

IAHS Ltd, Report of the Chair – June 2017

IAHS Ltd is the UK registered legal entity responsible for:

- The IAHS staff at the office at CEH Wallingford, UK, and their activities
- Managing the Association's finances
- The Association's charitable role

IAHS Ltd is a limited company reporting to Companies House (London, UK) and regulated by UK company law. It is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales so subject to charity law and must follow the Commission's guidelines. As you would expect, these laws and regulations require proper running of IAHS Ltd, and because it is a charity, transparency.

The relationship between IAHS Ltd and Association is akin to that of a working group tasked with facilitating the Association's work and running of the IAHS office. The IAHS Statutes ensure that the Board/Trustees include the President, Secretary General and Treasurer of the organisation. IAHS Ltd currently has three Board members:

- Hubert Savenije – IAHS President (soon to be replaced by Günther Blöschl)
- Christophe Cudennec – IAHS Secretary General
- Cate Gardner – IAHS Treasurer and Chair IAHS Ltd

and a Company Secretary:

- Helen Houghton-Carr (who recently succeeded Mike Acreman)

and all four are the Trustees of the Charity.

The IAHS Ltd Board met on 7 February 2017 at Wallingford and will meet briefly at Port Elizabeth during IAHS2017. There is frequent communication among members and particularly with Claire Lupton, the IAHS Executive Secretary at Wallingford. Claire Lupton, covers the activities of the Wallingford office in her report, and IAHS financial activities are covered in the Treasurer's report.

Two matters concerning the governance of IAHS Ltd needed addressing in the last year due to the additional responsibilities regarding the whole Association's finances:

- Recognition that IAHS Ltd is now managing the Association's finances; and
- Recognition that, in the future, it could be necessary for IAHS to introduce membership fees to ensure sufficient funding to maintain the Association's activities.

Legal advice was sought on these and the IAHS Ltd governing documents have been amended to make the first clear and secondly, to allow introduction of membership fees if necessary. Currently we do not foresee a need to introduce such fees. At the same time as amending the documents, they were updated to conform to current legislation.

Also, the Board has planned for some time to appoint an additional staff member to assist Frances Watkins with *Hydrological Sciences Journal*, and has now made an appointment. The appointee starts at the beginning of August.

Claire has done a great job running the IAHS office and managing the many different strands that her role requires, especially in this year of both an IAHS Assembly and an Editorial Retreat for *HSJ*. Frances Watkins has done much despite her health problems. On behalf of IAHS, I wish to express our gratitude for their contributions, their professionalism and loyalty.