

**RTPI NORTH WEST REGION AGM
SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE
Friday 1 December 2023**

In attendance:

Emily Kitching Bower, Matt Dugdale, Ben Vickers, Ian Gilbert, Phil Hardwicke, Steve Benges, Cerys Robinson, Kieran Blaydes, Adrian Fisher, Abigail Locke, Benedict Sacarello, Ryan Killeen, Michael Atkinson-Smith, Jemma Brabrook, Reece Black, John Fleming, Sam Leuty-Milner, Kath Warne, Chris Wilson, Jake Crompton, Justin Paul, Alan Kilroe, Rony Clark, Andrew Plant, Nick Taylor, Guy Benson, Peter Hamilton, Graham Trehwella, Adrian Swift, Paul Emms, Peter Hoey, Colin Hirst, Margaret Parker, Dave Chetwyn, Philip Barton, Matthew Scully, Paul Morris.

<p>1. Introduction from the Chair</p> <p>Meeting commenced at 12.45pm. EKB provided a brief introduction</p>
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>Received from Darren Muir, Joanne Harding, Kevin Halewood, Julian Jackson, Mike Gibson, Helena Muskett and Nick Horsley.</p>
<p>3. Minutes of the 2022 AGM</p> <p>Circulated prior to the meeting and agreed.</p>
<p>4. Chairs Review</p> <p>EKB thanked all volunteers for their contributions throughout the year and reflected on key events and achievements for the region from the year including the awards, annual dinner, a strong CPD programme and the LPA Engage initiative.</p> <p>EKB wished MD the best for the year ahead.</p>
<p>5. Financial Update</p> <p>BV provided an update on the financial report for 2023. The latest accounts available suggested that the RTPI NW would be in profit at the end of 2023. As with previous years, we will no longer feed into our reserves they will instead return to the central RTPI funds. Therefore, financial management will remain important as we go into 2024.</p> <p>The RTPI NW does however, still hold some reserves from previous years which it is seeking to spend down through creative and innovative projects such as the LPA Engage Plan, and LPA Training. If members have other potential ideas these can be shared with the RMB, RAC or Bev Watson.</p>
<p>6. Election of Principal Officers to RMB and RAC</p> <p>All principal officers were put forward and agreed:</p>

RMB Chair – Matt Dugdale
Vice Chair – Ben Vickers
Junior Vice Chair – Darren Muir
Honorary Treasurer – Ben Vickers
Honorary Secretary – Joanne Harding
Rep on Regional Assembly – Ian Gilbert
Rep on Regions & Nations Panel - Joanne Harding
EDI Champion – Emilly Kitching Bower

RAC One year term

Ian Pennington
Uche Echeozo
Georgina Blackburn
Tom Barrett
Hannah Graham
Nia Borseley
John Copestake
Chris Wilson
Sam Leuty-Milner
Jade Corcoran
Usman Sheikh

Two year term

Adrian Fisher
Lesley Buchanan
Marc Zablony
Tom Robinson
Jemma Brabrook
Holly Froggatt
Rachel Kerr
Sophie Stanton

Co-opted for one year term

Kieran Blaydes
Carolyn Williams
Jake Crompton
Paul Visigah
Mike Atkinson Smith
Ryan Killeen

EKB thanked everyone who had contributed to the work of the RTPI NW over the last year particularly those on the RAC and RMB, and gave special thanks to those who have stood down or come to the end of their term this year, including: James Warrington, Hannah Payne, Amy Kennedy, Atefeh Motamedi, Molly O’Sullivan and Maisie Boyes.

7. Incoming Chair

EKB handed over the RTPI Chain of Office to MD and welcomed him to the role of RTPI NW Chair. MD set out his top priorities going into 2024, these continue to focus on three aspects of providing support to planners across the North West:

1. Working closely with our LPA Champions, we will continue exploring ways in which we can support our members in the public sector, particularly those facing adversity from internal and external pressures, including issues with funding, resources and recruitment;
2. With a shortage of planners at all levels in the region, will be seeking to retain and attract talent, including those from under-represented groups and backgrounds. We will also be looking at how we can help those re-training from other professions or up-skilling from other technical and supporting roles within planning, as well as guiding our Licentiate, Associate and Experienced Practitioner members through the APC process.
3. Collaborating more closely as a network of planners and with our sister built and natural environment professionals across our vast region (from Manchester to the Isle of Man, to Chester and Carlisle), to share best practice and experience, forge new connections and ultimately deliver mutually beneficial outcomes for our members and communities.

MD thanked BW and all the volunteers for their help in supporting RTPI NW.

8. Date of next meeting

Friday 6 December 2024 – location TBC

9. Any other business

Adrian Swift requested the RTPI NW to engage more closely with our transport planning colleagues in the region (such as 'Transport for the North') and to respond to public consultations on behalf of the Institute as necessary; aiming to seek more joined up thinking between land use and transport planning initiatives and to share best practice.

AGM business was closed.

The AGM was followed by presentations by Tony Clark, Assistant Executive Director, Development and Infrastructure, on The Knowsley Story and a tour of Shakespeare North Playhouse.