

QUARRIES NATIONAL JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 27th meeting of the Quarries National Joint Advisory Committee held on Thursday 9th March 2006 at 10.30am in HSE Rose Court, London.

| <u>Present</u> | <u>Representing</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Helen Turner | Chair – HSE |
| Lisa Weston | Minute Secretary – HSE |
| Phil Smith | HSE |
| Richard White | HSE (Policy) |
| Graham Gilmour | HSE (Mines) |
| David Cather | QPA |
| Richard Allen | ESA |
| Martin Isles | QPA |
| Pat Griffin | HSA (ROI) |
| Malcolm Downey | HSE NI |
| Mike Smith | Institute of Quarrying |
| Neal Reynolds | GMB |
| Andrew Price | KABCA |
| Steve Biddle | Road Haulage Association |
| Malcolm Mellow | T&G |
| Stuart Hunneyball | British Drilling Association |
| Ian Glendinning | British Aggregates Association |
| David Wootton | Construction Equipment Association |
| Helmut Ehnes | Atlantic Alliance |
| Andrew Taylor | QPA |
| John Myers | Stone Federation |
| Brian Rostron | Coal Pro |
| Clive Webb | EPIC |
| Lynda Thompson | SME |
| Paul Fairlamb | Coal Pro |
| Bob LeClerc | SAMSA |
| John Lewis | Geological Society |
| Steve Cole | SME |
| Martin Khan | National Slate Quarries Association |
| Graham Crawshaw | EPIC (Speaker) |

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jon Bennett | IMM (Speaker) |
| Ted Nield | Geological Society (Speaker) |
| Paul Brereton | HSE (Speaker) |
| | |
| <u>Apologies</u> | |
| James Barrett | Chair - HSE |
| Gordon Riddler | MIRO |
| Pat Foster | CSM |

Summary of actions agreed.

(min 2) (1) Members were asked to forward any concerns on the Quarries and Countryside Rights of Way Act to Mrs Turner as soon as possible.

(min 3) (1) Members were invited to send suggestions for the Extraordinary QNJAC meeting being held on 24th May 06 to Mrs Turner by 24th April 06.

(min 5) All to read the Draft Information Sheet on WBV in Quarries and provide comments to Mrs Turner by 1st May 06.

(min 8) Members to feed comments on the Leading Indicators handout to Mr Bennett before the 24th May 06.

(min 9) Respirable Crystalline Silica – Mrs Turner to find out HSE's position on the supporting guidance being developed.

(min 11) (1) A further full Subcommittee was requested.

(min 11) (2) Latest draft to be emailed to members for comment.

(min 12) A further Road Haulage Subcommittee to be held. Volunteers for inclusion to forward their name to Mrs Turner.

(min 13) Members to forward comments to Mr Schrandt.

(min 13.1) Comments/suggestions concerning the conference to be forwarded to Mr Griffin.

(min 14) Members to forward comments to Mr Faithfull via QNJAC Chair.

