THE SURVEY ASSOCIATION THIRTY FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR 2013 AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2013



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THIRTY FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

YEAR 2013 AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2013

1 THE ASSOCIATION

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 The Officers of the Association
- 1.3 The Council
- 1.4 The Committees of the Council
- 1.5 Financial Results
- 1.6 Minutes of the previous meeting

2 THE ASSOCIATION'S 2013 ACTIVITIES

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Membership and Internal Affairs Committee
- 2.3 Public Relations Committee
- 2.4 Technical Committee
- 2.5 Finance Committee

THE SURVEY ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS 2013

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Mr Graham MILLS

• Mr Stuart DIMOND (to Oct 13), Mr Mark COMBES (from Oct 13)

OFFICIALS

SECRETARY GENERAL - Mr Rory M STANBRIDGE

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I - The Council, 2013.

APPENDIX II - Committee Structure, 2013.

APPENDIX III - Report and Accounts of the UK Land and Hydrographic Survey Association Ltd for 2013.

APPENDIX IV - Minutes of AGM in 2013.

THIRTY FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF TSA YEAR 2013.

1 THE ASSOCIATION

1.1 Introduction

It is nice to be able to open this annual report on a positive note. It would appear from all the data available that 2013 has been a good year for TSA and its members. Turnover, profitability and fees are on the rise, and full order books are now fairly common rather than a rarity.

As in previous years, there were two major events held in the year, the AGM and the Discussion Group. The AGM was held at the National Railway Museum in York and included an afternoon session on BIM. This session was opened up to non-members to give them a view of what TSA is doing for the industry. The Discussion Group meeting was held in October at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford and turned out to be a superb day for all attendees. More of this in the MIA report.

TSA once again took an active role in the SLG (Survey Liaison Group) with RICS and CICES. The group continues to work closely on a number of issues with particular emphasis on the production of guidance information, some of these documents being triple badged. In 2013 the group agreed to push for a better national survey exhibition and conference. As a result of this, the Geo Business 2014 show will take place in May at the Design Centre in Islington. The show is also sponsored by the AGI so giving the show genuine industry backing.

The website continues to be well supported and the Job Opportunities page continues to provide members with a FREE recruitment service. At the time of writing there are more than sixty positions available, again showing what a major improvement is being witnessed by the industry.

Council met as usual four times in the year, the meetings being spread around the country to make it fair and easier for all to attend.

From an administration point of view, 2013 was a record year for the number of application to join TSA packs requested totalling one hundred and eight. This is in part to the increased PR that TSA is engaged on, the traffic through the website and the requirement by some clients for all sub contactors to be members of TSA.

Once again TSA awarded a bursary to two students for Newcastle University, the cheques being handed over to the recipients by The President, Graham Mills, at the meeting held in Duxford.

Finally, on a real positive note, the numbers attending the TSA Survey Training Course in Worcester are now almost back up to pre-recession numbers. The numbers included six students from Abu Dhabi who claimed it was the best course in the World. Praise indeed for TSA.

Message from the President - Graham Mills



Another year has slipped by in what appears to me to have been record time. Whilst I hope that the apparent increased speed of time passing is in reality a fact, and the world's quantum physicists have somehow missed it, I suspect however that it is perhaps a reflection of my increasing age. I'm clinging on to the hope that the increase in wisdom gained is a suitable trade off....

I've just re-read the message that I wrote at this time last year. In that message I likened our survey businesses to having the same issues, on a micro scale, to that of George Osborne as he tries to manage the UK finances. The point being that we have to balance and control debt, investment, people and technologies to have a healthy business. A year ago the backdrop being that, although not technically in recession, we were not in the grip of a sustained upturn and we looked as if the economic flat lining would continue. That said, a year ago, many people were more positive and companies were generally busy, although it was of note that most businesses had a lower staff count so being 'busy' was easier.

A year on and George has recently said 'Britain's economic recovery is not yet secure' and 'Businesses are not investing enough'.

So is that too a reflection of the current view from the survey sector? I have spoken to quite a few businesses recently and they are mostly reporting that there has been a real surge in enquiries and projects over the past few months and many appear to be running at full capacity with long lead in times (for the survey industry!). As usual there are some reports to the contrary. It is also clear from the job page on TSA website, which has regularly had over 50 vacancies over recent months, that the industry is both motoring ahead and also that business owners are feeling confident enough to invest in expanding their teams.

