

19 May, 2009

Dear Colleagues

Re: Landscape Institute

I attach the final draft of a letter requesting the Landscape Institute to convene an EGM. The purpose is explained in the letter.

The wording has been worked on by a number of members and I am sending this on behalf of us all. You will notice omission of the draft motions censuring the President and CEO and requesting removal of Jo Watkins from the Library and Archive review – it was agreed that we should concentrate on motions that address the mechanisms of elections to positions of responsibility.

We hope that you will be able to support the requisition and will do so **by signing, indicating your membership class and send direct to the LI.** I am sorry if you have already signed – it would be helpful if you could do so again and either copy to me or Brian or let one of us know you have done so. **If it is more convenient for you I can use the signature you have already sent to me – let me know.**

Thank you.

Dominic Cole

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May 2009

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Chief Executive
The Landscape Institute

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Dear Sirs,

Extraordinary General Meeting Requisition

In accordance with the bye laws of the Landscape Institute clause 13.3 we require an Extraordinary General Meeting to be convened in London, within two months of delivery of this Requisition to the offices of the Landscape Institute, to discuss the unopposed election of former members of the Executive Committee (namely Jo Watkins CMLI President Elect, Keith Rowe, Honorary Secretary and Colin Goodrum, Honorary Treasurer) and Brodie McAllister, Vice President to the Board of Trustees, and the current regulations governing nomination to the Board, and to discuss and vote on the following motions.

Motion 1: VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE

Preamble:

During the past twelve months the Institute has gone through a cathartic experience. The organisation has no cash reserves. To overcome this problem, (lack of cash reserves, the Institute's only tangible asset, property at Barnard Mews, Battersea in London), the **L.I. is seeking to heavily mortgage the property and is also seeking to secure a large overdraft.** Membership subscriptions have increased dramatically.

The Executive Committee and Council agreed to, and are therefore accountable for policies that resulted in the employment of large numbers of headquarters staff.

The Executive Committee and Council tied the Institute into a lease arrangement on office accommodation in central London, without fully considering the long-term implications of taking on such a lease if, as has happened, an economic downturn occurred.

No suitable risk assessment was drawn up that identified to the wider membership the actual risks to the Institute. No satisfactory system of management accounting was put in place by the Executive Committee and appropriate regular budget checks carried out. The Executive Committee relied unduly on advertising revenue to fund the growth of the secretariat.

Motion

THE MEMBERSHIP HAS NO CONFIDENCE in the abilities of former Executive Committee members, now elected unopposed to form the Board of Trustees of the Institute, namely

Jo Watkins CMLI	President Elect
Keith Rowe	Honorary Secretary
Colin Goodrum	Honorary Treasurer

And Brodie McAllister, a former Council Member – elected unopposed through the undemocratic and restrictive process currently in place,

to properly discharge responsibilities set out in the ‘Board of Trustees Terms of Reference’ briefing note. **MEMBERS REQUIRE THOSE OFFICERS, LISTED ABOVE, TO RESIGN WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.**

Motion 2

The newly elected Advisory Council (or the Executive Committee and Council – whichever is in office at the time of this EGM) shall appoint an INTERIM BOARD OF TRUSTEES drawn from Council and volunteer Past Presidents and Fellows to assume the duties of the Board until such time as a new Board of Trustees is elected.

Motion 3

Preamble:

Members consider the Regulations currently in place for the election of the Board of Trustees to be unduly restrictive and wholly undemocratic. Current regulations make it virtually impossible (short of calling an EGM) for members to discharge the governance regime of the Institute. **THESE REGULATIONS MUST BE CHANGED WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.** Our President acknowledges (letter to membership 15 May '09) ‘changes can be made if they (our processes) are not fulfilling the purposes for which they were designed’.

Motion

The newly elected Advisory Council (or the existing Executive Committee and Council, depending on timing) shall **revise as soon as practicable, regulations determining eligibility for election to the Board of Trustees** – opening nominations up to all Corporate members of the Institute (CMLI FLI), dropping the requirement for a nominee to have served on Council or as a Trustee.

Council (or the Advisory Board or Executive Committee whichever is authorised) shall call an election to the Board of Trustees immediately the new unrestrictive regulations (coinciding with members instructions at this EGM in Motion 3) are put in place.