

## AGM Overview of Quarterly Meetings

**Date:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Time:** 10am

**Location:** Teams Meeting

**PRESENT:**

Phil Hines	Bachy Soletanche
John Chick	Expanded
Stuart Norman	Keltbray
Malcolm O'Sullivan	Van Elle

**In the Chair:** Steve Hadley Central Piling

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

No	TOPIC	ACTION
1	<b>COVID-19 CRISIS RESPONSE</b>	
	<p>Steve Hadley reported that the feedback given in the Quarterly Committee meetings were mixed responses; he advised that Central Piling have been busy, however Rock &amp; Aullivium reported that they have found enquiries to be quiet and Darren Brockett reported that most of their jobs have been put back. BBGE also reported that they have been quiet too. Aarsleff reported that they expected to be back at full capacity soon. It was noted that Franki Foundations were unable to join any of the Committee meetings, they sent their apologies due to attending a funeral. Phil Hines agreed the feedback in his meeting was also mixed from members.</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings added that from a House Builders point of view they do not want to flood the market, Phil suggested that dynamic changes will be seen in due course. Steve suggested there may be a gap in the market in the Autumn. Ciaran added it seems unethical on capitalising from the Covid-19 Pandemic.</p> <p>Malcolm O'Sullivan advised that the house building is coming back slowly, due to supply and demand, however he noted there will not be a high demand until people feel they have job security again, he added younger buyers in particular, will be cautious to buy property. Malcolm noted there are some expectations that the house prices will drop but he is sceptical that this will be the case.</p> <p>Phil Hines advised that there were comments from members that they have done well with driving into London, with benefits of easy parking and accessible Air BnBs, but they recognise the real challenge will be when the public goes back to work; traffic will increase and accessible parking will be harder to find. Steve noted that Build UK may be able to look at these issues and look at resolutions to ease any difficulties members experience. John Chick agreed the FPS should contact Build UK to flag up issues around the Construction industry going back to work such as the issue of avoiding public transport. Ciaran agreed to raise this with Suzie Nicholls at Build UK.</p>	Ciaran Jennings
2	<b>HARM REDUCTION</b>	
	<p>Steve Hadley reported that the Exclusion Zones, Automation of Manual Handling Operations and Reinforcement documents have been circulated to members. Steve noted that Darren Brockett reported that Rock &amp; Alluvium have trialled proximity devices on excavators. He asked if anyone has also trialled devices like this.</p>	

	<p>John Chick advised they have used a proximity device in which site workers wear a tag on their helmet. John noted it takes a lot of discipline, but they had a positive experience; it is an algorithm-based kit. He noted however that a drawback is that walking around a site with the device can mean everything switches itself off. Steve noted the system used at R&amp;A was an alert. John noted there are different variations.</p> <p>Phil Hines noted that members have discussed proximity devices in the Safety, Plant and Operations meetings but they never concluded a universal view on their use.</p> <p>Steve reported that placement of tubes in cages was discussed, John advised that the FPS previously looked at sonic testing and it was agreed to produce a list of pros and cons rather than setting an FPS position being you shouldn't do this the position was to provide a list of pros and cons.</p> <p>John asked the FPS to look at Silica dust harm, he advised that people cutting into piles tend to wear respirators, but the piling operatives are working close by and do not wear masks. This is something that the HSE will look at and the FPS needs to show that the harm has been acknowledged, currently the figures are vague. Ciaran Jennings agreed to put this on the agenda for the next Safety, Plant and Operations meeting.</p> <p>Phil advised he is keen to get the restricted access zones document published, he advised that he has not received any photographs of members putting this practice in place.</p> <p>Steve asked if funding is available in the budget for Bauer rig operator training, Ciaran advised there is some funds available, but this is a decision for the Quarterly and then the Executive to decide. Phil added it is basic simulator training, which will allow you to go onto site.</p>	<p><b>SPO Agenda</b></p> <p><b>Quarterly Agenda</b></p>
<b>3.</b>	<b>ATTRACTING PEOPLE INTO THE INDUSTRY</b>	
	<p>Steve reported there was a lot of support for a L6 Apprenticeship scheme. Malcolm O'Sullivan agreed they discussed internships and placements. Steve agreed this would be a brilliant idea to set up on an FPS level. John Chick felt the University GE group will not be useful, he added that Cliff Wren, RBL felt the same when he attended in place of John. Ciaran advised that the FPS would need specific universities on board.</p> <p>Steve suggested setting up a call with Zoe Baldwin. John agreed to set this up between Steve, Zoe Baldwin, and Nick Koor.</p> <p>Phil felt the challenge is getting 18-year olds interested in geotechnical engineering. He suggested overcoming this by looking at expanding the current L6, he felt it would not be as much work to develop it and is a wider specialism, would be more realistic. Steve agreed it would potentially be a better qualification.</p>	<p><b>John Chick</b></p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH</b>	
	<p>Steve Hadley reported that an update was given to members at the FPS Quarterly Committee meetings. Ciaran Jennings added that it was noted that the FPS need to look at how to integrate the Occupational Health Charter into the FPS audit.</p>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>DIGITAL STRATEGY</b>	
	<p>Steve Hadley reported that the feedback was that the FPS Quarterly meetings via Teams/Webex were well received and the FPS aims to host more meetings online</p>	