An increase in job availability and general workload inevitably leads to demands for an increase in wages, particularly as people feel that their salaries have been held back over the past five years. It is clear that to hang on to existing staff and to attract new ones, against a backdrop of many companies trying to do the same, then salaries will need to go up. This is fine of course so long as companies can put their fees up too. The industry feedback that I have had so far indicates that putting fees up by more than a few percent is difficult and some companies are still experiencing losing projects to others that are significantly cheaper.

Having tightened their belts for five years most businesses are now underinvested, it is common for vehicles, survey equipment and IT infrastructure to have been kept longer than they would normally be kept for. This will lead to a need to replace or upgrade potentially a large amount of items on top of buying new vehicles and equipment for new staff members. There will therefore be a squeeze on finance, which can only be eased by a significant increase in fees.

So I think George is correct that businesses are not yet investing enough, however hopefully the surge in enquiries will continue and the laws of supply and demand will turn in our favour allowing fees to be significantly increased.

As usual TSA has achieved many things this year, I'm particularly delighted to have been part of the group of people from TSA who worked alongside our friends at ICES, RICS and AGI to get the GeoBusiness conference and exhibition off the ground. Versha and the team at Diversified should be applauded for seeing the opportunity and throwing their time, money and effort behind it. I have every confidence that it will be a great event and be a regular part of our calendar in years to come.

The BIM thing continues at a pace and our own working group has been complimented by us sitting on the Survey4BIM group. Being in the thick of the activity on both the main group and technical group again alongside RICS and ICES is essential to help us influence the surveyors role in the BIM process. BIM will provide our industry with a fantastic opportunity, we must ensure that we grab it with both hands.

The people that make TSA tick continue to put great time and energy into meetings, conversations, working groups, client guides and documents. The benefits for our industry as a result of this effort are tangible.

This year sees John Furniss hanging up his TSA hat. Most recently heading up the Finance committee, John has been involved with TSA since 1995. He has put countless hours into making TSA what it is today, I will be very sad to see him go and cannot thank him enough for the considerable energy, wisdom and effort he has put in over this time.

As ever my thanks go to our Secretariat. Rory, Rachel and Susan continue to do an excellent job, ensuring that TSA continues to grow whilst maintaining the high standards of professionalism and efficiency that TSA is known for.

TSA Council Committees are ably run through the dedication of John Witherden, Stuart Dimond and Peter Barker. My continued thanks go to them for all the time, effort and knowledge they put in. TSA Council and co-opted members continue to give their valuable time for which I am grateful.

TSA has once again been supported by organisations for seminars, meeting rooms and prizes, so my thanks go to The Survey School, Leica and Lockton for their valuable assistance.

I continue to be proud of TSA in what it is achieving for our industry and for the standing with which it is held. The work will never be done but seeing the progress is rewarding and pushes us on to greater things.

Graham Mills

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1.2 The Officers of the Association

At the 2013 Annual General Meeting, Mr Graham Mills of Technics Group Ltd was confirmed as having been elected President by the Council for one year, and Mr Stuart Dimond of MK Surveys Ltd was confirmed as Vice President for one year. Due to pressure of work Stuart found it necessary to relinquish the post in October 2013 and was replaced by Mr Mark Combes of The Severn Partnership.

1.3 The Council

Council members at 31 December 2013 are listed at Appendix I. Others who served Council during the year have also been included.

1.4 The Committees of the Council

Membership of the Committees is shown at Appendix II. Summaries of the work of the Committees are in Section 2 of this Report, along with a brief resume of other activities and developments.

1.5 Financial Results

The abbreviated accounts for the year 2013 can be found at APPENDIX III. The full accounts for 2013 and those of previous years may be found on the Members' Only area of the website.

1.6 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held in 2013 can be found at the end of this document.

2 THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES

2.1 Introduction

All Council members serve on one or other of the four Committees, whose activities are listed below. The Council has adopted a policy of co-opting member company representatives onto Committees to provide a wider spread of expertise to those Committees and to provide a wider range of awareness of TSA activity to member companies.

