



## **Annual General Meeting Minutes**

### **Date and Location of Meeting:**

**12<sup>th</sup> December 2024, Burlington House, London.**

18 members were present in person no members were able to join online.

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Ian Fraser, Darren Bland, Bogdan Tronac, Ian Scotland and Peter Atchison.

### **2 Minutes of last meeting**

The Chair requested that the minutes of the AGM held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 be accepted as an accurate record. Acceptance was proposed by Eugene Gallagher, seconded by Mike Horton and accepted unanimously.

### **3 Chair's Report**

Dave Woods presented his Chair's Report. The UK Chapter has:

33 individual paid members,

Including 4 honorary free memberships

88 Chapter Sponsor members

14 student members (free).

**121 Total Individual Members**

**27 UK chapter paid Sponsors**

The UK chapter held 7 events across the country in 2024. On the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 the 24<sup>th</sup> Invitational lecture, was delivered as a hybrid event at ICE London by Suzanne van Eekelen of Deltares titled "Basal Reinforced Platforms".

The Chair presented about events going forward the IGS UK Chapter will focus on 3 streams to encourage attendance:

- 4-5 High quality in person events tied in with local committee meetings of geotechnical groups.
- Run Lunchtime cpd's on geosynthetic functions to practicing engineers and promote the already created educational presentations.
- Co-attend other local lectures/networking events increasing IGS presence.
- We need case studies and presentations that we can share and promote

Proposed events in 202 so far:

1. Cradle to Grave analysis of a containment project – ICE NWGG – Darren Bland
2. 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Design of Reinforced fill and soil nail structures-EC7 Second generation updates – YGG – Dan Simpson/Graham Horgan
3. June 2026 -7<sup>th</sup> National Symposium: Brownfield Development – TBC
4. September 2025: Golf Day: venue TBC
5. October 2025: BGA Invitational: Presenter and Topic TBC
6. December 2025: AGM and Invitational lecture: Topic & Presenter TBC

Proposed international Conferences in coming years:

1. GeoAsia 8 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025: Brisbane, Australia
2. EuroGeo 8 15-18<sup>th</sup> September 2025: Lille, France.
3. 13<sup>th</sup> ICG 13-16<sup>th</sup> September 2026: Montreal, Canada.

The chair presented the Support the educator series of presentations, follow up for feedback from existing lecturers who are already using these in their courses, promote the IGS UK further with other courses and Universities, build on the current Universities that past and present committee members are providing geosynthetic content in courses. Try and assist universities with samples and support to include Geosynthetics in their course.

The chair presented information on the membership fees, which were raised last year for corporate sponsors and individual members to keep us in line with the rise in IGS Global fees. The accounts this year have shown that inflation in all aspects of travel, venue hire and meeting expenses have seen us eat further into the UK Chapter bank reserves. We will need to look carefully into the fees this year and potentially an increase to fees from 2026 onwards may need to be considered.

The IGS Global council members are as follows:

President:	Sam Allen
Vice-President:	Edoardo Zannoni
Secretary General:	Laura Carbone
Treasurer:	Jie Han
Immediate Past President:	Chungsik Yoo
UK Council member:	Patricia Guerra-Escobar, Kasia Zamara
IGS Secretariat manager:	Elise Oatman
IGS Executive Director:	John Kraus (UK)

Regional activities committee had been formed to facilitate the exchange with the council and other chapters the Chair or ERAC and nominated UK member for IGS UK is Patricia Guerra-Escobar

IGS Global Numbers:

164 Corporate Sponsors Including ABG, Concrete Canvas, Geofabrics, Platipus and Tensar from the UK  
Over 4000 individual members  
Represented in over 100 countries  
45 IGS Global Chapters

The Chair summarised a list of UK Chapter members who sit on various relevant Technical Committees as follows (it should be noted that the list is not exhaustive):

- BSI B/553 Geosynthetics: Chair **Ian Fraser**, Rep: **David Shercliff** (+ other members)
- BSI B/526-4 Reinforced Soil: Rep: **Graham Horgan** (+ other members)
- CEN TC189 – Numerous members via BSI B/553
- ISO TC221 – Chair: **Peter Atchison** (+ other members via BSI B/553)
- ISO WG6 (Design) – Convenor: **Derek Smith** (+ others members via BSI B/553)
- Ground Forum: **Kasia Zamara**
- BGA: **Kasia Zamara** (Yuli present as Vice Chair)
- IGS Council: **Patricia Guerra-Escobar, Kasia Zamara**
- TC218 – Reinforced Soil Structures WG1, WG2 – Various members
- IGS Sustainability Committee: **Kasia Zamara, David Shercliff, Ian Fraser**
- IGS TC-Barriers: **Eugene Gallagher**

The Chair concluded his report and handed over to the Treasurer.

#### 4 Treasurer's Report

Patrick Flood presented the Treasurer's Report. Detailed copies of the Accounts and Budget were presented on-screen. The accounts for the year ended 18 November 2024 show a loss of income against expenditure of £6,262.33 and total assets of £19,802.91. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Patricia Guerra-Escobar, seconded by Eugene Gallagher and passed unanimously.

The Treasurer then presented the budget for 2024-25. The budget proposed is income of £7,400.00 against expenditure of £10,000.00. Acceptance of the budget was proposed by Mike Horton, seconded by Andy Belton and passed unanimously.

Tom Sangster raised the point that it was reasonable to ask for higher levels of sponsorship from Corporate sponsors based on his experience with other regions.

#### 5 Election of Officers and Committee

The Chair reported that David Shercliff would be retiring however the rest of the committee are willing to continue. The full committee for 2024-2025 is as follows:

##### Officers:

Chair:	Kasia Zamara
Vice Chair:	Ian Scotland (TBC)
Secretary	Gavin O'Brien
Treasurer	Patrick Flood
Past Chair	Dave Woods

##### Committee Members:

Andrew Cracknell	Scott Harvey
Eugene Gallagher	Majid Sedighi
Ian Scotland	Maria Ferentinou
Darren Bland	Ali Imani
Mike Horton	Bogdan Tronac

Many thanks to David Shercliff of ABG who has retired and stepped down and to Yuli, Andy Belton and Ian Fraser who remain involved as past chairs and advisors.

Proposed by Patrick Flood and seconded by Andy Cracknell

#### 6 Nominations for Officers and Committee:

- Gavin O'Brien (Bontexgeo)

Acceptance of new member proposed by Yuli and seconded by Eugene Gallagher

- BSI Representative: Mark Hutchison (Bontexgeo)

Acceptance of the new member was proposed by David Shercliff and seconded by Kasia Zamara and passed unanimously.

#### 7 Appointment of Auditors

The appointment of Chris Jenner and Ian Fraser to continue as Auditors was proposed by Eugene Gallagher, seconded by Andy Cracknell and passed unanimously.

#### 8 Honorary Membership

The committee unanimously agree it is time to recognize a sixth honorary member of the IGS UK Chapter alongside Doug Ayres, Chris Jenner, Colin Jones, Alan McGowan and Bob Warwick we have selected Steve Corbet in recognition of his outstanding commitment and contributions to the IGS and Geosynthetic Industry for more than 30 years.

The Chair then closed the AGM and invited everyone to the presentation by departing IGS UK Chair Dave Woods on **"Design and Construction of Hybrid Reinforced Soil Structures"**.