

# NEPIC

## Minutes of NEPIC Annual General Meeting

Held at Wilton, Teesside on Wednesday 14 December 2016 at 3 pm

### Attendees

First Name	Surname	Company
Steve	Bagshaw	Fujifilm Biosynth Diotechnologies
Steve	Barker	Fine Organics
Richard	Brady	Worley Parsons Europe
Paul	Gotts	Leven Consultancy
Stan	Higgins	NEPIC
Martin	Inskip	Consultant - NEPIC Director representing MSD
Mark	Kenrick	px Group - NEPIC Director
Malcolm	Knott	ITS
Nick	Martin (no 2nd vote)	Fujifilm Biosynth Diotechnologies
David	Molyneux	Aesica Pharmaceuticals
Michael	Moran (no vote)	Robson Laidler NEPIC Financial Auditors
Dean	Murray	Ward Hadaway
Martin	Porton	RTC North - NEPIC Company Secretary
George	Ritchie (no 2nd vote)	px Group
James	Robson MBE	Micropore
Neil	Sim	High Force Research
Richard	Smith	2M Holdings - NEPIC Director
Ian	Stark	Chemoxy International
Ian	Swales	NEPIC Chair - IAJ Partnership
Andy	Teague (observer)	Consultant
Jeff	Waters	Bulkhall
Clive	Whitbourn	DRD Consultants

### Observers in Attendance

First Name	Surname	Company
Philip	Aldridge (observer)	NEPIC
Lynne	Aungiers (observer)	NEPIC
Sue	Houston (observer)	BEIS
Andy	Teague (observer)	Consultant

## Apologies

First Name	Surname	Company
Baker	Gillian	Inter Terminals
Bentham	Darren	Perry Process Equipment
Blades	Justin	ICHEME
Concannon	Martin	Frazer-Nash Consultancy Ltd
Cull	Sean	FoCul
Duffield	Steve	Wilton Centre
Fenwick	Astley	Trinity Energy Management
Gotts	Paul	Levenholme Consultancy
Greenock	Dick	Prosalus
Hawes	Steve	Johnson Matthey Process Technologies
Hopkinson	Jerry	PD Ports
Howard	Jon	INEOS Nitriles
Lee	Nick	Conocophillips
Lenk	Lisa-Marie	TUM International GmbH
North	Robert	North Functional Safety Management Ltd
Parker	David	Parker Consultancy
Perry	Nigel	Centre for Process Innovation
Perry	Justin	Northumbria University
Reineck	Peter	Flameless Energy Solutions
Scott	Steve	Lotte Chemical
Snaith	Peter	Bond Dickinson
Swan	Harry	Thomas Swan
Trickett	Peter	EPAX Pharma UK
Urquhart	Doug	Fulbeck Ltd
Valentine	Roy	High Force Research
Whale	Michael	MSD
Whitbourn	Clive	Design Research & Development Company
Williams	Bruce	Williams Process
Wilson	Peter	Middlesbrough College

## 1 Notice and Quorum

Ian Swales welcomed members to the formal Annual General Meeting of the North East Process Industry Cluster and confirmed appropriate notice of the meeting had been given. Quorum for the meeting was 10% of the current membership of 331. 29 proxies had been received and with approximately 40 members attending in person then quorum had been comfortably reached.

## 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes had been circulated for the previous AGM held on 16 December 2015 and the meeting agreed them as a true record. Ian Swales told the meeting that following the increase in membership fees agreed at the last AGM a few members failed to renew but they had been effectively been replaced during the year. Ian Swales went on to thank the members for their loyalty and support.

## 3 Directors in Office

The Directors in office are as follows:

Steve Bagshaw	FujiFilm Diosynth Biotechnologies
Stan Higgins	NEPIC (Executive Director)
Martin Inskip	MSD
Mark Kenrick	PX Limited
Richard Smith	2M Holdings
Ian Swales	Chair
Martin Porton	RTC North (Company Secretary)

Ian Swales told the members that an additional board member from the commodities end of the sector might be sought.

## 4 Director's Interests in Securities

The directors had no financial interest in NEPIC.

## 5 Chairman's Review

Ian Swales told the meeting that his first year in office had been interesting, particularly in the political arena. It had been a successful year for NEPIC with many successful events, new public projects being signed off and financial stability continuing. Ian Swales went on to say he had been particularly impressed by recent Phama events and the bio resources conference.

