              John Gittins  Information officer        Bill Basford  Immediate past chairman   Jim Loynes</p> <p>Committee – D White, P Misiewicz, N Dodd, Robin Carter, Richard Smalley, John Gough, Jim Loynes, Melvin Johnson, Jacob Smith, Henry Thorpe, Sam Vallone, Tom Bowers, Ieuan Evans, Kit Franklin, Finlay Whitehead.</p>
7	<p><b>Presidential Address – Presented by Andy Newbold</b>  Highlights of the address were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership is down (-98). There was a particular fall in Pre-professional membership (-137), but an increase in Associate Members (+37).</li> <li>• The challenges in membership are:- retaining Students and Pre-Professionals and the movement to higher grades. There is a need to make value of a member more obvious.</li> <li>• The new website is up and running.</li> <li>• Finances are good with an operating surplus of £19k. Biosystems Engineering makes a significant contribution to this.</li> <li>• Council continues to approve a prudent approach to maintaining reserves. A balanced budget has been set for 2017 with investment in new developments to support growth and delivery of the business plan.</li> <li>• The 'Uff' Review recommended that smaller engineering institutions should be working more closely on themes of common interest, and the institutions as a whole need to engage the millennial generation.</li> <li>• The Institution's Memorandum and Articles has been reviewed to ensure we meet current legal obligations and reflect 21<sup>st</sup> century ways of working. There will be an Extra General Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April alongside the AGM and Awards Ceremony.</li> <li>• The Institution is working with AEA, BAGMA, Lantra and Landex in developing new qualifications.</li> <li>• The institution is influencing agenda through the RAE, and has a good working relationship with BEIS and DEFRA.</li> <li>• Since January Members CPD will be sampled at the request of the EC. Members should be completing approximately 30hrs per year. Members should be recording the activities and outcomes.</li> <li>• Biosystems Engineering continues to thrive with increased circulation and special editions, but an emerging risk is the move towards more 'open access' publishing of research.</li> <li>• The location of Council Meetings will continue to move around the country.</li> <li>• All communications channels are being reviewed to maximise coverage over a range of media and at events.</li> </ul>
8	<p><b>Any Other Business</b>  David White thanked Jim Loynes for his Chairmanship of the branch and wished him a happy retirement.</p>
9	<p><b>Close</b>  The meeting closed at 7:24pm</p>

Chairman

Date