Thanks are due again to all those who have devoted time to Council and Committee activities during 2013. Without this support of the Association by the member companies, there would be no TSA. All member companies are encouraged to have a greater involvement in Association affairs. Everything counts – completing the QISS return, attending meetings, providing feedback to the Secretariat and responding to circulars. The use of online mini polls continues and these are regularly supported by up to 75% of the membership.

Political lobbying continued in 2013 with the watching and reporting brief by TSA's lobbyists, MHP and the monthly report continued to be submitted to members via the TSA Update newsletter. MHP have also assisted TSA in writing relevant letters to MP's, Ministers and Government Departments.

Supplier Members, the numbers of which are still increasing, are encouraged to become more involved with sponsorship of events, and thanks go to those members that contributed last year. Further opportunities for the running of technical seminars are currently at the planning stage to enable the Supplier members to take an even more active role in TSA business.

2.2. Membership and Internal Affairs Committee



John Witherden, Chairman

Part of the remit for the MIA committee, chaired by John Witherden in 2013, is to assess the suitability, both professionally and financially, of new applications to join the Association. During 2013 a number of new applicants were assessed by the committee and the procedures for membership entry were improved and strengthened. A record number of companies requested the membership application packs and a total of nine new members were admitted to the association. At the time of writing this report, a further four companies are going through the vetting process for membership.

Much of the work of the MIA committee in 2013 was to again assist the members with support and advice. To this end in 2011 it was agreed by Council to run a series of technical seminars at The Survey School in Worcester. These proved to be very successful and were repeated in 2013 with a total of four technical seminars being run including one at Leica's HQ. Topics included Monitoring, Mobile Mapping, GPR and Laser Scanning. Our sincere thanks go to the providers of the seminars. The H&S seminar has now become an annual fixture and our thanks go to Leica again for continuing to host it each year.

The annual Discussion Group meeting was held in October at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford. This was again a truly superb venue matched by the quality of the speakers which included a presentation from the Metropolitan Police on the issue of stolen equipment. This directly led to a new member benefit being introduced in 2014. The venue contains a wonderful collection of aircraft so the theme of the day was "Up and Down." Other presentations were given on aerial photography archiving, running a survey business and the use of SUAs in surveying. These events afford the members a great networking opportunity and this one was no exception, even further enhanced by a

fire alarm in the afternoon requiring all members to exit the building for a short period. Fortunately it was a very nice day outside.

The members' Helpline, provided by Croner, continues to be well used by members and is seen as a major benefit of membership to potential applicants.

The CCD scheme introduced in 2009 is continuing to gain new members and is now compulsory for any new Full/Associate members of TSA. The total completing the return form in 2013 being forty five.

The PI scheme run by Lockton continues to attract new members. At the end of 2013, well over 60% of eligible members were included in the scheme. Adam Axtell Powell from Lockton continues to work with TSA and its members giving advice and guidance when required. In 2008, Lockton introduced and sponsored the Presidents' Prize which in 2013 was awarded to Alison Watson, A Class Of Your Own for her work in developing links with schools. This is the first time that the award has been given to someone outside of TSA although since that time the recipient has joined TSA and continues to work closely with us developing the school curriculum.

JELF, another supplier member of TSA, continue to promote their survey equipment insurance policy exclusive to members of TSA. The policy called SURVEYSURE became operational at the beginning of 2010 and has already saved members a considerable amount of premium money.

MIA continues to look for opportunities to assist the membership both in terms of advice and benefits. A number of new ideas are currently being considered for 2014.

2.3 Public Relations Committee



Stuart Dimond, Chairman

The Committee was chaired by Stuart Dimond in 2013.

TSA engaged the services of Ruth Badley in 2013, as part of an increased promotional push throughout the year. Ruth worked on three main Press Releases – on Alison Watson, winner of the President's Award, on the UAV Conference in June and also on the publication of TSA's new Small Unmanned Aerial (SUA) Surveys Client Guide. This resulted in coverage in over 8 magazines and websites, pushing the download figures of the Client Guides/Guidance Notes to the sky-high figure of 1,300 in December alone.

TSA's website continued to attract thousands of visitors throughout the year. The web stats package was changed to Google Analytics, which uses more conservative methods to track visitors. Page views were well over 10,000 each month. The Job Opportunities page was redesigned to cope with the increase in Job Adverts being displayed. This is now the most popular page on the website, with over 2,000 visits per month. TSA members have benefitted from being able to post Job Adverts free of charge. TSA members can now also display their company logo on their profile page.

