
DI GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024 MINUTES

Date/Venue: Sunday 25th February 2024: Online – ZOOM® webinar

Called to order: 10.00 hrs.

Attendance: 122 registered participants. Up to 100 members actively participated in polls.

Welcome

Chair, Janet Haines, welcomed participants to the meeting and outlined the programme for day. The 2023 minutes, 2024 Chair and Financial Reports had been pre-circulated to registrants and attendees were signposted to the Q&A facility should they wish to ask questions and explained that they would be able to vote using the polling function.

1. Apologies for absence

Susan Brown

1. Adoption of 2023 AGM minutes

Acceptance of 2023 AGM Minutes	
For	94%
Against	-
Abstain	6%

2023 AGM minutes adopted by majority vote.

1. Matters arising

None

2. Chair's Report

The report was delivered by Janet Haines. Janet summarised key events from the year 2023-2024 and shared highlights from the pre-circulated annual report, which included headline figures from the financial report prepared and pre-circulated by the DI Treasurer. Both reports were made available prior to the meeting.

Vote to adopt the Chair's Annual Report:

Proposed: Eric Begbie; *Seconded:* Jean Robson

Acceptance of Chair's Report	
For	91%
Against	-
Abstain	2%

Annual Report adopted by majority vote.

Financial Report

The Treasurer reported that RPS' technology issues that had previously caused some issues with reporting the accurate balance sheet have now been resolved and unaccounted for income from 2022 has been added to the DI accounts. The final total is a balance of £60,321.71.

Vote to adopt the Chair's Annual Report:

Proposed: Alan Collins; *Seconded:* Lois Wakeman

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report	
For	98%
Against	-
Abstain	2%

Treasurer's Report adopted by majority vote.

3. *Elections*

Nominations for the committee (formally proposed and seconded) were received two weeks prior to the AGM. All nominees stood unopposed and were appointed by a majority vote *en bloc*.

Election of Officers

- Chair: Janet Haines
- Hon. Secretary: Jocelyn Edwards
- Hon. Treasurer: Trevor Pogson

Acceptance of Elected Officers	
For	93%
Against	-
Abstain	1%

Officers elected by majority vote.

Election of Committee

- Rex Waygood
- Melanie Chalk
- Jean Robson
- Neill Taylor
- Dennis Knowles
- Kenneth Ness
- Lois Wakeman
- Martin Tomes
- Dimitrios Theodorakis

Acceptance of Committee	
For	95%
Against	-
Abstain	1%

Committee elected by majority vote.

Election to the RPS Members Committee

Janet Haines agreed to stand as the elected member representing the DI Group on the RPS Members Committee. She was unopposed and duly elected by majority.

Acceptance of MemCom Nomination	
For	94%
Against	-
Abstain	1%

Janet Haines elected by majority vote.

4. *Change to DI Subscription for 2024*

The Chair outlined the proposed change to DI subscriptions to be:

- £8 basic charge for all subscribers with DIGIT magazine available online
- £10 additional charge to purchase all 4 printed copies of DIGIT magazine

Vote to adopt the change to DI subscriptions:

Proposed: Brian Swinyard; *Seconded:* Mark Stothard

Acceptance of Change to DI Subscription	
For	94%
Against	4%
Abstain	2%

Proposal accepted to change DI subscriptions for 2024.

5. *Chair's Vision for 2024*

The Chair noted pending changes to the Terms of Reference for the DI Group, by the RPS Board of Trustees, to align the constitutions of all special interest groups (SIGs).

The Chair noted that discussions are underway with RPS regarding income generated by SIGs however, it is premature to speculate on the outcome of those discussions. DI workshops will continue with Books and 'Zines' and regular tutors. New workshops will be held on Apps, and specific subjects and tutors. In March, a new project is being launched with a series of events on plant, flower and garden photography that will culminate in the opportunity to enter the 2025 Royal Horticultural Society competition.

A strong monthly program of webinars has been scheduled. The popular Talk-Walk-Talk will continue and is expected to expand into more regions, and internationally. The regular DI and print competitions will remain. 3 issues of DIGIT are scheduled for 2024, with issue 100 to be available end April. There will be a temporary pause to Accolade magazine due to incomplete information being provided from RPS House. Some planned improvements are planned for the DI website during 2024.

6. *Any other business*

None

7. *Date of next AGM – 23rd February 2025*

Main AGM business was completed at 10.50 hrs.

Minutes prepared by: Jocelyn Edwards
Date: 25th February 2024

A copy of the recording is available on YouTube: [AGM Business Session](#).