

MINUTES OF A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday 12th September 2019

Time: 10:00am

Location: Hallam Conference Centre, 44 Hallam Street, London, W1 6JJ

PRESENT:

Mike Johnson	Abbey Pynford
Chris Barker	Arup
Andrew Brindle	A-Squared Studio
Michael Gavins	Atkins
David Hard	Bachy Soletanche
Graham Thompson	Bachy Soletanche
Owen Francis	BAM Ritchies
James Binns	Byland Engineering
Zoe Baldwin	Cementation Skanska
Andrew Bell	Cementation Skanska
Toby Hayward	Expanded
Chris Chapman	FK Lowry
Andrew Heathcote	Keller
David Roy	Keltbray
Chris Beynon	JRL Civil Engineering
Darren Milo	Murphy Ground Engineering
Pete Illingworth	Pile Designs
Neil Stone	Rock & Alluvium

In the Chair: Mark Pennington BBGE

In Attendance: Ciaran Jennings FPS Secretary
Grace Hawkins FPS Secretariat

No	TOPIC	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	Apologies had been received from Ebenezer Adenmosun (Geofirma Ltd), Keith Miller (Laing O'Rourke), and Mark Toye (Socotec UK).	
2	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	
	The minutes of the meeting held on the 23 rd May 2019 were approved. It was noted under item 15) Industry Events – Piling Conference 2020 the grouting course was noted as taking place in November when it is taking place in September.	
3	MATTERS ARISING	
a)	<p>BSI 5975: Code of practice for temporary works procedures</p> <p>Andrew Bell reported that the new document, BS5975 (Temporary Works) has been published with significant updates to it, he suggested Members make their operations teams aware of it. Andrew cannot see changes from a technical perspective but agreed to check.</p> <p>He advised the document is a British standard therefore duties and procedures need to be adhered to, any businesses with Temporary Works Co-ordinators, should be aware they now have new duties, the Temporary Works Forum produced a course and slides on the updates, which he agreed to circulate.</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings agreed to share the document with the Operations, Plant and Safety Group.</p>	<p>Andrew Bell</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings</p>

b)	<p>Apprenticeship Degree</p> <p>Zoe Baldwin reported that the occupational profile was submitted in August, she advised that there is a six-week review to establish that there is a need for it in the industry.</p> <p>Zoe reported that she drafted the occupational profile with Birmingham University and Jacobs on what needs to be included in the degree content. The FPS circulated it to Member Company MDs and the FPS Technical Committee. She advised they will receive feedback this month on whether it will be accepted, and the next stage will be the Core Trailblazer group to write course content. It was noted the end point assessment will be integrated and the Universities will do it. Imperial University, Kingston University and Newcastle University are inputting. She explained it is a level 7 apprenticeship degree in geotechnical engineering being facilitated by Birmingham, it will be a MSc for apprentice's post degree, but is also open to someone with extensive experience. Zoe asked if anyone wants to join the Core Trailblazer Group, they should let her know.</p>	All
4. LOAD CASES GUIDANCE DOCUMENT PRESENTATION		
	<p>Mark Pennington reported that Debbie Darling contacted the IStructE (Institute of Structural Engineers) for the FPS to present at their regional events. They have provided some 2020 dates.</p> <p>Chris Barker reported that he presented it internally at Arup, he had some queries regarding the numerical values, which he gave some consideration but decided to leave as it is. Mark agreed he does not think it needs to be updated.</p> <p>It was agreed to publicise further and present to the IStructE in 2020.</p>	All
5. SITE INVESTIGATION DATA		
a)	<p>Guidance on Minimum Site Investigation requirements for foundation design</p> <p>It was noted there were comments made at the last meeting, Jonathan Ball reported he has incorporated the comments. Mark Pennington asked the FPS Technical Committee to answer the questionnaire before the end of 2019. Jonathan advised the questions are similar to the questions in the last survey, Chris Barker suggested it would be good to compare it to the last one highlighting the differences in a decade. It was noted there was 221 responses to the last survey.</p> <p>It was noted that the Technical Committee will feedback the outcome of the questionnaire the AGS/BDA procurement of GI steering group when these outputs become available. Ciaran Jennings reported that the steering group are issuing a tentative survey, Ciaran will advise Julian Lovell that the FPS questionnaire is being issued so that they can align their survey.</p> <p>Mark suggested the FPS Technical Committee review how many they have received in the November meeting, with an aim to receive more responses.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the importance of including regional indicators, it was felt regional areas are important to see how different it is in each area. Andrew Heathcote suggested it should be postcode specific. This was agreed by the Committee, Jonathan agreed to include this, and the FPS Secretariat agreed to circulate this.</p>	<p>Ciaran Jennings</p> <p>Jonathan Ball FPS Secretariat</p>
b)	<p>AGS Procurement of Ground Investigation Steering Group</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings reported that the AGS Procurement of Ground Investigation Steering Group have agreement from NEC to produce a guidance document. They are looking at ground investigation under NEC contracts, revision of the UK specification and new models of procurement.</p> <p>Ciaran added they are looking for a fundamental shift in SI, it was noted procurement have no connection with people who understand SI; the current method of procurement</p>	