The 'Become a Surveyor' site now also has detailed stats from Google Analytics, which show visitors from over 30 countries. The Secretariat receives regular enquiries about a career in survey. The latter half of the year saw the beginning of a project to totally update and redesign the site.

TSA's LinkedIn Group has doubled again to over 2,100 individual members and is a growing place for discussion. TSA's Twitter account now has over 900 followers and has been a direct source of membership enquiries and drives traffic to the main TSA website.

MHP have continued to provide Political Monitoring Reports every month, which are distributed along with 'TSA Update' using a web-based method. A more condensed format was agreed for 2014.

TSA supported the GeoDATA shows in 2013. TSA took stand space at the London GeoDATA event in November 2013. TSA, along with ICES, RICS and the AGI, are supporters of the new exhibition/conference for the industry – the GeoBusiness Show 2014.

2.4 Technical Committee



Peter Barker, Chairman

The Technical Committee under the chairmanship of Peter Barker has continued to work hard producing documents on a number of vitally important topics relating to the surveying industry. The documents are all downloadable FREE from the TSA website and these continue to be downloaded from all over the world.

Completed projects:-

- Setting Out
- SUA (Small Unmanned Aircraft Surveys)

Work in Progress topics:-

- Working on Railways
- Utility Survey Guidance Notes issue 5
- Tagging Underground Assets
- Survey Specification for Architects
- Qualifications & Training
- Inshore Hydrography
- Digital Orthophotography
- Determined Boundaries
- M P Flood Guide
- Terrestrial Laser Scanning
- Measured Building Surveys
- Instrument Calibration
- Anti-theft measures for instruments

TSA, in partnership with English Heritage, held a one day UAV Conference in June which was a huge success and included presentations from regulators, manufacturers, service providers and live flight demonstrations.

From this TSA produced a new Client Guide on Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA) Surveys which was launched in September 2013. This achieved the highest download number of 159 for the month of December.

UMA (Utility Mapping Association) Peter Barker continues to represent TSA on the UMA Committee.

PAS 128 is now scheduled for completion in June 2014.

2.5 Finance Committee



John Furniss, Chairman

The Finance committee under the Chairmanship of John Furniss drew up the budget for 2013 in December 2012, once again at a time of some uncertainly for the survey industry albeit with a slow improvement in business confidence. As in previous years, the budget is drawn up by the Chairman of Finance, the President and the Secretary General prior to being presented to Council for approval.

The budget forecast was for a small profit to be attained. The subscriptions for the year 2013 were increased in line with RPI resulting in a slightly increased income from that achieved in 2012. The improvement in overall sales also saw a number of member companies going up a subscription band resulting in a higher than budgeted for income. A substantial rise, far higher than anticipated, was achieved in the number of applicants to join TSA as a result of the increased awareness of the association. This rise in membership numbers led to further increased income as did the annual commission from the two successful insurance schemes run on behalf of TSA and the income from the TSA Survey Training Course.

The increased income and profits generated in 2013 allowed TSA to invest more time and money into an increased PR programme which will be extended even further in 2014. It is interesting to report that the expenditure for 2013 was virtually the same as in 2012.

I am pleased to report that TSA is working well within a tight budget and we have forecast that the budget for 2014 will not show any reduction in the services and benefits to members. On the contrary, additional benefits are already being introduced some of which may result in further income being generated for TSA. The Reserves, which have doubled since TSA introduced its own Secretariat in 2006, are comfortably above the required level and expenditure remains strictly under control.

