

## MINUTES OF A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

**Date:** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Time:** 10:00am

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

**PRESENT:**

Andrew Fingland	Atkins Global
Andrew Brindle	A-Squared Studio
David Hard	Bachy Soletanche
Emily Wood	BAM Ritchies
Richard Ball	Card Geotechnics Ltd
Zoe Baldwin	Cementation Skanska
Andrew Bell	Cementation Skanska
Toby Hayward	Expanded
Ebenezer Adenmosun	Geofirma Ltd
Chris Beynon	JRL Civil Engineering
Andrew Heathcote	Keller
Keith Miller	Laing O'Rourke
Darren Milo	Murphy Ground Engineering
David Illingworth	Pile Designs
Pete Illingworth	Pile Designs
Jonathan Ball	Roger Bullivant Limited
Martyn Ellis	Socotec UK
Mark Toye	Socotec UK

**In the Chair:** Mark Pennington BBGE

**In Attendance:** Ciaran Jennings FPS Secretary  
Grace Hawkins FPS Secretariat

No	TOPIC	ACTION
1	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
	Apologies had been received from Chris Barker (Arup), Owen Francis (BAM Ritchies), James Binns (Byland Engineering), Chris Irvin (DYWIDAG-Systems), David Roy (Keltbray), James Blackwell (Martello), Kayvan Kiany (Rock & Alluvium) and Simon Shaw (Van Elle).	
2	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b>	
	The minutes of the meeting held on the 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2018 were approved.	
3	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
a)	<b>BSI 5975: Code of practice for temporary works procedures</b> It was previously reported that at the Temporary Works Forum there is a new code of practice aimed at major infrastructure projects, Andrew Bell advised publication of the new document, BS5975 (Temporary Works), is still delayed and will be put on the BSI website on the 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2019.	
4.	<b>LOAD CASES GUIDANCE DOCUMENT PRESENTATION/ DISSEMINATION</b>	
	Mark Pennington advised the Committee has been looking at the use of the e-Pile Schedule and that Chris Barker put together a presentation, intended to be given regionally or to clients. It was reported that the ICE and IStuctE (Institute of Structural Engineers) have been contacted through Debbie Darling, it was noted Jonathan Baggs of ICE advised they will come back with dates. The FPS Secretariat agreed to circulate the dates when received.	<b>FPS Secretariat All</b>

	<p>Mark asked Committee members to volunteer to help towards raising the profile.</p> <p>It was noted at the last meeting that Committee members were asked to highlight any industry events and to volunteer to present; James Binns, Ash Rogers and Andrew Heathcote volunteered.</p>	
5.	<b>LDSA GUIDANCE NOTE- FPS RESPONSE</b>	
	<p>Following the presentation from Stuart Pennington and Dinesh Patel from Arup on the updates to the LDSA (London District Surveyors' Association) guidance for the design of straight shafted bored piles in London clay. It was agreed to directly respond to Dinesh Patel and Stuart Pennington to ask them to consider a revision, to write a specific note and to refer to the LDSA in the ground investigation standards working group.</p> <p>Mark Pennington reported that Chris Barker spoke to Dinesh Patel, emails of this conversation were circulated to the Committee. It was noted there is still a strong desire to see a pile design based on SPT's within the guidance. They are happy to consider this but it will also require the support of FPS members through providing evidence for changing the recommended approach.</p> <p>It was requested that Members share their preliminary test pile data, SPT profiles and borehole / factual SI reports together with as-built records of the preliminary piles and information on Minipiles.</p> <p>David Illingworth noted there was little advantage to using SPTs in addition to what is provided from other shear strength testing methods. Mark agreed SI with only SPTs are poor in comparison to data with SPTs and Trackskill testing.</p> <p>Keith Miller felt this was a retrograde step, if the document specifies SPT, consultants may start to ask for SPTs alone. Jonathan Ball advised some small sites may not have that information available.</p> <p>Mark noted Sub-Contractors are being penalised and being asked to push the design line down, whereas the guidance note is forcing Contractors not to do this.</p> <p>It was noted the FPS do not fully agree with the document, however there is no consistent agreement as to the ideal alternative.</p> <p>Andrew Heathcote commented the guidance is regressive, he added FPS Members are in a competitive tendering environment, with this guidance they will go for best design and this guidance adds risk of not getting approval. Mark added people are getting designs pushed through building control that are not compliant with the guidance, but they justify deviations from the guidance. Mark reminded the Committee it is a guidance, not a code.</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings suggested a statement could be issued with the FPS view, which can be presented to clients and building control.</p> <p>Mark asked the Committee if they wish to provide more test data, which might provide a different stance, or provide data from smaller diameter piles. He suggested another option would be to accept the document as it is. The Committee agreed to accept it as it is.</p> <p>Chris Beynon asked if the FPS could request Arup provide their data, as he would like to understand how they reached their conclusions. He thought this might allow contractors to show why they are not compliant with it on smaller diameters, where he believed the guidance was not as relevant. Mark agreed to respond to Dinesh Patel and suggested this item is removed from the agenda.</p>	<p><b>Mark Pennington FPS Secretariat</b></p>

