

**MINUTES of the New Zealand Institute of
Physics ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held on Friday, 12th December 2025**

Chair: Richard Easter

Present: Peter Garrick, Nicola Gaston, Simon Granville, David Housden, Helen Housden (Observer), Nathan Mehrrens, Tristan O'Hanlon, Natalie Plank, Nicholas Rattenbury, Annika Seppälä, Jonathan Squire, David Thrasher, Marcus Wilson

Apologies: Ashton Bradley, Joachim Brand, Geoff Willmott

Minutes: Chris Gordon

2024 AGM minutes

These Minutes are available on the NZIP website.

minutes accepted CARRIED

President's Report

Richard Easter presented the president's report. He reported that the year had seen major changes across the high-school curriculum and wider education sector, and that many members had contributed to curriculum development and review. He noted upheaval across the university and research sectors, including changes to the CRI landscape and significant modifications to the research funding environment, and that NZIP has responded formally and informally while monitoring developments into 2026. He thanked contributors to the conference and noted that the Constitution rewrite had taken substantial time, but that the updated language provides a more expansive view of NZIP's scope. He acknowledged the contributions of Annika Seppälä and Annette Koo, who are stepping off the Council, and noted Annette Koo's new role in Paris. Looking toward 2026, he highlighted New Zealand's strength in physics-based activity and innovation, including Rocket Lab and orbital launches, a national initiative in quantum devices, and a local fusion start-up.

report accepted CARRIED

NZIP Education Section Report

David Housden presented the NZIP Education Section's Report. He reported successful completion of the NZIPES NCEA Level 1–3 examination services for 2025, with NZIPES subscriptions increasing to 353 (the highest recorded) and the NZIPES private Facebook group increasing to 395 members. He outlined ongoing advocacy for a strong knowledge-

based physics curriculum, extensive engagement with the Ministry of Education on the draft curriculum, and continued international links and PLD activity nationwide (including NEX-facilitated and regional support, workshops, and online resources). The report noted that the impact of NZIPES PLD programmes has been externally evaluated by Teaching Development Aotearoa, with feedback described as extremely positive.

report accepted CARRIED

Financial (Treasurer's) Report

Dave Thrasher presented the Treasurer's Report and the NZIP Annual Financial Report 2024 (covering 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024). He highlighted (from the notes to the accounts) that interest income increased substantially due to higher/fluctuating bank interest rates, the PLD account increased due to NEX and Level 1 Contract funding, and that membership income was slightly down while NZIPES subscription income increased. He also noted NZIP's school book prize support and that only one NZIP award is presented in a non-conference year (the Rutherford Trophy).

report accepted CARRIED

Subscription Fees

Motion: That the current Membership (all categories) and Subscription fees are retained through to the next AGM.

Motion accepted CARRIED

Election of Officers:

The following were nominated and elected to the NZIP Council for 2026. No positions were contested, and there were no objections to the elections.

- **Officers:**

Richard Easter	President
Ashton Bradley	Vice President
Chris Gordon	(Honorary) Secretary
David Thrasher	Treasurer
Joachim Brand	Immediate Past President
David Housden	NZIPES Chair

- **Other council members:**

Simon Granville (Victoria University of Wellington and IUPAP)
Natalie Plank (Victoria University of Wellington)
Jonathan Squire (University of Otago)
Geoff Willmott (University of Auckland)
Marcus Wilson (University of Waikato)

All nominated Richard Easter

Council elected unanimously

Registration under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022

The Chair noted the motion from the AGM Notice to proceed with reregistering under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and to adopt the new Constitution. The meeting discussed the inclusion of Te Tiriti / Māori representation language in the proposed Constitution and noted consultations that had been undertaken.

The Motion that the Institute be re-registered under the new Incorporated Societies Act, and that the new Constitution, as attached, be approved, was carried unanimously. However, the meeting noted that the required threshold for adopting constitutional changes could not be met with those present, and therefore agreed that the proposed Constitution would be progressed via a postal ballot around 1 February 2026.

A typographical error in the proposed Constitution (clause 8.1.11) was noted ("General Member" should read "General Meeting"). The correction was approved.

Motion accepted CARRIED

Bylaws

Motion: That the bylaws as attached in the AGM Notice are approved.

Motion accepted CARRIED

General Business

It was decided that current Members that are allowed to use MNZIP will still be able to use it. Use of MNZIP for recently retired members was discussed. The Chair noted that retired members who were granted MNZIP status as regular members may continue to use MNZIP in professional settings after retirement, and that future MNZIP usage is by permission with criteria set in a bylaw.