

IIRSM Inaugural Wales Branch Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 30th July 2013 14.00pm

Location: SCC Building, Dyfed Powys Police Headquarters, Llangunnor, Carmarthen, SA31 2PD

The meeting was opened by Steve Bergiers (SB) (Branch Chairman), who welcomed everyone to the Inaugural Wales Branch Meeting of IIRSM. He introduced Haydn Brittain (HB) (Branch Secretary), Eleanor Doherty (Marketing and Events Manager) IIRSM and Karen Hoskins (Online Training) IIRSM. The introductory process then was passed around the table.

Members:

David Gunniss (DG)	Malcolm Lilburn (ML)	John Richards (JR)	Ken Marsh (KM)
Andrew Moore (AM)	Anthony Acari (AA)	John O'Malley (JM)	Tom Cullen (TC)
Clive Rees (CR)	Eleanor Doherty (ED)	Karen Hoskins (KH)	

Apologies were read out for those members who were unable to attend.

Topics discussed

Branch structure

1. Rules for regional branches were explained by the Chair and discussed. The Branch must have a Chairman and Secretary to exist and that there would be additional committee positions to be filled in due course e.g. communications officer, events officer and treasurer if required.

It was agreed that for fairness these appointments would be scoped as part of a survey to include members that were unable to attend on the day.

Engaging members

2. Currently there are 490 IIRSM members within Wales, which approximately 50 email responses were received for the inaugural meeting. This is promising and further communication will be made via email, the next meeting should be around October and take into account school holidays to allow a greater attendance. CPD links should be highlighted for attending branch meetings.

For members who cannot attend in person it was discussed that we could use video conference and teleconference facilities to the meeting. SB will enquire with the media department at Dyfed Police Headquarters.

Discussion was raised around a closed IIRSM Wales Group on Linked-In to allow a forum for Wales Branch Members to discuss, debate and to share best practice. It was agreed that with the appointment of a Communications Officer, this role would be the custodian for this on-line group. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Branch development & funding

3. Discussion was raised regarding funding for the branches for guest speakers, expenses incurred. Suggestions were discussed around sponsorship, branch members paying a nominal amount for each meeting for refreshment's, guest speaker gifts e.g. Cufflinks, umbrellas, ties etc.

It was raised that IIRSM yearly subscription should have some of that money ported back into supporting the branches in their development. KH advised on the position of the IIRSM in that there currently is no funding available for branches but discussions are taking place in the IIRSM executive to consider this in the future.

Running joint events for sponsorship of guest speakers may be an option.

The members enquired if IIRSM branch logos be available such as a blazer badge, professional emblem. KH would enquire with head office and feedback to the group.

4. Suggestions were made that guest speakers may be sought locally, e.g. to talk about disaster management with the local emergency planning. Swansea city council can discuss the Fforest fach tyre fire etc. Site visits could also be arranged. This was welcomed by the group and volunteer speakers can be put forward.

Understanding member's expectations

5. Members expectations need to be established, it was agreed that the way forward is to send a survey to all IIRSM Welsh members to acquire their preferences around future meetings. The survey results will be discussed at the next meeting. Questions to include:

- Do they want a branch?
- What type of event is expected?
- Proposed venues?
- Best times to be held?

Acquire the interest of members to undertake a position on the committee (positions to be included on the survey). Survey must be succinct otherwise it may restrict responses.

ED and SB will develop the survey and provide the results ready for the next branch meeting for group discussions.

IIRSM information

6. KH loaded the IIRSM webpages and discussed the free training packages available for IIRSM members and other training products that are available and being developed.

KH discussed the IIRSM pathways though the membership levels and encouraged members to consider upgrading.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman who thanked everyone for their contribution and that he hoped the IIRSM Wales Branch would develop and grow to be a success.