	<p>is fundamentally incorrect, it is commercially focussed on driving down cost, rather than buying a quality investigative process.</p> <p>At the last meeting Nick Sartain advised there is need to promote value of SI and suggested it would be good to show examples of good GI from a Piling perspective.</p>	
6.	FPS GUIDE TO DEEP PILES IN LONDON	
	This item was agreed to be placed on hold but would remain on the agenda.	
7.	EUROCODES AND EXECUTION CODES	
a)	<p>Revision of EN1997-3 Clause 6 – Pile Design Jonathan Ball reported that the agreed comments and responses were presented, he noted there was plenty of opportunity to contribute and little response from FPS members. Jonathan advised he attended the meeting where it was advised the FPS comments were put forward to the group for discussion, some were overruled as they were viewed as default positions. There is a change in format but no fundamental changes. David Hard reported the draft for national comments is coming out in October, with the deadline in January 2020. Mark suggested setting up a meeting to review, however no action is required before the next meeting.</p>	
b)	<p>Revision of Eurocode 7 This item was not discussed.</p>	
c)	<p>Update of Codes David Hard advised that the TC28 meeting took place in July, however there is nothing significant to report. He also reported that ground anchors have been accepted, but Germany and France are not satisfied. It was noted ground freezing has had no input from the UK due to lack of experience. It was noted the jet grouting execution code is now out and grouting is out next year. Grouting out next year</p>	
d)	<p>Tower Crane Loadings & CIRIA C654 This item was not discussed.</p>	
e)	<p>EN 1997-3 – Clause 6 Draft – Design of Piled Rafts This item was not discussed.</p>	
8.	FPS DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT TASK GROUP	
	<p>AGS/FPS Data Information Transfer for Piling Mark Pennington reported that the Digital Development Group has been looking to push AGS Data as a standard format and look at making it a contractual requirement, however nothing has happened since the FPS Technical Committee received a presentation from Neil Chadwick. There was a meeting between Neil Chadwick and Jason Boddy. It was noted that Neil Chadwick is revising the presentation.</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings suggested the EFFC is engaged on this, Germany are looking at digitalisation and Sue Arundale at FIEC advised digitalisation is a big focus, they are seeing many people changing their attitudes towards it.</p>	
9.	LIMITATIONS IN ULS RETAINING WALL DESIGN	
	Mark Pennington advised this item has not moved forward much, however someone from BBGE is progressing it and the differences will be discussed further at the next meeting. He reminded the Committee that whilst looking at a ULS design they had found issues with C760. He added they found it in two areas, deep basements and prop floor level. They are looking at how those programmes are looking at active pressures.	
10.	FPS WEBSITE	

