



East Midlands Materials Society

A Local Society affiliated to the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held virtually on Wednesday 12th May 2021 using Microsoft Teams

Dave Evetts, the Honorary Secretary, opened the meeting and thanked all for attending. There were 41 people present.

1. Apologies.

Martin Tuffs, Sophie Cazien-Cazuc, Csaba Sinca, Nikolaos Kalfagiannis

2. Minutes of AGM 2020

The minutes of the 2020 AGM were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. President's Report 2020-2021

This is my second year in the role, and it has been quite a year with all our events being virtual despite the hope that we may have been able to hold at least this talk in-person. I would like to start by saying that it remains a privilege to be President of the East Midlands Materials Society and I would like to thank the members of the committee for giving their time over the past difficult year to enable us to organise and deliver our programme of events.

Despite the pandemic, we have successfully held an interesting and varied range of seminars from Digital Engineering to Self-Assembly Coatings, Materials for Fashion to Life Cycle Analysis and today, Marine Corrosion. The talks have had a high-level of technical content but have been pitched at the general audience and I would like to formally thank the speakers for their time and effort in preparing and presenting the talks, but also in being prepared to discuss the work with the audience, in some cases from outside the UK. We also held a successful Young Persons' Lecture Competition local heat. The quality of all the talks was excellent and the entrants coped extremely well with the virtual delivery mode. EMMS also co-sponsored the National YPLC Final, something we are proud to do.

We hope to return to a main delivery mode of live in-person talks next season as and when the restrictions are lifted. However, the use of Eventbrite to allow people to attend the talks virtually has worked well and we plan to adopt a hybrid model moving forward to allow people from across the UK and beyond to continue to attend our talks if they are not able to attend in-person.

I am also very pleased that several of our talks have contributed to the IOM3 'Sustainable Future' theme, which is running throughout 2021 to celebrate COP26. I would encourage you to look at the IOM3 website for upcoming events over the next few months in the run-up to COP26. There is an entire week of activities on the 6–10 September, so look out for this.

As always, I would like to especially thank Dave Evetts as Honorary Secretary for his excellent work in making sure EMMS runs smoothly as he has done for many a year now! I would also like to thank Martin Tuffs – our Events Secretary and Webmaster for his on-going efforts over the past season in organising our events. Unfortunately, Martin is not well at the moment, so I would like to wish him a speedy recovery.

I would just like to conclude by thanking again the EMMS committee, our speakers over the past season and all those that took time to attend the talks. We have another excellent programme for next season, including our first talk by the current IOM3 President and Head of Materials at Rolls-Royce Neil Glover on 'Materials for Sustainable Aerospace', and hopefully we will be able to see each other in person.

5.Honorary Secretary's Report 2020-2021

This has been a season like no other. All our meetings have been on Microsoft Teams. Martin will cover the event details.

Virtual meetings have pluses and minuses. On the plus side, there is no travelling, the meetings can be joined by anyone, anywhere. We have had some excellent attendances. However, the social aspect is lost. Networking and just talking to other people can make a big difference. Going forward, we hope to have physical meetings in our next season's programme, and I am delighted to say that the new IoM3 President, Neil Glover, is to give our first talk in September, which will be at RR Derby Nightingale Hall, subject to Covid restrictions. The programme format is still under discussion, and we may move to some hybrid meetings next season.

We always put special emphasis on supporting younger members. We normally sponsor students to become members of the Institute, part-fund students to attend conferences and pay for travel to meetings away from their place of education. However, student participation has been difficult this season and as a result we have only sponsored three new student members of IoM3, and not paid travel grants to conferences, for obvious reasons. We do hope to be able to support students more next season. We did have a virtual local heat of the YPLC. We had four contestants and all talks were to a very high standard. Preetum Mistry of the University of Nottingham was our winner. He progressed to the regional final, but did not win that round. We are again co-sponsoring the National YPLC final, which was held virtually on 5th May.. So, there are lots of opportunities for younger members within EMMS. Look out for further publicity.