<b>6.</b>	<b>GUIDANCE ON MINIMUM SI REQUIREMENTS</b>	
	<p>It was noted that it was previously agreed to develop a 'Minimum Standard for Site Investigation for piling'. Derek Egan drafted a remit for the GI working group which included to review guidance and to re-run a survey to get clear opinion on sufficiency of site investigation. Jonathan Ball reported that he has been tasked by the group to look at the guidance, which he believed to be out of step with other more current guidance.</p> <p>He added that Socotec have commented on the revised guidance and raised competence and techniques as issue. He asked everyone to feed in their comments.</p> <p>Jonathan asked should it specify terms and advised he purposely wrote it targeting someone who does not know much about GI. It also now includes updated BS8004 Code of practice for foundations. Mark Toye advised that the AGS has guidance from 2003 and the BDA are producing an update, he suggested the AGS may endorse the FPS guidance.</p> <p>David Hard noted in the EC7 parts two and three they have moved GI to part two, it also includes the competence of people carrying out SI, including on site people. Jonathan agreed to include reference to EC7 part two.</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings agreed to ask the AGS to look at this; Andrew Bell suggested a joint statement will hold more weight. It was reported that the new Chair of the AGS Julian Lovell has convened a meeting with the FPS and BDA to discuss GI, Jonathan has agreed to attend on behalf of the FPS. Martyn Ellis advised he will be going as the BDA representative. Ciaran suggested he can then push this to Build UK to adopt and subsequently see improvement.</p> <p>Mark Pennington advised Derek was initially leading and was going to update the survey conducted originally, but due to work constraints Jonathan has taken the lead, he has drafted the survey based heavily on the previous survey. The draft has been circulated, running to three pages, Mark noted they are concerned it is too long, he asked that Members send across any comments.</p> <p>Jonathan advised following approval the survey will be sent to a volunteer from each FPS Member, with 3 months to complete. They can then begin collating the results. Jonathan reported following the last survey, an article was produced for Ground Engineering and presented at Piling Conferences.</p> <p>Mark Pennington asked that comments are returned by the 29<sup>th</sup> March in order to be presented at the AGS meeting. Jonathan added he is open to updating the guidance following the survey results.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings</p> <p>All</p>
<b>7.</b>	<b>FPS GUIDE TO DEEP PILES IN LONDON</b>	
	This item was agreed to be placed on hold but would remain on the agenda.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>WORKING PLATFORM CERTIFICATE: MODIFICATION TO THE GUIDANCE</b>	
	<p>It was previously discussed that Toby Hayward had experienced a few issues on repairs to large voids on the piling mat; he thought this should be added to the guidance note and agreed to propose a modification to the guidance.</p> <p>Toby reported that he added a note to the guidance, trying to capture that the piling mat is not just the only thing to consider. Chris Beynon suggested it should also highlight that there should be an alternative design. Toby advised it could be under maintenance, but Mark Pennington agreed design is the correct place to have this note, Keith Miller also agreed. Toby's amendment was agreed by the Committee to keep as it is. Ciaran Jennings will send it to all FPS Committees for review and to the Quarterly Committee for approval.</p>	<p>Ciaran Jennings</p>

