



# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

## 1 November 2024

### Venue: Park Plaza Hotel, Nottingham

#### Welcome by Chair

Tim Barbary welcomed everyone to the annual general meeting of the Midlands Packaging Society and was pleased to welcome Trevor Willis.

#### Attendees

Tim Barbary, Keith Barnes, Emily Hilditch, Suzanne Lim, Ian Morris, Jeremy Plimmer, Victoria Whyley, Trevor Willis, Guests Andrew Whyley, Paul Cook, Nacho Blanco

#### Apologies for absence

Liam Barbary, Nikki Clark, Allan Hayles, Andy Nudds-Hunter, Patrick Poitevin, Bob Smith.

As there are 7 members attending, three of whom were officers, the meeting was agreed to be quorate

#### Minutes of the last meeting dated 17 October 2023

**Matters arising from the minutes** – None - Tim Barbary signed the minutes.

#### Midlands Packaging Society AGM 2024

##### Chair's Report

What a year we have had

- Tim Barbary continues to support the IOM3 Technical communities, he sits on the Packaging Leadership Group
- Our committee meetings are mostly face to face but have also run online
- Our society received the local society of the year award 2023 and £1,000 in prize money.
- Keith Barnes was awarded the TB Marsden Professional medal
- We have completed the rebranding of our society and launched our new website – a huge learning curve requiring new skills
- We have updated our brochure to demonstrate our values
- Our newsletter is moving online, and individual news items are posted on our website and emails via Mailchimp are used to direct people towards them.
- We have produced a couple of blogs on important information. More to come.
- Committee member changes
  - Our committee group increased in size even though one has left us.
  - Christian Rossel stepped down from our committee after many years of supporting the then Nottingham Branch which became the East Midlands Packaging Society and, subsequently following the merger with the West Midlands, continued to support The Midlands Packaging Society until recently
  - Members elected on to our committee include Victoria Whyley, Emily Hilditch and Suzanne Lim. Each has brought skill to support our new website and LinkedIn

- Delivered our flagship event - Pack to The Future Conference in Loughborough
  - Most successful year to date with 85 attendees
  - Received a lot of positive feedback
  - Did not lose money on the event
- Membership
  - IOM3 members who have chosen to receive information from MPkgS is circa 190.
  - Our mailing list has increased to over 950
- We continue to deliver a number of webinars (2)
- We continue with visits to packaging businesses (3)
- Our cash flow has improved (see treasurer's report)
- We supported with a stand, promoting IOM3 and our activities at
  - the BCMPA annual conference
  - Packaging News Environmental summit annual conference
- For 2025 we are introducing a supporters of our society page
  - Our membership fee remains for free
  - This is for businesses that can have access to membership
  - Host a webinar and a stand at our annual conference
  - In return they pay £250 / annum
  - We need to be aware that if we continue to increase our surplus, IOM3 may in future consider reducing financial support to us. As a not for profit, we need the protection of a surplus and moreover we are secure financially should IOM3 again reduce its commercial support.
- The committee's willingness to keep us all going has been inspirational.

Our committee is strong because of the overall continued energy and support, and I hope this long continues.

I also look forward to our next year which will no doubt be challenging, exciting and unlikely to be dull!

Tim Barbary, Chair of MPkgS,

1 November 2024

### **Secretary, Activities and Membership Report**

Reported by Ian Morris. (See Activities and Membership Report dated 01/11/2024)

#### **Activities**

Webinars on Accelerating the Transition to the Circular Economy by Aquapak and Ready to make sustainable packaging printing decisions that matter? By Evert Ouwerkerk

The MPkgS supported the Environmental Packaging Summit, Park Plaza, Victoria, London.

At the PTF Conference held at L'boro Univ in July, 91 people registered, of which 24 were IOM3 members\*.

There was a group of 19 from Michigan State University.

We arranged visits to Belvoir Farms, Berry Recycling Polymers and Graphic Pkg International

In total 291 people attended our events, giving an average attendance over 8 events of 36.4, of which 16.6 were IOM3 members\*. This information will be used to submit our next grant application for 2024/25.

#### **MPkgS Website**

The new website can be accessed here [MPkgS website](#). MPkgS have a microsite on the IOM3 website and our events are listed there. See <https://www.iom3.org/group/midlands-packaging-society-mpkgs.html>

#### **MPkgS News**

JP has been supplying articles which EH loads onto the MPkgS website. IM incorporates the headline into Mailchimp emails

#### **Membership**

As of 28 October 2024, membership of The Packaging Group stands at 822 (was 814 in October 2023).

From the IOM3 database 189 people are assigned to MPkgS (was 135 in 2023), however, only 108\* are IOM3 members. The balance of 81 are those people who have registered on the IOM3 site to receive information from MPkgS but are not members. Note – although names are visible to us, we do not know who in this list are members or not.

### **Treasurer's Report for the period 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2024**

Reported by Ian Morris. (See Treasurers Report dated 01/11/2024).

We have been involved in a number of events this year. Where possible webinars were used to promote packaging activities in the Midlands. Not all of these events have had financial implications for the MPkgS.

Financially though there has been a positive movement in our reserves.

The Cheque account# started with **£25.00** and is now at **£5.00**

The Savings account started with **£10,978.99** and is now at **£12,470.29**

Therefore, our total reserves are now **£12,475.29**

From 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024 we have a surplus of **£1471.30**

*# This account is used to pay cheques or bank transfers when required. £5.00 is also taken to cover the monthly bank charges by HSBC. A low balance is kept in this account and money is transferred in from the savings account as and when required.*

### **Election of Chair**

Tim Barbary                      Proposed by Jeremy Plimmer      Seconded by Keith Barnes

### **Election of Officers**

#### **Vice Chair**

Jeremy Plimmer              Proposed by Ian Morris              Seconded by Tim Barbary

#### **Secretary, Treasurer & Membership**

Ian Morris                      Proposed by Tim Barbary              Seconded by Jeremy Plimmer

#### **Treasurer**

Ian Morris                      Proposed by Tim Barbary,              Seconded by Keith Barnes

#### **Secretarial and Treasurer Support**

Victoria Whyley

#### **Communications, Social Media and Website**

Suzanne Lim and Emily Hilditch

#### **PTTF Conference Coordination**

Nikki Clark and Suzanne Lim

#### **Committee**

The committee that had stood down was re-elected and now consists of Liam Barbary, Keith Barnes, Nikki Clark, Allan Hayles, Emily Hilditch, Andy Nudds-Hunter, Patrick Poitevin, Bob Smith and Victoria Whyley.

### **AOB (relevant to AGM)**

The constitution was amended to include the following paragraph and agreed by those present.

#### **Section 3 Powers**

The society is a non-profit making organisation. All profit and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve the society's services, aims and objectives. No profit or surplus will be distributed other than to another non-profit making affiliated local packaging society or should the society be dissolved, any assets remaining after all debts have been paid shall be given to another Affiliated Local Packaging Society with similar aims, or if no Affiliated Local Packaging Society with similar aims can be found, the fund would be paid to the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining Benevolent Fund. (see section 11 below).

### **2023/2024 Programme**

See Activities and Membership Report dated 01/11/2024

### **2025/2025 Programme**

To be discussed at next committee meeting

### **Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 26 November 2024 at 7.30pm

Online.

Ian Morris,

Secretary

25 November 2024