
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the KCLEA Committee Meeting held on 29th August 2024

The meeting was held online

Those participating :-

Peter Weitzel	President
Chris Bowden	Secretary
John Thomson	Treasurer and Webmaster
David Blacoe	

Due to the few members present the meeting was inquorate but was held informally to form a record of actions taken.

1) Apologies for absence

Mike Clode, Bobby Dixit, Graham Raven, Lai Cheung.

2) Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (11th. July 2024)

It was noted that David Blacoe was not present.

3) Developments within the Department of Engineering

Liz and Peter have had a meeting with Professor Rhode. He is supportive of our activities and has offered to speak at our autumn event.

Peter will send some further notes.

Action P.Weitzel

4) KCLEA Events

Autumn event. Find out about King's. Awaiting date in November from Prof. Lorenz.

Spring event. Lecture awaiting contact with LIHE but set for March.

Summer event. Annual lunch set for 14th. June 2025. 8th. floor of Bush house booked.

Action P.Weitzel

It was noted that Bobby Dixit would be stepping down hence Peter will be taking the lead.

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5) KCLES

It was noted that the KCLES might become the lead student organization as the women in engineering groups are becoming established.

6) Bursaries and Medals

It was agreed that we would award 2 x £1000 bursaries again. We need to get the word out as soon as possible. Support by the academic staff is important. Peter said that if it required his support he would pass information to the professors.

Draft notice for website to be prepared.

Action P.Weitzel

David Blacoe said that he would send relevant information to Peter.

Action D.Blacoe.

7) Finances and Investment Fund

A summary has been sent by John who was thanked for his work. In summary for July 2023 -June 2024 and July 2024- June 2025

	2023/ 2024	2024/2024
Income	£3,875.22	£795.53
Expenditure	£4,323.56	£0
Excess income v. expenditure	-£448.34	£795.53
Bank balance	£7,333.72	£8,129.25

It was considered that we had sufficient money in hand.

Prior to the meeting Mike Clode had advised that there was nothing to report as regards the Investment Fund.

8) Website and membership communication.

Peter said that he had a lot of text for the website including all events, the call for new Executives and leaders and for Volunteers for activities and some other pages and some thoughts on a tidy up of the home page. He will pass them to John Thomson for action. (John was going on holiday so Peter was given access to do the edits.)

**Action Peter Weitzel
John Thomson**

The entire newsletter text is with the Alumni office who will format it to our satisfaction and when the November event date is set send it out at the agreed AO timeslots in mid to late September.

Prior to the meeting Mike Clode said that he had two good articles from KCLEA members

To produce the Bulletin he would need short reports from the President, Departments, Events, KCLES and AGM.

Bulletin content to be reviewed with Mike Clode. In the light of what is in the newsletter and ambitions for Linked in.

Action P.Weitzel

Ways of communicating with people without AO email is under consideration and limited action.

Action P.Weitzel

9) Review of KCLEA Constitution

Peter Weitzel outlined why the Constitution needed amendment urgently rather than being reviewed later. There were three main points :-

- a) KCLA does not have branches – and thus KCLEA cannot be a branch of KCLA as they don't exist.
- b) The KCL structure has changed – and the constitution refers only to the division of Engineering which has not existed for more than ten years.
- c) There are issues around not having post email addresses so we cannot wind up the KCLEA as it currently stands. So it is a Zombie association.

Thus he had proposed the changes with the reasoning in the documents circulated in the Call to the committee meeting.

In summary these are:-

- 1) Remove all references to KCLA and the Branch through the Constitution. Usually replacing “the Branch” with KCLEA
- 2) Establish the aims of KCLEA as being in the document being an amendment of the KCLA Aims to suit KCLEA / Engineering areas – using the words shown to members at the Annual Lunch.
- 3) To replace the reference to the “Division of Engineering” to be “Department of Engineering or the School of Biomedical Engineering and Imaging Science or the Division of Engineering or its predecessors
- 4) To require all members of KCLEA whose email addresses the AO or KCLEA had to vote if KCLEA was to be wound up.
- 5) There were two or three tidy ups linked to the above to make the constitution clearer.

Peter commented that these were almost the minimum adjustments needed before a full review.

Peter had noted that there had been great debate by email about splitting from KCLA – but he noted that if KCLEA became an affiliated society of KCLA – a decision which would need to be taken at a later date- that KCLEA would have the same representation in KCLA as a KCLA branch (which they do not have) would have.

Peter also pointed out that by this action KCLEA would become an unincorporated association in its own right with all the Personal Liability that entails for its committee and members this is the same as KCLA has currently but not like other similar sized engineering institutions- but the status of KCLEA is the first topic that would be discussed and legal advice taken when the full review is done.

Mike Clode had indicated he had nothing to add to the debate.

As the meeting was inquorate an informal discussion was held which generally had the view that these changes were necessary and appropriate and required urgent action.

The view was formed that as we need to avoid a SGM for this topic it should be on the AGM agenda which was required to be published co timed with the newsletter in September.

So, Peter Weitzel would seek the agreement (or otherwise) of the committee by voting by email on the five points above.

Action P.Weitzel

(note – this was done 3 days after the meeting with additional documents outlining the informal Discussions and views that had been held in advance of the minutes and further information from KCLA.)

10) AGM

Set at being 5th. December by zoom.

11) AOB

None.

12 Dates of next meeting

There needs to be a meeting at least a fortnight (ideally three weeks) before the AGM to agree a list of nominations.

Actiion C.Bowden

Committee members are asked to indicate if they agree to being nominated and what position they will take.

Action All