

MINUTES OF A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Wednesday 7th June 2017

Time: 10:00am

Location: Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London, WC1H 9BD

PRESENT:

Craig Burton	Aarsleff Ground Engineering
Chris Barker	Arup
Mick Gavins	Atkins
Graham Thompson	Bachy Soletanche
Sebastian Draghici	Central Piling
Chris Irvin	DYWIDAG-SYSTEMS
Martyn Ellis	ESG
Toby Hayward	Expanded
Jon Chaloner	Franki Foundations
Ebenezer Adenmosun	Geofirma Ltd
Andrew Heathcote	Keller
David Roy	Keltbray Piling
Keith Miller	Laing O'Rourke
Kieran Herbert	Murphy Ground Engineering
Monica Sechi	Murphy Ground Engineering
James Hayward	Pile Designs
David Illingworth	Pile Designs
Derek Egan	Remedy Geotechnics Ltd
Kayvan Kiany	Rock & Alluvium
Chris Oram	Roger Bullivant
Colin Ryan	Simplex Westpile
Iwan Jones	TestConsult

In the Chair: Mark Pennington BBGE

Guest Speaker: Neil Chadwick ARUP

In Attendance: Ciaran Jennings FPS Secretary
Grace Hawkins FPS Secretariat

No	TOPIC	ACTION
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	Apologies had been received from David Hard (Bachy Soletanche), Andrew Bell (Cementation Skanska), Steve Wade (Cementation Skanska), Neil Stone (Rock & Alluvium) and Huw Williams (Testconsult).	
2	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING	
	Chris Oram raised that at the last meeting he was misquoted under item 19; it should state "is being revised" in place of "in line with Eurocode". The FPS Secretariat agreed to amend this on the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on 30 th March 2017 were approved.	FPS Secretariat
3	MATTERS ARISING	
	There were no matters arising.	
4	TERMS OF REFERENCE/ORGANISATION OF COMMITTEE	
	It was previously reported that the Quarterly Committee have asked for each Committee to create terms of reference.	

a)	<p>FPS 'Integrity Testing' Working Group Mark Pennington relayed an update to the Committee from Andrew Bell; an initial draft is currently being produced and will be circulated before the end of June.</p> <p>Martin Ellis reported progress had been slow to date, but a table was to be produced that would compare the appropriate application of different techniques. This was welcomed as it was not currently existent anywhere.</p> <p>The Chair reminded the group that the TIP testing versus Sonic logging question had been raised owing to safety concerns. As the safe installation of sonic tubes into cages was a difficult operation. He believed the question was are there the same limitations with TIP testing as it was recognised that use and understanding of the technique was not mature enough to be considered a straight replacement for sonic logging.</p> <p>Ciaran Jennings added the EFFC are interested in testing methods particularly with sonic logging, as there is not a great understanding among clients who are getting erroneous results and requiring expensive investigations and unnecessary remediation.</p> <p>Martyn Ellis agreed there is a problem with training and the experience of the individuals who do the testing. Previously testing houses had their own in-house technology which they knew inside out, currently it is very simple for operatives to gather testing data with no understanding of what it is showing you.</p> <p>Ebenezer Adenmosun added there is also a problem with the interpretation of the results and there is a need to look at the wider bored piling records to understand the data.</p> <p>It was commented that an ideal data presentation model could be included in SPERWall in the future.</p>	
7	DESIGN OF BORED PILES INTO CHALK	
a)	<p>Engineering in Chalk Mark Pennington reminded the group there is a call for test data to be provided. Keith Miller explained that he has some tension test information for the Chalk Conference, that he will include in the paper he is giving to the conference.</p> <p>Chris Oram added he submitted two papers to the Chalk Conference; one for ICE and one for Engineering in Chalk. Mark Pennington commented the conference is taking place in September and they can look at producing some guidance after this.</p> <p>Chris Barker agreed the Chalk Conference may build some momentum and there may be a revised CIRIA guide following this.</p>	
b)	<p>Addressing the issues of economy of using PR11 / C574 over PG6</p> <p>Nothing was reported under this agenda item.</p>	
8	SPERWall	
	<p>At the last meeting, it was asked whether a workshop will be held to explain the changes between the 2nd and 3rd edition of SPERWall.</p> <p>Andrew Heathcote reported Jim de Waele had done a presentation in the North and would be happy to provide a similar update on the changes to SPERWall for the FPS Technical Committee. The FPS Secretary agreed to ask Jim to attend the next Technical meeting to present.</p>	<p>FPS Secretary</p>
9	DESIGN PRACTICES FOR SELF-DRILLING ANCHORS	

