1. **Welcome**

   The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming members to Cumbernauld and the home of the Clyde Football Club, Broadwood Stadium to the last branch meeting of the electoral period prior to the AGM.

   He also welcomed the Institute President, Mr Philip Ewing, and our guest speaker Mr Peter Mitchell.

2. **Housekeeping**

   Ken Forbes detailed the housekeeping rules of the stadium to the members.

3. **Sederunt**

   The Secretary detailed members as per the attendance book in which 24 members were in attendance.

   The Chair then introduced Deputy Provost Thomas Curley, from North Lanarkshire Council and he spoke on the heritage of the area, the changing face of bereavement services and the various works ongoing within the council to improve these services to the customer including the provisions of cemetery extension, new cemeteries and indeed the provision of a crematorium.

   The Chair responded to Depute Provost Curley who unfortunately had to leave the meeting due to previous commitments.

4. **Apologies**

   As per the attendance book. 13 members intimated apologies.

5. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

   Accepted by the members
   Proposed By David MacColl
   Seconded by Alan Copeland

6. **Matters Arising**

   There were no matters arising.
7. **Chairman’s Report**

The Chair spoke on updates on NAMM and BRAMM stating that there had been little Scottish interest so far in regard to the BRAMM scheme. He detailed that East Ayrshire Council have agreed to commence the scheme in January 2007 and from that date only accredited masons will be allowed to work within their cemeteries.

Detailed the Ombudsman report and spoke on issues relating to maladministration – not informing the customer, advertising etc.

Spoke on the good practices etc.

Comments from members in regard to difficulty in contacting lair owners.

Spoke on the issue of Mercury Abatement and this was supplemented by comments from the President in regard to the Cameo scheme and the deferral until June 2006. Several members commented about the issues and practicalities of joining the scheme and indeed the legality of this. The President stated that there was no legal requirement to join.

Detailed the issue of emissions in regard to the cremation of foetal remains and children under the age of 4 years.

Spoke on the Scottish Law Group and gave an update on this. Stated that minutes of the group are on the web site of the Scottish Executive.

He also stated that the ICCM was looking to hold a one day conference in regard to the law covering foetal remains.

Conference 2006 – the benefits to members attending are plentiful and this years will be bigger and better.

Also spoke on possibility of moving venues in the future.

Detailed work of both corporate and professional groups of the Institute.

8. **Secretary’s Report**

The Secretary reported on the current membership of the branch which now stands at 72 members. This included two new members – Mrs Catherine Gibson from North Ayrshire and Mr Brian Jones from East Ayrshire. He detailed the executive meetings since the last branch meeting and detailed to members the dates for the remaining two meetings of the year – 30 August in Belfast and 29 November in Inverclyde.

He also detailed that the Historic Scotland off shoot, the Carved Stones Advisory Group in which David MacColl and himself were members, was no longer meeting as Historic Scotland were looking to move this function to a different level. Once this has been agreed by Historic Scotland and the secretary informed, branch members will be notified.
9. **Correspondence**

As detailed by the Secretary.

10. **Committee Reports**

Robert McCulloch gave the members an insight to what had been discussed at the last meeting of these groups and stated that a full report would be given at the Belfast meeting.

David MacColl gave the report on the professional group which included:-

- **CAMEO**
- Education – over 100 applications for modules
- The impending retirement of the National Treasurer
- The branch chain of office to be inscribed
- Who can make resolutions?
- Cemetery of the Year awards 2007
- NAMM / BRAMM Training in Scotland
- Education seminar in Cranfield

He and the Chair spoke on the issue of a National Training Centre to be based at the City of London Cemetery. This is only a proposal but it has the full support of all Directors.

11. **A.O.C.B.**

A discussion took place on the forthcoming trip to Belfast for the August branch meeting.

12. **Guest Speaker**

Mr Peter Mitchell of Peter Mitchell Associates gave the branch an insight into what his company provides to the bereavement industry which included consultancy, Design and Development and Exhumation. He spoke on past and present projects supplementing this with a power point presentation and this included everything from soil testing to the exhumation of 15,000 remains. Peter thanked the branch for inviting him to Scotland in what was a very interesting and entertaining presentation.

On behalf of the branch, the Chair thanked Peter and made a presentation to him.