

**Australian Institute of International Affairs**  
**ACT Branch**  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Held at Stephen House – 11 September 2019

**Attendance**

Christopher Adam	Barry Green	Amanda Lynch
Alexander Balas	John Handmer	Heath McMichael
Diana Cooper	Jill Harris	Natalie Mobini
James Cotton	Garth Hunt	Ingrid Moses
Phil Diak	Marion Hunt	Ross Muir
Ian Dudgeon	Phil Huntley	Penelope Wensley
Brian Ely	Bradley Innes	Desmond Woods
Paul Gallagher	Elmo Jacob	
John Tilemann	Lawson Lobb	

**Apologies and Proxies**

Sacha Blumen  
Cameron Hawker  
Adrian Herring  
John Moses  
Shigehiro Noshita

There being a quorum, the President opened the meeting at 12:30pm

**Endorsement of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6 September 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Paul Gallagher  
**Carried**

Seconded: Elmo Jacob

**Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

**Correspondence**

No outstanding correspondence was reported.

**President's Report**

President, Heath McMichael, thanked the out-going Council for their support throughout the year in delivering a program of successful events.

He noted in 2019-20 the Branch is planning a collaborative event with NCP Alumni and a new social media strategy, both of which are aimed at engaging more members.

The President explained that despite Council's ongoing efforts to keep expenditure under control, a deficit of \$4000 is forecasted for the upcoming financial year. The outgoing council was of the view that membership dues need to be increased. It was noted that membership dues had not increased for 7 years. With this in mind, the President brought forward a Resolution to increase membership fees by a modest amount across all membership categories and called for any comments from the floor. Several members expressed support for the the Resolution,

highlighting the good work of the outgoing Council in delivering a high quality program of events and the reasonability of an increase after 7 years without raising membership fees.

That the Resolution to Increase Membership Fees be accepted by the AGM

Moved: Ian Dudgeon  
Approved: by acclamation

Seconded: Paul Gallagher

That the President's report be accepted and the Branch congratulated on its success over the 2018-19 period.

Moved: Ian Dudgeon

Seconded: Penelope Wensley

**Carried**

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer noted the success of FY18-19 with the Branch breaking even, unlike previous years. He thanked the work of the out-going Council along with the support from Branch Members.

Moved: John Tilemann  
**Carried**

Seconded: Brian Ely

### **Appointment of the Returning Officer**

The President nominated Paul Gallagher to act as Returning Officer for the election of the ACT Branch Council for the 2019-2020 period.

### **Election of the 2019-20 Council**

The Returning Officer announced the names of financial members who had been nominated and seconded by financial members of the ACT Branch for positions on Council. He noted that the Branch Constitution allowed for a further three positions on Council. The Returning Officer called for any nominations from the floor or for members to approach the Branch President or Council members after the AGM to suggest nominees for Council.

After determining there were no nominees from the floor, the Returning Officer declared the following persons elected to the vacant positions:

Heath McMichael	President
Sacha Blumen	Vice President
Natalie Mobini	Vice President
Philip Huntley	Treasurer
Olivia Cable	Councillor
Phil Diak	Councillor
Brian Ely	Councillor
Cameron Hawker	Councillor
Bradley Innes	Councillor
Elmo Jacob	Councillor
Lawson Lobb	Councillor
Amanda Lynch	Councillor
Desmond Woods	Councillor

### **Appointment of Auditor**

Mr John Beard was re-appointed ACT Branch Auditor for the 2019-2020 financial year.

Moved: Ross Muir  
Carried

Seconded: Marion Hunt

#### **Appointment of the Public Officer**

Heath McMichael indicated his willingness to continue in the position of Public Officer for the 2019-2020 financial year.

#### **Lodgement of the Annual Return**

The President advised the Branch would lodge an Annual Return for 2018-2019 following the AGM.

#### **General Business**

No matters arising.

The President declared the meeting closed at 12:52pm.

Caitlin Plesek  
ACT Branch Administrative Assistant  
11 September 2019