	<p>Derek Egan reminded the Committee that this is a topic that was raised around a year ago; there is different approaches to drilling and supporting retaining walls. Chris Oram put some notes together which Derek has added to. The purpose is to highlight what can be achieved by ground anchors compared to other systems being called ground anchors; it was to describe feature and illustrate when they would be appropriate for use.</p> <p>To be circulated to the Committee for further comment before publication.</p>	<p>Derek Egan Chris Oram</p>
10	UPDATE OF DOCUMENTS	
a)	<p>Temporary Works Forum Ciaran Jennings reported there has been no further progress. Mark Pennington added the Temporary Works Forum have had a draft in progress for years on the issue of Working Platforms guidance, however there has been no momentum to push this. The group agreed for the FPS Secretary to remove this from next agenda.</p>	<p>FPS Secretary</p>
11	EUROCODES AND EXECUTION CODES	
a)	<p>Revision of Eurocode 7 Ciaran Jennings reported Andrew Bond has approached the FPS and has asked if the FPS would be able to fund his expenses for his involvement on EC7. Ciaran explained that a Dutch Civil Engineer will assume the Chairman's role should the FPS decide not to fund this. It was reported the FPS Executive has agreed to partially fund this.</p>	
b)	<p>BS8004 Appendix A The guidance note on helical piles was circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting. Chris Oram had added some additional notes and advised that if there are any comments from the Committee he welcomes these but if not, he is happy to publish. Mick Gavins advised his colleagues at Atkins have some notes so he will collate and send across to Chris who is happy to incorporate these.</p> <p>Mark Pennington added he does not believe helical piling is a widely used FPS technique. Chris Barker noted RBL use them and it is included in BS8004 so it is relevant for FPS to cover despite lack of regular use by members. Chris also believes it would benefit to have the contractors who use them involved; there is three contractors in the UK who use these, it would be good to attract them to the FPS. He added we have utilised some of these companies to produce SPERWall. It was agreed to publish these on the FPS website once notes are incorporated.</p>	<p>M Gavins C Oram</p> <p>FPS Secretariat</p>
c)	<p>Update of Codes Derek Egan reported that since April not a lot has changed; EN1537 ground anchors are coming up for periodic review. He asked should it be reviewed and the group agreed it would probably be beneficial. The following was reported on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EN12063 SHEET Pile Walls the UK expert is David Baxter, but there has been no outcome from the committee looking at this as yet. • Jet grouting and grouting are up for review. Graham Thompson said he had sent to the FPS a CV for Cliff Kettle to be involved in Bob Essler's group. The Secretary will check this has been received and is being acted upon. • Testing Standards: Pile Testing has been left with Peter Payne from Skanska. • Testing Geotechnical structures: Dynamic Piles is being published. • Testing Ground anchors is being produced as an ISO standard and shall bring the this in line with Eurocode 7 – this is a major change. <p>Derek explained FPS comments have been submitted to BSI on BS8004 and BS808. Andrew Bond is looking at BS8004 and it is likely he will need to create a corrigendum or initiate a review of the whole standard to fix the error that has been identified.</p>	<p>FPS Secretary</p>

