

**Socitm Annual General Meeting
22 April 2010 at 12.15 pm
The Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel**

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Steve Palmer, the outgoing President, welcomed members to the meeting.</p> <p>No apologies had been received.</p>
2.	<p>To receive the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 23 April 2009 at Stoneleigh Park Conference and Exhibition Centre</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held 23 April 2009 were agreed as a true record.</p>
3.	<p>Out-going President's Address</p> <p>Steve Palmer reported on his year as President. He has attended many of Socitm's regional meetings and found there is now a great vitality to Socitm with much collaboration and sharing of best practice, to face the challenges of the economic climate, changes to public services, procurement and changing job roles. Socitm is still of real relevance and value to members. Steve Palmer referred to the Annual Report for 2009 which documents Socitm's achievements. The Socitm Board has been mindful of the need to maintain financial stability but the decision was made to increase capacity by employing the three heads of Policy, Membership and Commerce to take Socitm forward. Originally it was envisaged that reserves of £144,000 would be required but this has been managed down to £49,000 and is part of a three year rolling budget strategy.</p> <p>Steve Palmer thanked members for allowing him the privilege of being President. He thanked the Socitm Board and office staff for their support. In particular Pam Larsen, who will be leaving Socitm shortly, has given invaluable assistance.</p>
4.	<p>Managing Director's Address</p> <p>Adrian Hancock commented on the need to accentuate positive achievements but deal with the reality of the tough few years the Society has experienced and is still facing. To ensure members' requirements are met Socitm must take a medium to longer term view. After the period of reorganisation, Socitm now needs to focus on improved communication, re-engagement with existing members and broadening the membership base. Socitm now has a positive vision and sense of direction, with a professional team in place. It's strong and agile governance structure represents the interests of both the Society and its members.</p> <p>Adrian thanked members for attending the AGM.</p>
Ordinary Business	
5.	<p>To receive and consider the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2009</p> <p>David Houston presented the accounts and discussed Socitm's financial management. The loss of £49,000 for 2009 is relatively small in view of Socitm's activities over the year. The annual report gives a concise summary of the financial situation. Audited accounts, approved by the Board are now on the Socitm website.</p>

	The accounts were accepted.
6.	<p>To appoint the Auditors for 2010</p> <p>David Houston reported that Christine Peacock, the previous auditor, had sadly died in August 2009. Wright Vigar had acquired her practise, and produced Socitm's audited Accounts for 2009. Socitm has been impressed with their capabilities and proposed that Wright Vigar be appointed as Auditors for 2010.</p> <p>The proposal was accepted.</p> <p>Mark Wheatley raised a question on what the full year effect of the capacity building changes would be, as they are only partly reflected in the Accounts for 2009. David Houston reported that the budget plan for 2010 is a managed loss of £240,000 with a view to Socitm coming into profitability in 2012. Steve Palmer commented that many initiatives are now in place to offset losses with increased revenue through sponsorship and other commercial activities.</p> <p>Regarding the new appointments, Dylan Roberts enquired if they are tasked with delivering against set revenue targets. Adrian Hancock reported that the Head of Commerce is but in fact all Socitm staff are subject to review. A range of checks and balances is in place. There is no longer open ended employment. Staff are employed on a fixed term contract basis.</p>
7.	<p>To elect the officers for 2010/11</p> <p>7.1 The meeting confirmed the appointment of Jos Creese as President as proposed by the Socitm Board of directors.</p> <p>7.2 Nominations for the three vacant posts of Vice President had been received for Kay Brown of South Lanarkshire, Glyn Evans of Birmingham City Council, Steve Halliday of Solihull Council and David Wilde of Westminster City Council.</p> <p>Following a count of the votes for each candidate, Kay Brown, Glyn Evans and Steve Halliday were duly elected as the three Vice Presidents.</p> <p>David Wilde was thanked for his support and contribution to Socitm, which it is hoped will continue.</p> <p>A vote of thanks was given to Steve Palmer, the outgoing President. Jos Creese was welcomed as the new President.</p>
	Special Business
8.	<p>Presentation of new Membership Structure</p> <p>Adrian Hancock stated that the proposed new Membership Structure is a continuation of efforts started in 2008 and centres on Professionalism for members. Ellen Jessett, Head of Membership has visited the regions and had many discussions with members. Adrian outlined the proposals - members can remain at their current level of membership stay or can choose to be accredited, with a post nominal to show level of professional achievement and responsibility.</p> <p>11 electronic votes in favour of the new Membership Structure had been received. The meeting accepted the proposals.</p>

<p>9.</p>	<p>Changes to Articles of Association</p> <p>Adrian Hancock advised that the main reasons for changes to the Articles of Association were to bring Socitm up to date with the Companies Act, as recommended by the legal advisers. In the interests of democracy and inclusion, the criteria for becoming a President or Vice President of Socitm have been extended to members from the third sector and the broader public sector. The intention is to be more flexible, in changing the minimum term to be served by a Vice President from three years to one, to reflect changes in job roles. Members cannot easily commit now to the previous five year cycle.</p> <p>Chris Head enquired whether, under the new proposals, a member with a portfolio career, working in both public and private sectors could become a Vice President. Adrian Hancock commented that this possibility had not been considered previously. Currently, private sector members are excluded from becoming Vice Presidents, but do have the opportunity to become non-executive directors. Jos Creese responded that such cases would have to be considered on an individual basis. Fahri Zinhi commented that wording in the Articles of Association should reflect this.</p> <p>Subject to inclusion of wording suggested by Fahri to cover the point raised by Chris, changes to the Articles of Association were accepted.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Incoming President's Address</p> <p>Jos Creese, the incoming President, stated that he was honoured and privileged to be elected. He was daunted yet excited at following on from such talented and hardworking former Presidents. As the Society is now in such a strong position it is a particularly exciting time to be taking over. The vision for the Society has never been stronger, or influence and opportunities greater. We have wanted IT to be at centre stage for many years, but it has been seen as a support service. We are now holding the key solution to challenges facing the public sector, and supporting members to enable improved services to be delivered. Jos gave his assurance that he will meet members from around the country to ensure that the Society supports them as far as possible in both strategy and policy.</p> <p>The meeting then closed.</p>