<u>APPENDIX I</u>

THE COUNCIL: 2013

Mr Graham Mills - Technics Group Ltd

Mr John Furniss - Malcolm Hughes Land Surveyors Ltd

Mr John Witherden - Aworth Land Surveys Ltd

Mr Andy Bradford - APR Services Ltd

Mr Peter Barker - Sumo Services Ltd

Mr Adrian Halliwell - M&A Surveys Ltd

Mr Mike Hopkins - Storm Geomatics Ltd

Mr Stuart Dimond - M K Surveys Ltd

Mr David Watterston - CD Surveys Ltd

Mr Adam Bradley - Jacobs Ltd

Mr Mark Combes - Severn Partnership

Mr Oliver Viney - Atlantic Surveys (Co-opted April 2013)

<u>APPENDIX II</u>

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE: 2013

1. Membership and Internal Affairs

Mr John Witherden Mr John Furniss Mr Adrian Halliwell Mr Adam Bradley (Chairman)

2. Finance

Mr John Furniss

(Chairman)

3. Public Relations

Mr Stuart Dimond Mr Mark Combes Mr Graham Mills Mr Oliver Viney (Chairman)

4. Technical

Mr Peter Barker Mr Mike Hopkins Mr Andy Bradford Mr David Watterston (Chairman)

Notes:

1. Seconded participants in Committees were:-

Mrs Olivia Masters Miss Charlie Matthews Mr Sam Roberts Mr Luke Steadman Mr Paul Bryan Astrium Leica Geosystems Met Geo Environmental CAT Surveys English Heritage

Committee Terms of Reference

MIA – To consider all membership matters including the recruitment and selection of new members and maintaining standards among existing members. Maintenance and development of services to members. Responsible for the Discussion Group, seminars and the AGM.

FINANCE – Stewardship of TSA finances.

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Responsible for all matters external to the Association, including relations with other organisations, marketing and promotional activity.

TECHNICAL – Responsible for development of advice and guidance on all technical matters relating to surveying or bearing on the survey business, as well as provision of technical advice to external bodies.

APPENDIX III

ACCOUNTS: 2013

The full set of accounts are attached to this report and can also be downloaded from the Members Area of TSA's website.

Notes to the annual accounts, major items only:

Income:

Income: this item is for membership subscriptions. The subscription income is 9% higher than in 2012.

Miscellaneous income: This figure represents the income generated from the UAV seminar in 2013 plus a couple of other items. The costs for the seminar are included below.

Course fees: commission from non members' participation in the Survey Training Course. This is higher than in 2012 as numbers on the course increase.

Commission receivable: commission received from the Insurance schemes run by Lockton and JELF. This also includes income from other partner benefits.

New member enrolment fees: application fees for new members to join TSA.

Expenditure:

Computer software etc.: cost of changes and updates to the website, software updates and remote support, backup and access.

Consultancy fees: additional time support from the Secretariat for additional meetings/seminars.

Council meetings: the costs of Council members' attendance at Council meetings.

General travel expenses: Council and Secretariat costs for attendance at meetings, seminars and other relevant events.

Management fee: fee for the running of the Secretariat. The fee was increased in 2012 in line with RPI.

Marketing: the cost of the additional PR campaign. This will be increased in 2014.

Members training: the costs associated with running the members' business development and technical seminars.

Meeting expenses: this item is for costs associated with the AGM, the Discussion Group and all Council and Committee meetings.

Legal & professional fees: includes the cost of credit checks on new applicants, legal costs and any other professional services such as new member assessment visits.

Lobbying: this item was previously shown in Reports & Research. It is now shown as a separate item and will be reduced in 2014.

Secretariat fees: this includes rent, phones, postage, printing, travel, etc.

Technical support: annual awards ceremony at the Survey Training School and technical support for Newark.

Sundry expenses: this sum includes the annual bursary payment of £2000.

APPENDIX IV

MINUTES OF AGM - 2013

Subject: REPORT OF THE 33rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE UK LAND & HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY ASSOCIATION LTD HELD AT 10.30 ON WEDNESDAY 17th APRIL 2013 AT THE NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM, YORK.

