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**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR PRESENTATION AT THE QUARTERLY MEETING ON 26TH JANUARY 2017**

**Date of Reported Meeting:** 24th November 2016

**Date of Next Meeting:** 30th March 2017

**Failure of Cage Clamps**

Mark Pennington has revised the FPS Design & Lifting of Cages guidance & decided to retain the bulldogs section. Version control should be introduced into this document going forward.

**Sonic Testing**

Andrew Bell will set up a small working to look at testing methods with a view to producing initial guidance within 3-6 months. John Chick has drafted an article on this topic from a safety perspective.

**Addressing the Issues of Economy of using PR11 / C574 over PG6**

The group were asked to look at all testing in chalk from 2004 onwards for working piles. The topic is yet to be discussed with the EFFC. The topic will be kept on the agenda for the next technical meeting.

**Rig Track Bearing Pressures Spreadsheet**

Feedback from the first two workshops suggested that more worked examples should be included in future. GE magazine has recently published an article by David Corke which contradicts the purpose of the spreadsheet. In order to avoid confusion in the industry, the FPS is not actively opposing his paper.

**Pre-augering of Large Casings**

Further amendments are required to the document. It was agreed a change should be introduced to the effect that the granular strata should limit the depth to be above the level of the water table.

**Developing AGS Data Format to Capture Piling as Built Information**

A working group of two FPS representatives and two AGS representatives will be created to take this further.

**Associate Membership**

Ciaran Jennings noted that there had been increased interest in associate membership following the Rig Bearing Pressure Workshop although the FPS is not actively looking to recruit new Associate Members.

**MSc Student Prize**

Four/five MSc Student bursaries are available for 2017. The committee were encouraged to think of subjects for MSc theses. One project topic mentioned was Piles in Chalk.

**Terms of Reference**

The main objectives of the Technical Committee were identified as being (i) influencing codes & standards (ii) creating guidance & (iii) engaging new engineers. The associated deliverables are creating guidance & position papers. It was also agreed that there should be more connection between the four FPS Committees. Mark Pennington will create a terms of reference document.

**Load Cases**

James Binns will lead the production of a paper that sets out the issues and risks of ill-formatted load schedule drawings. A first draft should be ready by 30th March 2017.

**Temporary Works Forum**

At the previous meeting, Mark Pennington expressed the need for the FPS to strengthen its involvement with the Temporary Works Forum. Ciaran Jennings has obtained contact details to progress this.

**Eurocodes and Execution Codes**

The BSI comments table was circulated pre-meeting, it was decided that it should be maintained & sent to BSI in time for the next meeting.