

For immediate release

21 October 2020

GSHPA ANNOUNCES NEW CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Ground Source Heat Pump Association is pleased to announce that Laura Bishop has been elected to the position of Chair of the Association following a unanimous vote at GSHPA's Council meeting on 21st October 2020. Edward Thompson has been elected as Vice-Chair. The vacancies arose due to Bean Beanland stepping down as Chairman and Chris Davidson as Vice Chair following the standard period of two-years in office. GSHPA would like to extend our warmest thanks to Bean and Chris for all their hard work over the years. Bean moves on to work with the newly formed Heat Pump Federation and will remain actively involved with GSHPA as a non-voting representative on the Council. Chris remains on Council as the chair of the Policy Development Committee.

Director of Infinitas Design Ltd and a chartered mechanical engineer, Laura is a strong advocate for heat pumps and lobbies councillors and developers wherever she sees new developments throughout the UK. She believes that heat pumps should be deployed in place of traditional heating & cooling systems. As a qualified CIBSE Heat Network Consultant, she has influenced the use of heat pumps for low and ultra-low temperature heat networks on local and national levels.

Laura says, "The heat pump industry is entering a very exciting and encouraging era with electrification of heat high on the political and environmental agenda. The opportunities for greater heat pump rollout in the UK have never been greater. I'd like to thank the Council for voting me in as Chair and am very much looking forward to steering the ground source heat pump ship into new waters."

After reading science at Oxford, Edward qualified as a Chartered Accountant and has worked in finance, computing and venture capital and has specialised in helping young companies with new ventures. Edward is a director of ICAX which has developed the ideas that led to Interseasonal Heat Transfer, Thermal Banks and solar assisted ground source energy. This novel ICAX approach to harnessing ground source energy has provided innovative systems for supermarkets, schools, community centres and fifth generation district heating networks.

Edward says, "I am grateful to the Council for voting me in as Vice Chair of the GSHPA and look forward to the challenge of expanding the opportunities for decarbonisation by using heat transfer to help the UK achieve Net Zero well ahead of 2050, and also to improve the air quality in our major cities by employing heat transfer instead of combustion."

Ends

Contact jen.billings@gshp.org.uk for further information or call 0330 2234 302.

The principal aims of the Ground Source Heat Pump Association are to encourage the growth and development of the ground source heat pump industry in the United Kingdom by:

- promoting the efficient and sustainable use of ground source heat pumps
- raising awareness of the benefits of ground source heat pumps
- developing ground source installation Standards
- encouraging high standards of training for the industry
- providing a forum for information interchange
- liaising with related organisations to benefit the ground source industry
- Lobbying for Ground Source Energy industry in matters of local, national and international interest to members

The Association provides information on GSHPs via its website (www.gshp.org.uk) and makes presentations to promote the ground source industry to key audiences. It co-ordinates closely with government and other trade associations and training organisations to work for high quality installations and the success of the ground source industry.