	<p>It was reported there was recently a complaint made by Kier to the FPS relating to the rig bearing pressure spreadsheet. They claim they are being sent poor data that is often clearly wrong. It was noted Steve Hadley spoke with the Kier and agreed they had a valid view that some Members are sending incorrect data.</p> <p>Mark advised this was discussed at the FPS Quarterly Meeting, it was recognised that the Technical Committee has looked at the rig bearing pressure spreadsheet, it is clear in some instances, the changes made have not been properly applied. It was suggested to review the spreadsheet again to red flag certain areas. It was also agreed that Members should have a nominated person with responsibility for assuring the quality of rig data being provided. This could become an audit requirement in the future.</p> <p>David Hard suggested the improvements previously made may mean it is now easier to use and more available for people who are using it incorrectly.</p>	
<b>9. EUROCODES AND EXECUTION CODES</b>		
<p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p> <p>d)</p> <p>e)</p>	<p><b>Revision of EN1997-3 Clause 6 – Pile Design</b> David Hard reported he attended workshops on this in which there was a debate on Pile Design and different designs.</p> <p><b>Revision of Eurocode 7</b> David Hard reported that drafts for part two and three will be released in April for comment, he advised there is recognition at BSI level that the FPS contributed a lot of the comments. He added a formal timetable for comment will be released in few months; Mark Pennington noted the FPS Technical Committee should have an afternoon session to collate comments following the next meeting. Jonathan Ball advised he will be happy to lead this session.</p> <p><b>Update of Codes</b> David Hard reported on the execution codes, he advised jet grouting has been delayed and deep vibration is coming out later this year for comment. He added that Ground freezing needs to have a code, they have found five Countries to do this as it was noted the UK does not have the experience or knowledge.</p> <p><b>Tower Crane Loadings &amp; CIRIA C654</b> This item was not discussed.</p> <p><b>EN 1997-3 – Clause 6 Draft – Design of Piled Rafts</b> This item was not discussed.</p>	<p><b>All Jonathan Ball</b></p>
<b>10. FPS DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT TASK GROUP (FORMERLY BIM)</b>		
	<p><b>AGS/FPS Data Information Transfer for Piling: HS2 Funding</b></p> <p>Mark Pennington reported that the BIM Group was recently reinvigorated and renamed as the Digital Development Group, the two main aims of the group are to update the guidance notes on BIM and to work in conjunction with the AGS and DFI. It was noted Jason Boddy of Arup joined the meeting; he is the DFI Digitalisation Working Group Leader.</p> <p>It was agreed the Digital Development Task Group will look at how to get involved in the process of getting Data in AGS Format, it was noted they need to push AGS Data as a standard format and look at making it a contractual requirement. They intend to meet every 6-8 weeks, Mark advised if anyone wishes to join, they should contact him.</p>	
<b>11. LIMITATIONS IN ULS RETAINING WALL DESIGN</b>		
	<p>Mark Pennington advised this item was brought to his attention, whilst looking at a ULS design they had found issues with C760. Zoe Baldwin noted there is a big difference in results on Cantilever Retaining Walls.</p>	



<b>17.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
	No other business was discussed.	
<b>18.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019</li> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019</li> <li>• 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019</li> </ul> <p>To start at 10am at Hallam Conference Centre - Warren Suite (Hallam Conference Centre - Warren Suite)</p>	