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

**Date of Reported Meeting:** 8th November 2016

**Date of Next Meeting:** TBC

**FPS 3rd Quarter Statistics**

There was a significant increase in Large Bored Piles which appears to be a September trend. The housing market grows steadily, though it was acknowledged that mixed developments were possibly not being split-out in the returns, thus showing some commercial work here. Mark Sheridan also identified the decrease in Ground Investigation. Ciaran Jennings commented that there had been increased interest in FPS membership recently, speculating that it may be becoming more desirable on tenders.

**Project Bank Accounts Position Paper**

The FPS Secretary will contact Roger Barrett regarding the progress of a draft paper on PBAs.

**Caps on Liability Position Paper**

Mark Sheridan has drafted this position paper and it is now with FPS Chair, Alasdair Henderson, for approval.

Fair Certification Position Paper

Following an open discussion on radical approaches to the issue, it was agreed that the FPS want to adopt a position of “we will never knowingly under-certify”. Each member present will produce some suggested terms.

Related to this, Joanna Mikoda, who is a graduate studying for a MSc in Construction Law and Dispute Resolution, will be invited to come and speak to the group regarding her dissertation.

FPS Website

Website developers, Redwire, have been briefed to create a look and feel that injects energy and dynamism. A photoshoot will be arranged to get suitable images for the home page. As part of the re-branding project, a new FPS logo will be created in the near-future.

**Build UK**

Build UK are progressing towards a single two-tiered PQQ system based on turnover, although there is debate over high risk category and how it is quantified.

**JCT Report**

Dave Colven attended the JCT Council Meeting on 15th September 2016. The JCT still needs to decide how Build UK is represented in the group.

**Rig Bearing Pressure Spreadsheet Workshop**

The first workshops have now taken place. The fee for non-members is £95.00; members can attend for free.

David Corke has written an article where he raised concerns that the FPS is giving unsafe advice in relation to the Eccentricity index. Nicholas Rogers volunteered to review David’s paper to assess if there is any risk.

**MSc Student Prize**

Members will talk to their technical departments to identify potential MSc dissertation topics that will be of benefit to FPS member companies.

**Membership**

JM Piling has applied to be a full member and are expected to be formally accepted at the first FPS Quarterly meeting of 2017.

Terms of Reference

Mark Sheridan reported that the Quarterly Committee were keen that the Commercial Committee continue to address unreasonable contract conditions, customer behaviour, fair certification and Project Bank Accounts.

BIM

A BIM survey has been sent to members with the intention of understanding FPS’s current strategic level.

**Unexploded Ordinance**

This topic will be taken to the FPS Safety and Training meeting by Ciaran Jennings, to gauge opinion on whether UXO and UXB could be considered as cable strikes for reporting purposes.