I would like to thank the officers and members of the Committee for their help in the running of the Society. Many of them have a "day job", but always seem to find time to help run the Society. Also, I would like to thank our speakers for providing such interesting talks and everyone who has attended the events. I would particularly like to thank our President, Simon Hogg, for setting up and running all our virtual events this season, and to Martin Tufts for getting out the publicity.

EMMS certainly has a significant presence in IoM3. Mike Clinch is the chair of the Technical Communities Board and is now a Senior Vice-President. Simon Hogg is a Strategic Advisor for the TCB. Dave Evetts is chair of the Local Affairs Committee, Tomasz Zalewski is a councillor representing technicians, Kate Fox is regional councillor representing the Midlands Region. Tee, are taking this new and unprecedented situation in their stride.

In conclusion, Coronavirus has presented us all with a significant challenge, forcing us to make changes to the way we operate and reach out to the local materials community. I do hope that we will be able to keep the interest and loyalty of our community and normal service will be resumed as soon as possible!

6. Events Secretary's Report 2020-2021

This season's program has taken place virtually. Thanks to our President Simon Hogg who has ably arranged meetings on Teams and registration through Eventbrite.

In the programme we have had 9 Technical meetings, a heat of the IOM3 younger members lecture competition and the social event is to come.

Notification of the meetings has been by an email, to the EMMS distribution list, a week or so before each event. Meeting details were also posted on the EMMS part of the IOM3 main site at <https://www.iom3.org/group/east-midlands-materials-society-emms.html>

Members who have signed up to receiving alerts from EMMS in their preferences on the IOM3 website will also have received email alerts from this source when events are added to the website. The new IOM3 website was rolled out in October 2020 and soon the society web editors will receive the training to permit them to make changes and add individual content.

Attendance averages

2020/2021 Average attendance for our Teams meetings for 2020/2021 was 46. We did not record whether attendees were IOM3 members or not.

This compares to 2019/2020 when we averaged 32 (19 Members, 13 Non-members).

For next season we are reviewing the continuation of virtual alongside physical meetings, particularly as physical attendance may be limited numbers next year due to ongoing Covid restrictions

We have started to make the recordings of virtual meetings, arranged by Simon Hogg, available on the website. Members continually ask me about this facility and we hope to make more of this season's talks available on line and with the editing skills of Justin Steele-Davis.

It's fair to say we are adopting new ways and embracing the digital world. Consequently, there are a number of learning curves we have gone through this year on all sorts of fronts and will continue the journey next season.

7. Treasurer's Report 2020-2021

The transfer of the treasurer role to Katy Voisey has not taken place so Simon Hogg reported. Expenditure in the last 12 months has been low, due to not having to fund meeting costs, and we have been able to use Microsoft Teams using Loughborough University's Licence. We have also only been able to sponsor three students to IOM3 membership, and not paid any travel expenses. However, our grant from IOM3 has been significantly reduced to reflect the change in meetings format. The accounts are available on our website.

8. Election of Officers and Committee 2021-2022

The President, **Simon Hogg**, agreed to continue in his role.

Katy Voisey wished to step down from the Treasurer role, **Tomasz Zalewski** was elected as the new Treasurer, and will take over this role from Simon in the coming months.

Dave Evetts agreed to continue as Honorary Secretary.

Martin Tuffs agreed to continue in his role as Events Secretary, as well as continuing as website editor.

Tomasz Zalewski agreed to continue as the Younger Members Representative.

All other committee members agreed to continue in their roles.

So, as well as the above, the committee members, are now:

Mike Clinch, Gary Critchlow, Keith Harrison, Sophie Cazien-Cazuc, John Yarnall, Csaba Sinka, Rebecca Sandala, Dave Weston, Justin Steele-Davies, Nikolaos Kalfagiannis, Kate Fox, Katy Voisey.

9. Any other Business

None.

Dave Evetts

Honorary Secretary – EMMS

28th May 2021