	<p>Ciaran Jennings advised that a schedule of updates was issued last year, he asked if the old Sperwall guidance can be retired from the website. David Roy and Andrew Bell agreed to remove them or to add a disclaimer. Ciaran agreed to remove it and place a statement on the website advising that the Sperwall has been superseded but can contact the FPS Secretariat for a copy if required. It was agreed it will remain on the members area.</p>	Ciaran Jennings
11.	RIG BEARING PRESSURE SPREADSHEETS	
	<p>The FPS Secretariat reported that the next FPS Rig Bearing Pressure Spreadsheet workshops are taking place in Derby on the 17th September 2019 and in London on the 4th December 2019.</p> <p>Mark Pennington advised further to the previously suggested amendment of the spreadsheet it was agreed companies have someone who takes ownership that it is being used correctly.</p>	
12.	EFFC	
	<p>a. Support Fluids Field Research Study project</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings reported the EFFC Support Fluids is in the next phase of the project, which is a field research exercise reviewing different testing methods. There is a £200k budget and he asked members to send in site data, Chris Harnan will collate the data and do field tests. He advised the minimum set of data being sought is;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and depth of element • Excavation record including excavation method • Product data sheets of raw material as well as possible additives • Fluid properties • Relevant project specification with fluid acceptance criteria • Typical rebar drawing • basic info about the ground conditions • Type and picture of fluid sampler used • Post construction <p>b. Sustainability</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings reported he attended the EFFC Sustainability meeting in Brussels, their mission is to shape the industry to become more sustainable. They are looking at climate breakdown, recognising that the industry must change and how can it limit the damage. The UK has signed a law to reduce emissions by 2050 and there will be a lot of legislative pressure to get to a zero-carbon commitment.</p> <p>The Technical Committee agreed it starts with investigating low carbon concrete as it has been recognised that cement is responsible for more carbon emissions than most countries and the airline industry. The Committee agreed they should produce guidance, Mark Pennington asked if anyone can start looking at putting something together. Ciaran suggested Martin Stanley maybe able to talk to the FPS as he has been involved on the carbon calculator. It was agreed to add green concrete to the agenda. Chris Barker recognised one of the challenges of using new materials is durability. Mark asked members to ask people in their organisations if they can champion this.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>FPS Secretariat All</p>
13.	INDUSTRY EVENTS	
	<p>Piling Conference 2020</p> <p>Mark Pennington previously reported that the BGA Piling Conference is taking place in Durham on 15th and 16th September 2020. He advised that those who submitted abstracts will have now been informed if their abstract was accepted.</p>	
14.	SOCIAL EVENTS	
	<p>a) FPS Golf Day – 11th September, The Nottinghamshire & Country Club</p> <p>b) Annual Awards Dinner – 25th October, Intercontinental Park Lane</p>	

	Ciaran Jennings reported that the FPS are looking for award nominations to be made by FPS Members, if members cannot meet the deadline for nominations, they should contact the FPS Secretariat for an extension.	All
15.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>CIRIA Guidance</p> <p>Mark Pennington reported that CIRIA are looking to redraft six PG guidance notes written in the 1970s and 80s. They are seeking £300k in total from the contractors and trade associations involved in the sector. It was noted the funding for each document is around £5k and after funding the FPS would be invited to input. Mark asked whether this was something the FPS should support and influence their safety and technical content. Andrew Bell felt it was a good idea, he added they are well referenced documents however are around 30 years old. The Technical Committee agreed to feedback to the FPS Quarterly Committee that the FPS should support this and recommends this is considered at the FPS Executive meeting. It was suggested it could be funded through the extra FPS funds or via the FPS membership subscriptions. Jonathan Ball added that RBL agreed this was worthwhile and were looking to support this but will wait to hear what the FPS decides to do. Ciaran Jennings agreed to discuss this with Phil Hines.</p> <p>BSI Standard 8281</p> <p>Michael Gavins reported that BSI will be convening BSI8281 shortly.</p>	<p>FPS Quarterly Committee</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings</p>
16.	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14th November 2019 <p>To start at 10am at Hallam Conference Centre - Warren Suite (Hallam Conference Centre - Warren Suite)</p>	