

Annual General Meeting  
Chartered Institute of Horticulture  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024, 18.00hrs

Online, via Zoom

## Minutes

NO.	ITEM
01	<p><b>Welcome to the AGM – President David Richardson</b></p> <p>David Richardson CHort FCIHort, President, welcomed the assembled Members, Fellows, Chartered Horticulturists, Associates, and guests to the Chartered Institute’s Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>The President expressed thanks to the members of the Institute’s Management Board, committees and Council of Trustees for their ongoing support.</p> <p>Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Institute’s bye-laws, published on the website and distributed to all corporate members via email.</p>
02	<p><b>Apologies for Absence – Jason Daff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apologies have been received from members and supplied to the President. Available from the secretariat if required.</li> </ul>
03	<p><b>To approve the Minutes of the 2023 AGM – Jason Daff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2023 Annual General Meeting was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Southampton, SO16 3NG and online, via Zoom on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023.</li> <li>• Minutes were e-mailed to corporate members and posted on the website ahead of the meeting.</li> <li>• There were no amendments to the minutes of the 2023 AGM so it was put to the meeting for approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed- Victoria George MCIHort</li> <li>○ Seconded- Joseph Croke CHort FCIHort</li> <li>○ Votes against- none</li> <li>○ Vote- carried</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
04	<p><b>To receive the Annual Report for 2023 – Jason Daff</b></p> <p>The Annual Report has been distributed via e-mail to the membership and has been lodged on the website. The Honorary Secretary thanked the various contributors to the report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no amendments to the 2023 Annual Report so it was put to the meeting for receipt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed- Paul Mann MCIHort</li> <li>○ Seconded- Susan Nicholas FCIHort</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Votes against- none</li> <li>○ Vote- carried</li> </ul>
05	<p><b>To consider any regulation amendments</b></p> <p>There were no amendments to consider.</p>
06	<p><b>To receive the Audited Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – Gabriel Roe</b></p> <p>Gabriel Roe, Honorary Treasurer, provided an overview of the accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The Institute remains financially stable, despite the increase in operating costs and the effects of inflation.</p> <p>A summary of the accounts was included in the Annual Report - a full audited copy was also e-mailed to all corporate members and lodged on the website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no comments on the 2023 Annual Accounts, they were put to the meeting for receipt. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposed- Gabriel Roe FCIHort</li> <li>○ Seconded – Richard Barley MBE CHort MCIHort</li> <li>○ Votes against- none</li> <li>○ Vote- carried</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
07	<p><b>To note subscription rates for 2025 – Gabriel Roe</b></p> <p>Council proposes a modest increase to the subscription fees for 2025, in line with inflation. Subscription rates for 2025 are therefore as below:</p> <p>Fellow £163  Member £130  Associate £102  Student Member £0  Retired Fellow/Member/Associate £75  Career Builder £53  Chartered supplement to apply to all categories £116</p>
08	<p><b>To Elect New Honorary Officers &amp; Council for 2024/25- Jason Daff</b></p> <p>In accordance with the bye-laws the following nominations were received for vacancies for honorary officers and members of Council: The vote was taken <i>en bloc</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the office of President, <b>David Richardson CHort FCIHort</b> seeks election for a further 1-year term</li> </ul> <p><b>Council Members and Trustees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sue Jeffries MCIHort</b>, Social &amp; Therapeutic Horticulture Representative</li> <li>• <b>Joseph Croke CHort MCIHort</b>, Ireland Branch Representative</li> <li>• <b>James Simpson</b>, Commercial Representative</li> <li>• <b>Andrew Cotterill CHort MCIHort</b>, South East Branch Representative</li> <li>• Proposed- John Cappalonga MCIHort</li> <li>• Seconded- Helen Sessions CHort MCIHort</li> <li>• Votes against- none</li> <li>• Vote- Carried</li> </ul>

	<p>The Honorary Secretary thanked Phillip Pearson FCIHort who's term on Council had now concluded.</p> <p><b>ALL OTHER ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF THEIR TERM</b></p>
09	<p><b>To appoint Independent Financial Examiner for the year 2024 – Jason Daff</b></p> <p>Management Board proposed that we continue to invoke the services of our existing independent financial examiner; Helen Furlong FCCA of McLintocks (NW) Limited, Birkenhead, Merseyside.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed- Gabriel Roe FCIHort</li> <li>• Seconded- Richard Barley MBE CHort MCIHort</li> <li>• Votes against- none</li> <li>• Vote- carried</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>To consider any other business – Jason Daff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any other business must have been submitted to the Honorary Secretary 56 days prior to the meeting as per the Institute's bye-laws.</li> <li>• No other business was received.</li> </ul>
11	<p><b>New Chartered Horticulturists</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romain Bardin CHort MCIHort</li> <li>• Richard Barley MBE CHort MCIHort</li> <li>• Jason Daff CHort MCIHort</li> </ul> <p><b>Fellowships as approved by Council.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris Collins FCIHort</li> <li>• Stephen McCallum CHort FCIHort</li> <li>• Michael McQuade FCIHort</li> <li>• Sue Wood FCIHort</li> </ul>
12	<p><b>Awards:</b></p> <p><b>Aberconway Award</b> The Aberconway Award for best undergraduate dissertation was presented to Daniel Jones from Writtle University College.</p> <p><b>President's Award</b> The President's award for 2024 was awarded to <b>Michael Fitt OBE FCIHort</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Close of AGM – Jason Daff</b> JD announced the close of AGM business</p>