



**Minutes of the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)  
of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland  
Held on Wednesday 27 April 2022 at 4.30pm  
in the Clonmell Room; 17 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2**

**In Attendance:**

<b>Chair</b>	:	<b>Áine Collins</b>	-	<b>President</b>
		<b>Mark Gargan</b>	-	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>With</b>	:	<b>Eamonn Siggins</b>	-	<b>Chief Executive</b>
		<b>Cáit Carmody</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Members/Proxies</b>	:	<b>13 Members in attendance 2 Valid proxies received.</b>		

## Minutes

At 4:30pm Chair noted that as there were more than 10 members present she declared the meeting quorate and called on the Secretary to read the notice of the meeting.

Secretary read the notice of the meeting which had been issued by order of Council on 5 April 2022

### 1. Report and Financial Statements

1.1 The Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 which had been circulated to all members with the notice of meeting on 5 April 2022 were adopted by the meeting:

- **Proposed** - **Michael O'Regan**
- **Seconded** - **Barry Clarke**

### 2. Election to Council

Chair called on the Secretary to announce the results of election to Council.

As the number of candidates for election to Council is equal to the number of vacancies, in accordance with Article 22 (b) the following candidates are deemed to be duly elected to Council without the need for a postal vote: -

- **John Devaney** - **re-elected**
- **Michael Kavanagh** - **re-elected**
- **Ruth Lynch** - **elected**

Chair congratulated the candidates on their election and re-election to Council.



### 3. **Appoint the Auditor**

The Chair informed the meeting that the existing auditor, Kieron P. Hayes of Hayes & Co, has expressed his willingness to be re-appointed.

- **Proposed** - **Cormac Mohan**
- **Seconded** - **Richard O’Hanrahan**

### 4. Council were authorised to fix the remuneration of the Auditor

- **Proposed** - **Michael O’Regan**
- **Seconded** - **Clodagh Henehan**

### 5. **To transact any other ordinary business of the Institute.**

There was no other ordinary business to transact.

### 6. **ÁINE COLLINS, PRESIDENT, CPA IRELAND addressed the meeting as follows:**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Our Annual Report 2021 clearly articulates CPA Ireland’s leadership position in terms of Digitalisation, Sustainability, and the Wellbeing of our People.

Personally, I believe the Report reflects very well on CPA Ireland. Particularly, when we consider the volatility in the external environment.

It is hard to believe that we are currently offering refuge in Ireland to Ukrainians fleeing from a war zone.

The devastating impact of the invasion of Ukraine is a human tragedy.

The response from the EU has been swift and coordinated. Accountants across Europe are stepping up to ensure that sanctions are applied. We are also ensuring that businesses are doing the right things with a particular focus on anti-money laundering and cyber security.

CPA Ireland has also introduced a range of practical supports for displaced Ukrainian professionals seeking refuge in Ireland. I have no doubt that our community of CPAs is stepping up in response to this humanitarian crisis.

Matters which we took for granted, such as food and fuel certainty, have been thrown into chaos. Supply chain disruption is leading to unprecedented price inflation. The resilience of business owners continues to be tested by Brexit, Covid 19 and now war in Ukraine.

The important role that CPAs play in protecting livelihoods is well recognised by policy makers. CPAs have contributed greatly to government policies in support of businesses. The Minister for Finance, Paschal Donohue, expressed his gratitude to me personally for the important role that CPAs are playing.



We are, as professionals, really living up to our public interest purpose in these difficult times.

Difficult as it is to look forward, we must do so with a sense of hope. Significant trends are emerging in the external environment, including:

- The demand for greater flexibility in terms of when and where we work;
- Digitalisation and the ongoing developments in technology;
- The protection of our planet and the urgency in terms of sustainability; and,
- An increased focus on physical and mental wellbeing.

CPA Ireland continues to adapt our service provisions so that CPAs can continue to deliver value.

Our Digitalisation Hub has been acknowledged by global leaders in the accountancy profession as a world class innovation.

Our Wellbeing Platform is being used by hundreds of CPAs seeking to find work life balance.

The dialogue on sustainability has certainly increased throughout 2021 and the focus on climate action has intensified. The International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) is now a reality, and we look forward to the ISSB finalising its standards on climate.

At a European level we are also seeing progress on sustainability standard setting, initially on a mandatory basis for large companies with voluntary adoption by SMEs.

It is essential that regulatory fragmentation is avoided and that sustainability standards will be global, scalable and proportionate. From engagement with members throughout 2021, CPA Ireland is aware that many SMEs are already being required to give sustainability assurance to larger entities in the supply chain.

CPAs have the skills and competencies, ethical values, and the experience in financial reporting to provide sustainability services and assurance.