

THE LEEDS ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the Session 2025/2026 held at The Methodist Church Hall Morley at 7.30pm on Thursday 25th September 2025

1. **Attendance.** John Aldersley (president) opened the A.G.M. at 7.30 pm and council members in attendance were:- M. Murray, A. Kibler, G. Roper & N. Burchall.
2. **Apologies for Absence.** S. Wilkinson, C. Pinder, G. Toulson, J. Bentley, I. Blakeley, S. Stacey & H. Soutar.
3. **Minutes of the previous A.G.M.** held on 24th April 2025 were given to members. After a show of hands by the members the minutes were accepted as a true record of the previous A.G.M.
4. **Matters Arising.** The president announced that the arranged visit to Sulzer for September has been put back to next year and still needs to be finalised. The October visit is to MPM in Bramley and needs to be confirmed with Ben Wilson at MPM. In November a visit to CMB at Wortley is planned. The President proposed an honorary membership for Barrie Yates. Originally this was proposed for Malcolm Murray, who declined the offer of honorary membership in favour of Barrie Yates. This was voted on and was unanimously accepted and approved.
5. **Nominations for Council.** The president did not propose any changes to council, with the exception of Neil Burchall, who had been voted on to the council and welcomed by all. Council numbers were not discussed, apart from that the president explained the position with council member Jennifer Burton. The president had asked her to remain on council in previous years, but having not seen Jennifer and received no subscriptions for a couple of years, the president suggested Jennifer could rejoin the council when she has the time, having a busy work and life balance. The president said his aim would be to have Jennifer as the first female president of the association.
6. **Nominations for President.** John Aldersley advised that he will end his term as president at the end of the current session of event in May 2026. Vice-president Graham Roper said he will take on the role of president after May 2026.
7. **Nominations for Vice President.** No vice-president was nominated. Although the A.G.M. attendance included only three full members (excluding council) it was reported by the president that he had approached Sam Wilkinson, who though he was new to the association thought he may not have enough experience. The president said he would be supported throughout the process and so Sam is going to consider the position. Andrew Kibler suggested the possibility of the younger members of council being asked. As none were present at the AGM the question could not be asked, but will be considered in the future.

8. **Confirmation of Trustees.** Andrew Kibler was voted in as the trustee of the association to replace Barrie Yates retiring from the position.
9. **Membership Secretary Report.** Malcolm Murray commented that membership was up, mainly due the efforts of council member Cameron Pinder. A few members had resigned their membership. Malcolm said he was in the process of signing up a new member. The subject of the student membership fees being increased to £5.00 from £2.00 was voted on and passed unanimously by a show of hands.
10. **Treasurers Report.** Andrew Kibler presented his figures and stated that the membership fees were up from the previous year. An increase in expenses was down to the cost of hiring a magician for the 160th Anniversary Dinner, the cost of the recent journal and postage charges. Andrew cautioned that we need to keep an eye on spending and those in attendance agreed. Graham Roper said we have 'cut out the fat' and are now not over spending.
11. **Annual Dinner.** Dinner Secretary Andrew Kibler said he thought it went well and that the Manor Golf Club looked after us. The food was good and everyone enjoyed the magician. Andrew stated the dinner would not lose as much money next time, but he thought to commemorate the 160th, it warranted the extra spend. Andrew has pre-booked for next year and stated it will be more expensive than the last event. The president agreed and commented that food and staff costs are only going to go one way, and that is up.
12. **Annual Golf Tournament.** The president read out golf secretary Steve Stacey's statement and thanked Steve in his absence for his efforts. The event was a great success and the association wished to thank M.A. Ford and Alan Braime for their continued generous sponsorship. The golf tournament is already booked for next year, with an increase in playing fees and food costs needing to be taken into consideration.
13. **Journal.** The president thanked John Bentley for his excellent latest publication and then put it to the A.G.M. that it was John's last journal and the association are now looking for someone to take it on. The president said the journal is published around every five years and as there were no offers to take on the task of editing, the president said he could do it if no one else offered. The president also said that due to printing and associated costs it may be something for consideration that the format may change, as times have changed and people communicate in many ways, other than in print.

Any Other Business. Ian Scholes told us that the Methodist Church would be closing some time in the New Year, so the meeting room would no longer be available for meetings. With that in mind the council would need to plan around that. The president told the members that council has been looking at

alternative venues, including the University of Leeds, to try to encourage the university students to attend with help from council member Harry Soutar. Andrew Kibler has spoken previously about a possible venue at East Ardsley Conservative Club. Having heard Ian Scholes' news those in attendance agreed that it was something to pursue now knowing the church was closing. The president closed the meeting at around 8.10 pm, thanking those in attendance.

The president followed on with a talk about his time working at Wetherby Engineering in Bradford, which involved praising all the great engineers he had the pleasure of working with over twenty five years (in 2 separate stints). There were some amusing stories and recollections of some of the parts that were made and the machines used. The talk finished around 9.30 pm and the president thanked Ian Scholes for arranging the meeting hall. This was acknowledged by all in attendance.

.....President. Date