Attendees

Graham Mills - Technics Group (AGM Chairman) Tony Rogers – APR Services Tim Viney - Atlantic Geomatics Oliver Viney - Atlantic Geomatics John Witherden - Aworth David Watterston - C D Surveys Luke Steadman – CAT Surveys Stephen Walker - CSTA Jon Bedford - English Heritage Paul Bryan – English Heritage Adam Bradley - Jacobs Nick Blakeway - Jacobs Dominic Gregory - Korec Group John Fraser – Leica Geosystems Adam Axtell Powell - Lockton Stewart Hunt - Longdin & Browning Adrian Halliwell – M & A Surveys Stuart Dimond - M K Surveys Jay Shakespeare - M K Surveys David Maltby - MBS Neil Harvey - Met Geo John Furniss - MHLS Mike Williams - Midland Surveys Adrian Shaw - PCM Matthew Dunnington Wallace - PCM Magdalena Wolczacka – PCM David Crawford - Photarc Surveys Peter Folwell - Plowman Craven Mark Combes - Severn Partnership Neil Richardson - Spatial Data Roy Stanbury - Stanburys Mike Hopkins – Storm Geomatics Peter Barker - Sumo Services Ltd Chris Mills – Survey Control Services Philip Mills - Survey Control Services Martin Penney - Technics Group Andy Evans – Topcon Anthony Mills - Trimble Angelo Soares - Vision Surveys Marc Burt - Vision Surveys Matt Kirkland - Vision Surveys

Also Present:

Rory Stanbridge – TSA Secretary General Rachel Tyrrell – TSA Administration Manager Susan Murphy – TSA Administration Assistant

Guests

Ruth Badley – BadleyPR Andy Rhoades – BAA

1 Apologies

Andy Bradford – APR Chris Edge – Glanville Consultants Harry Skinner - Harry Skinner Surveys David Monaghan - Harry Skinner Surveys Robbie Cowan - JBA Consulting Andy Barton - Jelf Anne King - Kingsland Surveyors Mark Johnson – Landmark Surveys Steve Hawkins - Laser Surveys Sue Stewart - Laser Surveys Tim Badley – Leica Geosystems Jon Mills - Newcastle University Bob Jones - On Centre Surveys Steve Ashcroft – Paragon Surveys Stephen Postians - RPS Environmental Management Ltd Nolan Forwood - Survey Design Services Ian Smith - Survey Operations

2 Approval of the report of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without amendment. Proposed by Adrian Halliwell and seconded Graham Stroud.

3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4 To approve the Resolution: To receive the 33rd Annual Report and the report and accounts for 2012.

The report and accounts were accepted without comment. Proposed by Peter Barker and seconded by Adam Bradley.

To approve the Resolution: To appoint CBR Accountancy as the Association's accountants for the coming year.

The Chairman stated that CBR had once again provided an excellent service to TSA during 2012.

The resolution was approved unanimously. Proposed by John Furniss and seconded by David Watterston.

6 To announce the composition of the Council, and the incoming President and Vice President

The Chairman expressed his sincere thanks to Olivia Masters who has stood down from Council due to pregnancy. He then announced the composition of the new Council as:

Graham Mills – President Vice President - Stuart Dimond

Council: John Furniss, Adrian Halliwell, Adam Bradley, Mike Hopkins, Andy Bradford, David Watterson, Mark Combes, Peter Barker and John Witherden

7 President's Award

The Chairman informed the meeting that Lockton, the recommended PI Insurers for TSA, had introduced in 2008 an annual prize to be awarded at the discretion of the President. The Award is given to a person who the President believes has made an outstanding contribution to The Survey Association or our industry.

The Chairman went on to say "The last few prizes have been given to TSA Council members for long service or outstanding effort. This year I have decided to look beyond our own organisation. Over the last few years due to the economic situation we have seen many people leaving the industry and of course fewer opportunities for new people to find opportunities to join. As we finally turn the corner new blood is of course going to be essential to our member companies. It is also essential in a very technical world that we encourage children to be interested from an early age in architecture, engineering, construction and surveying.

I am delighted to announce that the President's Award this year goes to **Alison Watson** from Class Of Your Own. Alison has created the Design, Engineer Construct Curriculum and workshops to inspire the next generation. She recently organized a function at the House of Lords, which was a great success with about 120 people from Education, Industry and government there to see presentations from 4 different schools. Alison is also trying to set up strategic partnerships with other leading industry bodies."

Andy Evans from Topcon, Alison's main sponsor, accepted the prize on behalf of Alison which was presented by Adam Axtell Powell from Lockton.

8 Any other business

The President suggested that if any member was interested in joining Council that they should talk to him over lunch.

8 Closing of AGM

The Chairman expressed his thanks to all members of Council for their continued efforts on behalf of TSA and to the Secretariat for their excellent and continuing support. The Chairman, in conclusion, once again thanked Lockton for their continued support and sponsorship.

The meeting closed at 10.46.