Strategy – Ian Swales confirmed that the strategy of NEPIC had not changed and briefly reminded the meeting of the key points. Stan Higgins told the meeting that the annual report which had already been distributed to the members included KPIs which address these strategic areas so that progress could be measured. Stan Higgins went on to say that some measures were inevitably subjective however the key goal was the growth of the sector. To date on public projects NEPIC had been involved in bringing 83 investments to the region and had helped create 5,000 jobs with a GVA of £3.5bn. Ian Swales went on to pay tribute to the work undertaken by Stan Higgins and his team.

MPs Dinner – Ian Swales told the meeting that 6 MPs attended including Andrew Percy the Northern Powerhouse minister plus the peer Ian Wigglesworth. The meeting was well attended by industry and there was some very constructive discussion. Rishi Sunak told the meeting of his excitement at the opportunities created by Brexit and other topics covered included the government's industrial strategy, skills and apprenticeships, clean coal, the Tees Estuary Partnership and the Tees Valley Process Industry report.

Tees Valley Process Industry – John Brady reminded the meeting that the TVPI report was a high level analysis of the Tees Valley process industry which had been completed with the help of MPI, Jacobs, TVU and 46 local companies. The report demonstrated clear opportunities for this region and other regions but also that completion from Europe and further afield was strong. John Brady went on to say that the CGP was supportive of the study and he was meeting them next week to discuss extending the study to other regions.

John Brady went on to tell the meeting that in the Tees Valley 150 potential symbiotic relationships had been identified together with 12 potential projects which would involve major investment. Actions to progress the latter had been included in the next round of Local Growth Fund applications.

Brexit – Ian Swales told the meeting that he had attended several events dealing with Brexit in the last few weeks and had been left with the view that the complexity of the process might make a soft Brexit unlikely. Members would therefore be well advised to try and have contingency plans for all potential outcomes. Ian Swales went on to say that there could be positive impacts of Brexit, for example a new study is looking at the opportunities of creating free ports in the UK and Teesport would be well placed for this. Ian Swales was not aware of any studies which specifically looked at the region in relation to Brexit.

Stan Higgins told the meeting that in relation to NEPIC their European funded projects should be ok until 2019 and then it was hoped that national government would pick up this sort of intervention. If the UK were excluded from European consortia then potentially valuable opportunities for learning would however be lost.

Future Leadership – Ian Swales told the meeting that Stan Higgins planned to retire during 2017 and placed on record the thanks of the directors and members for his enormous contribution to NEPIC over the years. The board of NEPIC intend to carry on his good work into the future and a recruitment process for a new CEO will start early in the New Year.

## 8 **Company Accounts**

Michael Moran from NEPICs auditors Robson Laidler took the meeting through the profit and loss account to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 and the balance sheet at that date.

The Members then approved the following resolutions:

*'To receive and adopt the company's annual accounts for the financial year ended March 2016 together with the director's report and auditor's report on those accounts.'*

*'To appoint Robson Laidler, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1TJ as the Company's auditors to hold office for the conclusion of the meeting to the end of the next period for appointing auditors under section 485 (2) of the Companies Act 2006 at a remuneration to be determined by the directors.'*

## 9 **Any Other Business**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 3.45

Meeting Chair

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Company Secretary or Director

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## Appendix I

### Apologies Received by Proxy

Surname	First Name	Company
Baker	Gillian	Inter Terminals
Bentham	Darren	Perry Process Equipment
Blades	Justin	ICHEME
Concannon	Martin	Frazer-Nash Consultancy Ltd
Cull	Sean	FoCul
Duffield	Steve	Wilton Centre
Fenwick	Astley	Trinity Energy Management
Greenock	Dick	Prosalus
Hawes	Steve	Johnson Matthey Process Technologies
Hopkinson	Jerry	PD Ports
Howard	Jon	INEOS Nitriles
Lee	Nick	Conocophillips
Lenk	Lisa-Marie	TUM International GmbH
North	Robert	North Functional Safety Management Ltd
Parker	David	Parker Consultancy
Perry	Nigel	Centre for Process Innovation
Perry	Justin	Northumbria University
Reineck	Peter	Flameless Energy Solutions
Scott	Steve	Lotte Chemical
Snaith	Peter	Bond Dickinson
Swan	Harry	Thomas Swan
Trickett	Peter	EPAX Pharma UK
Urquhart	Doug	Fulbeck Ltd
Valentine	Roy	High Force Research
Williams	Bruce	Williams Process
Wilson	Peter	Middlesbrough College