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## **AGM 2020**

Date: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 6.00pm.

Virtual Meeting Held Due to Covid 19 Restrictions via a **Zoom Meeting Link** 

#### circulated to ILI members.

# **President's Report**

Kevin J. Halpenny, PILI,

#### Introduction

The following report provides an outline of some of the significant events, activities and issues involving the Institute since the 2019 AGM.

#### **Governance and Administration**

## **Council Meetings**

The Council met as a group 14 times in the period since the 2019 AGM. Attendance was variable and often limited to the same small number of Council members. Video and teleconferencing facilities have allowed Council members to participate from anywhere with a phone connection or wi-fi signal. This has proven vital during recent months due to the restrictions on gathering caused by the Global Pandemic. The relatively low level of attendance at meetings is disappointing and concerning given the ease of access to meetings provided by this technology.

#### Administrative Support and Association Management Service

Happening Events were requested to continue providing Association Management Services including all the services provided by and at a rate equivalent to the cost of the part-time administrator.

#### Office

The office at Fumbally Exchange, Argus House, Blackpitts, Dublin 8. was used for a number of meetings, exam preparation and Viva Voce / Parks Professional ILI interviews during the year.

#### **Events and Activities**

<u>26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.</u> ILI Professional Practice Exam Tutorial and Viva Voce Interviews.

<u>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019.</u> ILI Christmas Meeting – Presentation on Roof Gardens by Lucy Carey MILI from Cunnane, Stratton, Reynolds Landscape Architects.

<u>Conference Postponed due to Covid 19.</u> Irish Landscape Institute Conference 2020 in association with The Landscape Institute UK 'Shared Landscapes' – Creating Resilience Through Nature Based Solutions Thursday 14th May 2020 - The Grand Hotel, Malahide, Dublin, Ireland.

Awards 2020

The ILI Awards Programme 2020 open for registration from 24th July 2020.

Extensive details are provided on the ILI Website.

## **Membership Database**

The Database containing the details of all of our members has been revised and updated. Currently our membership numbers are as follows:

- a. 7 affiliates
- b. 112 corporate includes 4 x retired
- c. 21 x graduate
- d. 5 x honorary
- e. 10 x parks professionals
- f. 3 x student
- g. 16 x practice members

#### **ILI** Brand

The updated Institute's brand has now been circulated to paid up members for use by them in their correspondence and promotional materials.

#### CPD Events.

This has been greatly curtailed due to the effects of the Covid 19 Pandemic.

## **Professional Practice Examinations**

Professional Practice Exams took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October in UCD. Exam participants were supported with 3 No. tutorial days and 18 new corporate members were qualified from this process.

# Viva Voce

Following approval of the Viva Voce application process, interviews were held on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 with 5 new Corporate Members receiving ILI accreditation.

## Parks Professional Chamber (PPILI)

The application process has been refined and further interviews will take place to facilitate additional appropriately qualified members joining this chamber of the Institute.

## Practice Memberships

Some requests for new practices were processed during the year emphasising the value being placed on professional certification.

# **Sponsorship**

In 2019/20 we received sponsorship from An Bord Bia and were in discussions with other potential sponsors in relation to the now postponed 2020 Conference.

#### **Future Priorities**

- High Level Lobbying meeting with Government Representatives this is being actively pursued
- Promotion of Professional Recognition for Landscape Architecture
- Increased membership numbers and practice membership for the Institute
- Continued provision Professional Practice Exams, Viva Voce and PPILI interviews.
- An extensive programme of events (Actual and Virtual) including the postponed 2020 Conference.

#### In Conclusion

I would like on your behalf to thank my fellow members of the Council for volunteering their assistance over the past two years. I would also like to thank Anne Doherty and her team from Happening Events for their application to the work of the Institute and in particular for resolving some long-standing administrative issues facing the Institute. Given the challenges of the last number of months, it is more clear than ever that a strong representative body is key to the success of our industry. As a member led organisation, ILI can only succeed through our voluntary effort. I hope you can attend the 2020 AGM and if possible, support the work of your Institute.

Ní neart go cur le chéile. - There is no strength without unity.

Kevin J. Halpenny President ILI 2018-2020