	<p>even after the lockdown is lifted.</p> <p>Malcolm O’Sullivan received a mixed set of feelings from members who attended the FPS Quarterly Committee meeting he hosted. They all felt the meeting in October should take place in person, particularly if the Annual Dinner goes ahead.</p> <p>Phil Hines felt it proved useful to ask individual members their opinion, he added it worked well.</p> <p>The FPS Executive agreed to continue FPS Quarterly Committee meetings in smaller groups, meeting in person in October. It was noted this format would only work for the Quarterly meetings.</p> <p>John Chick added members who are usually inactive at meetings were more engaged, Malcolm agreed it is good to try different methods of communication.</p> <p>Steve noted the FPS is looking to produce webinars and podcasts as part of its digital strategy. He reported the first podcast is taking place on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020, it is costing £250 per production, however Casagrande have agreed to £150 sponsorship.</p> <p>Phil Hines asked about the use of digital data, he noted that most members are ready to use it.</p> <p>Steve Hadley noted that Tensar have approached the FPS regarding plate testing and will be joining the next Technical Committee meeting to discuss.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>OFFICIAL BUSINESS</b>	
	<p><b>Confirmation of the Executive Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Steve Hadley, Chair</li> <li>ii. Phil Hines, Immediate Past Chair</li> <li>iii. John Chick, Senior Vice Chair</li> <li>iv. Malcolm O’Sullivan</li> <li>v. Stuart Norman</li> </ul> <p>Steve Hadley noted that John Chick has indicated that he is happy to take on the role of Senior Vice Chair and Malcolm O’Sullivan is happy for John to succeed Steve at the end of his term as Chair.</p> <p>Steve confirmed he proposes the executive committee and Malcolm agreed to second this decision.</p> <p><b>Adoption of Accounts</b></p> <p>Steve Hadley reported that no objections were received from the FPS members.</p> <p><b>Appointment of the Auditor</b></p> <p>It was noted there were also no objections received from FPS members for the appointment of the Auditor.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
	<p><b>EFFC</b></p> <p>Ciaran Jennings reported the EFFC Executive meeting is due to take place virtually,</p>	

	<p>he noted they are still pushing ahead with creating the rig operator license, which will mean rig drivers can cross borders and work without having to adhere to local regulations as the license will universally be accepted. John Chick advised that David Schofield and Ian Shearring from Laing O'Rourke are involved; Ciaran Jennings agreed to keep John copied in and updated. Steve Hadley suggested inviting them to discuss this at the next Safety Plant and Operations meeting; John advised they can attend when they have something substantial to present.</p> <p><b>Fatigue Science</b></p> <p>Phil Hines asked if the Fatigue Science Bands have been released to members, Ciaran advised these will be sent out at the end of the week.</p> <p><b>Audit</b></p> <p>Ciaran Jennings advised that the Auditor Martin Bills has been in contact regarding the audit of GSS Piling who have applied for membership, Martin has advised the FPS that he is an individual in the at risk category and there are current site restrictions for visitors attending site whilst the Covid-19 pandemic is on-going. Martin Bills has advised that he is familiar with remote auditing and has suggested the audit is continued remotely. The FPS Executive agreed they would be supportive of the audit taking place remotely and considering it as a trial for further remote auditing.</p>	<p><b>Ciaran Jennings</b></p>
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