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**MINUTES OF THE 124th TCPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY AT  
18:00 ON WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 2024****Present:**

Rt Hon Nick Raynsford (President), Andrew Pritchard (Chair of the Board), Riva Kapoor (Hon. Treasurer), Aamina Khan, Andy von Bradsky, Brian Love, Cllr Ian Manders, Danniella Persaud, Emma Grimster (on behalf of the Land Trust), Gilian Macinnes, Graham Devine, Jim Davies, Lee Shostak, Lee Wratten, Marilyn Evers, Mike Roberts, Nick Gallent, Peter Ellis, Peter Geraghty, Peter Richmond (on behalf of the Bournville Village Trust), Rob Cowan, Rob Murfin, Robin Smith, Samer Bagaeen, Sandra Fryer, Simin Davoudi, Stephanie Bamford, Stuart Andrews, Tim Marshall and Tony Champion.

**TCPA staff in attendance:**

Fiona Howie (Chief Executive)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Nigel Friswell, Lord Blunkett, Alice Sewell, Charlotte Morphet and Vincent Goodstadt.

**2. Minutes of the 123rd AGM held on 19 July 2023**

These were agreed as a correct record.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes of the 123rd AGM held on 19 July 2023**

There were no other matters arising.

**4. Annual Report of the Board and Financial Statements 2023**

The Chair of the Board gave a presentation highlighting the achievements of the Association during 2023. He highlighted that substantial amounts of work took place including in relation to the Healthy Homes campaign, the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, to secure healthy, active environments and on planning for climate change. He noted that the Association continues to want to work at the community level, and work in 2023 included working in Belfast and with Planning Aid for London. 2023 was also the final year of the Tomorrow 125 project, a highlight for which was an event in Bournville.

The Honorary Treasurer noted that the financial statements showed the Association had reported a surplus again in 2023 and that the Association had reserves at the higher end of the range set out in the Reserves Policy.

The Chair looked ahead to priorities for 2024, which included the General Election. He noted that while the Election took place earlier in the year than many expected, the Association was well positioned to respond to it. And that the new government now presented opportunities for the Association, especially in relation to new New Towns.

The President echoed that it had been a positive year with a lot being achieved. He invited any questions from the members and then proposed that the Annual Report and Financial Statements should be agreed. This was seconded by Gilian Macinnes and agreed by the members.

## **5. Election of President for 2024-25**

The Chair of the Board of Trustees proposed the Rt Hon Nick Raynsford to continue to serve as President for another year. This was seconded by Robin Smith. There were no other nominations, and the members agreed the Rt Hon Nick Raynsford be elected. The President thanked the members for his re-election.

## **6. Election of Vice-Presidents for 2024-25**

The President noted the death of Mary Riley at the age of 101. Mary was a pioneer in the field of town and country planning, the first female chair of the TCPA's board and, at the time of her death, one of the Association's Vice Presidents. He also highlighted that John Blake had decided to step down as Vice President and thanked him for all of his hard work on behalf of the Association having been a Vice President for around 30 years following periods as chair of the executive committee and representing the TCPA at various public inquiries including those about Sizewell and Hinckley Point.

The President then proposed the currently serving Vice Presidents for re-election for the year ahead. They are Gideon Amos OBE, Mike Ash CBE, Graeme Bell OBE, Lord Richard Best, Rt Hon David Blunkett, Sir Kenneth Collins, Lord Deben, John Deegan, Tony Fyson MBE, Nicky Gavron, Vincent Goodstadt, Sir Malcolm Grant CBE, Ray Green, Baroness Sally Hamwee, Kate Henderson, Peter Hetherington, Rt Hon Keith Hill, Reverend James Jones, Jiggy Lloyd, David Lock CBE, Prof Peter Roberts OBE, Diane Smith and Pam Warhurst CBE.

The proposal was seconded by Robin Smith and agreed by the meeting.

The President then proposed the appointment of two new Vice Presidents, Lee Shostak who had recently stepped down as Treasurer and Mary Parsons who had been a Trustee and Chair of the Board until 2022.

The proposal was seconded by Sandra Fryer and agreed by the meeting.

## **7. Election of Trustees**

The President reported that following the call for nominations there had been four nominations for three vacancies and therefore an online ballot had been held ahead of the meeting.

The Chief Executive reported that the successful candidates were:

- Stuart Andrews
- Peter Geraghty
- Aamina Khan

The President declared the candidates elected.

The Chair of the Board thanked Stephanie Bamford and Diane Smith [also known as Diane Mitchell], who stepped down at the AGM following time on the Board.

## **8. New Members of the Policy Council**

The President reported that there had been 14 nominations for ten vacancies on the TCPA Policy Council. An election had therefore been held online ahead of the AGM.

The Chief Executive confirmed that the newly elected members of Policy Council were:

- Samer Bagaeen
- Trevor Cherrett
- Jim Davies
- David Griggs
- Catherine Hammond

- Sue Morgan
- Danniella Persaud
- Lee Shostak
- Andy von Bradsky
- Lee Wratten

The President declared the candidates elected.

The Chair of the Board welcomed the new members and thanked staff, Trustees and Policy Council members for their insight and expertise. He also thanked the retiring Policy Council members, which were Peter Ellis, Jack Dangerfield and Barry Davies for their involvement.

## **9. Appointment of Auditors**

The Honorary Treasurer highlighted that as set out in section nine of the minutes of the 2023 AGM, it had been acknowledged that the organisation should go out to tender for auditors in the future. A process was undertaken by the Chair, Honorary Treasurer and Chief Executive in early 2024. Following an invitation to tender, four proposals had been received and three companies were invited to interview. A recommendation had been made to the Board of Trustees and following their agreement, a proposal was now being made to the members. The members were asked to agree to appoint Morris Crocker as auditors. The President highlighted that the change was being proposed for the reasons of good governance, not because there was an issue with the current auditor.

The Honorary Treasurer proposed the motion, and it was seconded by Stuart Andrews. It was agreed unanimously by the members.

The Honorary Treasurer then proposed the motion that the Board should be authorised to fix the remuneration of the auditors. This was seconded by the Chair of the Board and again agreed unanimously by the members.

## **10. The TCPA's membership subscriptions**

The Chair briefly introduced the context for the agenda item explaining that for various reasons changes had not been proposed to membership subscriptions for a number of years. Following discussions with the Board it was proposed that subscription fees should both be increased but also simplified because the Association had 27 different membership rates. The Honorary Treasurer set out that the proposed increase for 'standard individual' membership would be from £50 (if people currently paid by direct debit) to £60 a year. A slightly lower percentage increase was proposed for organisational members. The President noted that the percentage increase would be different for some individual members depending on whether they paid by Direct Debit and therefore received a discount, or annually. Removing this discount was part of the proposed simplification process.

The President invited questions or comments from the members. One member noted that the increase was much needed and that even at £60 a year for an individual member the subscription still presented very good value. There were no other questions.

The President proposed that the updated subscription types and associated fees set out in figure two in the paper circulated to all members be agreed. This was seconded by the Chair of the Board. The proposal was agreed unanimously by the members.

The President then proposed that membership subscription rates should become a standing item on the AGM agenda with increases in line with inflation being proposed unless there are extenuating circumstances. This was seconded by Gilian Macinnes. The proposed was again agreed unanimously by the members.

## **11. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

The President thanked the members for their continued support and declared the formal AGM closed at 18:45.

**Signed by the President:**..... **Dated:**.....

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