	<p>Regarding BS8081 on ground anchors an oversight on the partial factor for the tendon is leading to gross overdesigns. A revised amendment is out for comment for the 8th July.</p> <p>d) Eurocode 2 Structural Capacity</p> <p>Nothing was reported under this agenda item.</p>	
<p>12 BUILDING INFORMATION MODELLING</p>		
<p>a)</p>	<p>Guest Speaker: Neil Chadwick Presenting AGS/FPS Data Information Transfer for Piling</p> <p>At the last meeting Mark Pennington invited Neil Chadwick to the FPS Technical Meeting to discuss the AGS Data Format. This resulted from the BIM working group's work on producing guidance which looks at data capture for Piling. It was suggested the AGS Data Format was considered as a means to classify this data for BIM purposes.</p> <p>Mark welcomed Neil Chadwick to the group who had kindly agreed to present the AGS Data Format for Information Transfer.</p> <p>Neil reported the AGS Data Format is celebrating 25 years this year; between Neil, Owen Francis and Steve Walthall they have developed a draft, Data Information Transfer for Piling. Neil asked for feedback from the FPS for this draft by the next meeting. During his presentation, he asked the Committee to consider the following;</p> <p><i>Do you agree with the aims and objectives?</i></p> <p>There was a positive response from the FPS Technical Committee that they are going in the right direction. Chris Barker added it is a format that can evolve. Mark asked that the BIM Group look at this also and provide feedback before the next meeting in September.</p> <p><i>What are possible barriers to adoption? FPS or AGS ownership?</i></p> <p>Neil Chadwick explained the AGS do not see this as an only AGS project or extension to the AGS Data Management Working Group. They are keen for the FPS to be involved.</p> <p>Mark Pennington replied the FPS would not be the right group to own it, he added he does not believe the FPS can influence it. However, the FPS should support it as they would use an element of it. It should also be noted the BIM group is currently dormant as it has finished its original work programme.</p> <p>Derek Egan observed to create this someone needs to fund this via ownership, potentially there is an economic or commercial benefit in the future. Ciaran Jennings added commercialising the AGS Data Format is being considered by the AGS.</p> <p><i>Who wants to help?</i></p> <p>Chris Barker enquired how would the data be captured and inputted, Neil explained the data is being captured in an electronic form already. They use electronic tablets in the field and there is an automatic collection of data.</p> <p>Mark added the biggest block is companies are not asked to produce data, and tier communication. Tier one is the designers and tier two is the piling contractors. There needs to be a defined structure of communication between the tiers and to get the designers to produce data in this format.</p> <p>Derek highlighted one of the challenges is with the clients and Quantity Surveyors who do not understand the benefit of using this.</p> <p>Mark suggested this is circulated this to the FPS Technical committee for comment and consideration. Mark will raise this issue for feedback at the FPS Quarterly Committee in July.</p>	<p>FPS Secretary</p>

	The AGS Data Management Conference is due to take place on the 20 th September at the Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham.	
13	MSc STUDENT PRIZE	
	Ciaran Jennings explained three student applications have been identified and accepted. The three students will receive a 3 month project placement from an FPS member, they will attend the FPS Annual Dinner and receive £5,000 grant towards their studies. The FPS are currently seeking placements for them.	
14	RIG BEARING PRESSURE SPREADSHEETS	
	<p>Ciaran Jennings reported a date for the next seminar is required; Mark Pennington asked from the feedback is there a need for further workshops. It was noted the FPS Secretary are still getting interest for this from outside the FPS membership.</p> <p>Jonathan Chaloner explained Franki Foundations have not yet made use of the workshop and are still using an older version of the tool. The Committee advised they can still use the new sheets.</p> <p>Derek Egan reported he had recently been approached by David Corke; he wants to write a piece on the history of rig bearing pressures. Derek explained he is happy to co-author a paper with David with approval from the Committee. Mark Pennington advised there has previously been some friction with David however the FPS cannot stop Derek from being involved. It was also noted it may be beneficial to have Derek involved from an FPS view.</p>	
15	SOCIAL EVENTS	
	FPS Summer Ball and Members Tournament will be taking place on Saturday 24 th June 2017 at Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire. Ciaran Jennings reminded the group that the Members Tournament will be medieval themed.	
16	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>Piling Conference Mark Pennington informed the group Kelvin Higgins from the BGA has advised they want to put together a Piling conference in 2020 similar to the upcoming chalk conference and they would like some input from the FPS. A representative is required from the FPS Technical Committee to join their organising panel. Mark has volunteered for this unless there is another member who would like to.</p> <p>DFI EFFC Ciaran Jennings highlighted the DFI EFFC conference will be taking place in Rome in June 2018; there is currently a call for abstracts. They will accept topics around technical challenges on infrastructure or innovation. There is a DFI EFFC meeting on the 27th June 2017. Ciaran added at the conference they will include a tour of the Roman Colosseum and its foundations, which is not available to usual tourists.</p>	
17	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 6th September 2017 • Tuesday 7th November 2017 <p>All meetings are to start at 10am and will be held at Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London, WC1H 9BD</p>	