



## The Institute of Plumbing Australia Incorporated (IPA)

Founded 1954

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# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THE INSTITUTE OF PLUMBING AUSTRALIA INC.

## MINUTES

**Tuesday, 14 May 2024**

**Commencing 2pm AWST via Zoom.**

### Attendees: IPA Council:

Rhys Edwards	Vice-President and Councillor NSW
Derek Harris	Councillor SA
Stephen Movley	Treasurer
Petra Wouters	Secretary and Communications Coordinator - Minute taker

### Absent without notice:

Michael Jarrad	President
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### Attendees: members and observers:

Russell Green	OTG Group
Peter McLennan	BPAA
Anthony Backhouse	TAFE NSW
Stephen Lowry	Conex Banninger
Martin Osmond	
Duncan Lane	Galvin Engineering
Robert Gilman	TAFE NSW
Wade Smith	Selected Plumbing
Tony Infante	Valsir (joined the meeting at 2.23pm)

## 1. Apologies / Opening

### Apologies:

Robert Quick	Councillor VIC
Andrew Okines	Councillor WA
Neil Creek	Councillor QLD
Jeff Moorcroft	

Robert Woolley  
Mark Alexander  
Brent Marsh  
Don Ledingham  
Alex Bartley  
Joe Clynck

The Vice-President Rhys Edwards opened the meeting at 2:05pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2. Minutes of previous meeting 23 March 2023.**

The minutes of last year's meeting were circulated.

### 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes:

The minutes as circulated were accepted as a true record of both meetings.

Moved:	Rhys Edwards	
Seconded:	Derek Harris	Carried

## **3. Matters arising from minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **4. President's report.**

The President's report was circulated prior to this meeting via email.

As the President was absent, no comments were given on his report.

## **5. Auditor's report**

The auditor's report as circulated was accepted.

Moved:	Rhys Edwards	
Seconded:	Stephen Movley	Carried

## **6. Appointment of Auditor for 2024 (Mr Leonard Tebbutt of In Focus Accounting Pty Ltd offers himself for re-appointment).**

It was moved for Mr Leonard Tebbutt to be re-appointed as the Institute Auditor for 2024.

Moved: Rhys Edwards

Secinded: Stephen Movley

Carried

#### **7. Standards Australia WS014 Committee update – Stephen Movley (Representative for the IPA at Standards Australia).**

Stephen informed the meeting that he has retired from his involvement with the WS014 Committee, and that the Committee was informed that Rhys Edwards will take his place as the representative on the Committee for The Institute of Plumbing Australia. Both the Committee and the Chairman didn't raise any objections to this transition.

#### **8. Plumbing Industry Reference Group – Stephen Movley**

Stephen advised that this Committee is state based, and that a change of personnel is likely to take place. The Committee is at risk of being discontinued or restructured, but as a stakeholder, Stephen will monitor this closely.

#### **9. Chapters WA, QLD, SA and NSW update**

##### **Derek Harris – SA Councillor**

Derek mentioned that he would like to discuss, as part of the future strategy of The Institute, to having presentations for training for IPA Members via Zoom or teams around Australia, rather than to do this state by state. The reason for this is that chapters are struggling to get members to participate to events.

##### **Rhys Edwards – NSW Councillor**

Rhys informed the meeting that he would like to propose for the future of the IPA to go from State Chapters to a national Chapter, if the Constitution allows for this. This will be one of the agenda points in the upcoming strategic IPA Council Meeting coming up in August 2024, during the WA Plumbing Expo in Perth.

Important news for NSW has been that regulated designs are enforced by the Department of Fair Trading NSW and the building commission, in particular Class 2 buildings and how it affects hydraulic services, fire hose reels and fire hydrants, and stormwater drainage, and there has been a recent publication from the Building Act that they are enforcing a Class 3 in Class 9c declaration for all engineers and designers, which means that declarations, certifications and acknowledgements for engineers and designers need to be in place. There is a possibility that this may cross over to other states as well.

##### **Andrew Okines – WA Councillor.**

Andrew was a last-minute apology for this meeting.

**Robert Quick – VIC Councillor.**

Robert was an apology for this meeting.

**10. General Business**

Wade Smith – Selected Plumbing – no questions or comments.

Stephen Movley – advised the meeting that he had resigned as treasurer of the IPA Council and that Andrew Okines had been appointed as the new treasurer.

Andrew was not able to attend the meeting today, but as this is Stephen’s last meeting as a Council Member of the IPA, Andrew will be taking the position on the Board from now on.

Peter McLennan – BPAA – Peter thanked the Institute for the invitation of being an observer for this meeting and is taking the opportunity to propose or draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Institute of Plumbing Australia and the Backflow Prevention Association of Australia.

Duncan Lane – Galvin Engineering – no questions or comments.

Martin Osmond – no questions or comments.

Russell Green – OTG Group – no questions or comments.

Steven Lowry – Conex Banninger – no questions or comments.

Robert Gilman – TAFE NSW – no questions or comments.

Anthony Backhouse – TAFE NSW – Anthony questioned the proposal to shut down the chapters and transition them into a national committee, prompting Rhys to provide some clarification.

Rhys explained that the decision regarding this proposal will be addressed as an agenda item in the IPA Council’s strategic meeting scheduled for August and to remain engaged and await further communication or updates regarding the future direction of the organisation’s chapters.

**11. Close of meeting**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2.25pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Petra Wouters  
Institute Secretary