



IHSGB 2026 Extraordinary General Meeting

MEETING MINUTES SATURDAY 11TH APRIL 2026 1.30 PM

Trustees & Management attending

Martine Bye-Duke Chair (MBD), Jem Adams (JA), Hilary Ashford (HA), Ellen Brimble (EB), Debbie Ede (DE), Crissy Edwards (CE), Linnie Frith (LF), Freija Glansdorp (FG), Fi Pugh (FP), Ian Pugh (IP), Mic Rushen (MR).

The Minutes were written up by Sabrina Chetcuti

Attending Members

31 members were registered to attend the event. This number includes Trustees and Management .

13 Apologies were received and 13 proxy votes provided

Introduction to the EGM as read by the Chair

Welcome to this Extraordinary General Meeting of the IHSGB. We are here today to vote on a resolution put to you by the existing Board of Trustees and Management Team. This resolution proposes a restructuring of the Society which, essentially, splits the “must do’s” ie: governance and compliance, from the operational delivery of activities for members.

By doing this we believe the Society will become more focused on, and responsive to, members’ needs, thus boosting engagement and growing and retaining our membership.

It will also allow us to align volunteer roles more closely with skill sets and interests and make these volunteer roles more ‘attractive’ and deliverable - whilst our Trustees can draw more on their corporate skill sets and experiences.

Since our AGM in November, when we introduced this idea of a change, we have been

running an extensive consultation exercise. As well as emailing the detailed proposal to you all we have presented our ideas, again, by webinar (in February) and invited further questions and feedback. Queries raised at the AGM together with any new ones were addressed at a second webinar (in March). This process allowed us to draft the resolution we are voting on today, which was circulated to our full membership 3 weeks ago.

We are 40 years old this year and, through this consultation process, have shown you why and how we need to change.

Our starting point came from our Trustees uncloaked video. You will recall that we asked our newest Trustees “how was it for them?”

We all saw, and heard, their feedback and it was very obvious why we have struggled for years to recruit to both the Board and Management team and then retain these volunteers and their enthusiasm! And grow and retain our membership! Building on this we developed the proposal and, finally, framed this resolution.

We urge you to now support this proposal and vote FOR the resolution tabled in the calling notice and which I will now read out.

Resolution: ORDINARY

“THAT:

1. The members approve the establishment of a Management Committee (MAST, the Members' Activities & Support Team) to oversee the day-to-day operational activities of the Society.
2. The Management Committee shall operate under delegated authority from the Board of Trustees in accordance with the Society's Articles of Association.
3. The Trustees shall retain ultimate legal responsibility for the governance, financial oversight, and strategic direction of the Society.
4. The Trustees are authorised to approve and implement appropriate Terms of Reference for the Management Committee.
5. Members of MAST will be democratically elected by the membership with the Trustees authorised to determine the election process by which members are appointed to, and removed from, that Committee.
6. Nothing in this resolution amends the Articles of Association or alters the powers, duties, or responsibilities of the Trustees.”

The resolution is an ORDINARY one and, as such, requires a simple majority of members voting today. For information we are quorate with more than 15 members (or 10% of the membership – whichever is the smaller number) participating in the vote.

The voting process today :

One log-in gives you one e-vote – with our webmaster Ian running this process.

If more than one of you is sharing a log-in to this meeting please can any additional member **each** send in your own vote, using your own email, to membership@ihsgb.co.uk, as soon as Ian opens the poll.

For any member holding a proxy vote please send this by email to membership@ihsgb.co.uk as soon as the poll opens.

Finally thank you for giving up your time today and, whatever the outcome of the vote, we are all looking forward to celebrating our 40th year and onwards into our 5th decade! What will we look like at 50 I wonder?

MINUTED NOTE

One of the meeting attendees Ian Pugh requested that he wanted an opportunity to discuss the resolution proposed at the EGM and asked for the minutes to reflect his request.

Ian Pugh asked "Aren't we going to see if there is anything anyone wants to ask or discuss?"

The Chair declined this request saying, "The time for discussion and debate has passed".

Ian Pugh asked that his request and the Chair's response be minuted and this was agreed.

The Chair's response to this request was that there had been a full consultation process.¹ This meeting was the culmination of these discussions and confirmed that today's EGM was for members to vote.

VOTE

At this point the agenda moved forward to the formal vote.

Members were asked to vote on the proposal

RESULTS

Including meeting attendees, proxies received by email, duplicate log-ins by email and meeting attendees who couldn't use the e-vote facility by email, -43 votes were cast in total.

FOR	35
AGAINST	7
ABSTENTION	1

The resolution was approved. 81%

Members and Trustees were thanked for their participation in what marked the society's 40th anniversary year.

Meeting Closed at 1.51 pm

¹ Since the proposal at the AGM November 2025, every opportunity had been afforded to the members to discuss the proposals. The consultation process included 2 webinars, member access to presentation material, opportunities for comments, feedback and responses.