(min 16) Dates of next meetings

Extraordinary QNJAC meeting in Rose Court, London on 24th May 06

Next Main QNJAC meeting in Rose Court, London on 13th October 06

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. | <p>WELCOME, MEMBERSHIP CHANGES, APOLOGIES, ETC</p> <p>The Chair welcomed new members Phil Smith (HSE), Rob Pearce's replacement and John Myers replacing David Sharman representing the Stone Federation to their first meeting.</p> <p>Speakers: Ted Nield – representing Geological Society; Jon Bennett – representing Camborne School of Mines; Paul Brereton – representing Health and Safety Executive; Graham Crawshaw – representing EPIC.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Deputies: Graham Gilmour for Ian Waugh; Jon Bennett for Pat Foster; Andrew Taylor for Richard Claydon; David Wootton for Tim Faithfull; Richard White for Andy Miller.</p> <p>Leavers: Paul Fairlamb and Richard Allen. Both thanked by the Chair for the many years of hard work they had put into this committee. Mr Barrett to write a thank-you letter to both.</p> |
| | |
| 2. | <p>PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM QNJAC HELD ON OCTOBER 4TH 2006.</p> |
| 2.1 | <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate copy.</p> |
| 2.2 | <p>Matters arising from the previous meeting: -</p> <p>(min 3) Quarries and the Countryside – Mrs Turner is currently working with Mr Chester. <i>Members were asked to forward any concerns on the Quarries and Countryside Rights of Way Act to Mrs Turner as soon as possible.</i></p> <p>(min 6) Worker Safety Advisor Challenge Fund – Mr Webb reported back to members that unfortunately the bid submitted by EPIC had been unsuccessful. EPIC and QPA were both thanked for the hard work they had put in on behalf of the QNJAC.</p> |
| Agreed Action: | <p>Members to forward any concerns on the Quarries and Countryside Rights of Way Act to Mrs Turner.</p> |
| 3 | <p>TARGET ZERO INDICATORS AND PROPOSED EXTRAORDINARY QNJAC MEETING ON 24TH MAY 2006</p> |
| 3.1 | <p>Helen Turner talked about the aim of target zero: to reduce reportable injuries by another 50%, by 2010 (using the 2000 baseline). Members agreed to hold an extraordinary QNJAC meeting in Rose Court on 24th May 06.</p> <p>The agenda for the meeting will be entirely based on discussion and development of structure, milestones and targets as appropriate to measure progress to 2010</p> |
| Agreed Action: | <p>Members were invited to send suggestions for the meeting to Mrs Turner by 24th April 06.</p> |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| 4. | INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH |
| 4.1 | <p>Ted Nield from the Geological Society gave this presentation.</p> <p>The UN has proclaimed 2008 to be the International year of Planet Earth, with activities spanning 2007-2009. Its strapline is “Earth Science for Society”, and it will be the biggest ever-international effort to promote the Earth Sciences.</p> <p>The QNJAC members were asked to consider how their organisations, either singly or in combination, might bid for IYPE funding or badging for projects, which further both the aims of IYPE and those of the industry.</p> |
| 4.2 | <p>Mr Isles enquired as to how much money would be made available for submitted bids. There is no specified upper limit but the detail has yet to be agreed.</p> <p>Further details of the Science and Outreach programmes are available at www.yearofplanetearth.org. Expressions of interest are already invited.</p> |
| 5. | DRAFT INFORMATION SHEET ON WBV IN QUARRIES |
| 5.1 | <p>Mr Brereton introduced this item. Members were asked to comment on the recently circulated draft Quarries Information Sheet on Whole-Body Vibration.</p> <p>Members felt that some of the wording in the document needed to be addressed. Issues were also raised concerning seats e.g. the robustness of them, whether or not they were interchangeable and also the complicated mechanism on them. Agreed that these issues needed to be taken up with the Manufacturers.</p> <p>When released this Information sheet will be available via the HSE Website.</p> <p>EU also funding the production of some guidance on HAV & WBV.</p> |
| Agreed Action | Any comments concerning the draft information sheet to be sent to Mrs Turner by 1 st May 06 |
| 6 | COMPETENCE OF SHOTFIRERS AND EXPLOSIVES SUPERVISERS |
| 6.1 | Clive Webb and Graham Crawshaw presented this item. Members agreed to the proposals from EPIC to accommodate the HSE’s requirements to use national occupational standards in assuring the competence of personnel involved in using explosives in quarries. |
| 6.2 | The issue of black powder was raised. Mr Crawshaw advised that the current Blasting Operations NVQ units were flexible enough to address the needs of black powder operations. He also reiterated that all shotfirers whatever task they were carrying out needed to use the same competence assurance framework. |
| 7. | REPORT FROM EXPLOSIVES SUBCOMMITTEE ON CPD |
| 7.1 | Helen Turner reported back on the Explosives Subcommittee held on 16 th February 2006. Proposed that individuals should be keeping a |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| | <p>diary detailing the following: site specific; type of shots; equipment used and training activities. Subcommittee to develop a re-assessment scheme, similar in style to that used for mobile plant operators, to ensure continuing competence.</p> <p>Next Explosives Subcommittee meeting on Friday 24th March 06</p> |
| 8. | LEADING INDICATORS RESEARCH PROJECT |
| 8.1 | <p>Jon Bennett from Camborne School of Mines gave this presentation about the proposed leading indicators of Occupational Health and Safety for the UK Industry.</p> <p>More information available via the website - quarrysafe.com</p> <p>There were concerns raised with some of the wording on the handout. Concerns were also raised with the suitability of this project to SME's, together with issues on how to disseminated this information to companies.</p> |
| Agreed Action: | Members to feed comments to Mr Bennett; J.G.Bennett@ex.ac.uk if possible before the next meeting schedules on 24 th May 06 |
| 9 | RESPIRABLE CRYSTALLINE SILICA - PROGRESS |
| 9.1 | <p>Martin Isles spoke about the social dialogue agreement on the European alternative to legislation, together with the benefits of the agreement which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide high level of worker protection whilst avoiding over-restrictive, unrealistic and unnecessary legislation - improve public image of a responsible industry - confidence of the TUs that the agreement is sound - better relations with: - national & local authorities, investors, insurance companies. <p>This will be a 4 year agreement (renewable for a further 2 years) to be signed on 25th April 2006</p> |
| Agreed Action: | Mrs Turner to find out HSE's position on the supporting guidance being developed and possible promotional activities. |
| 10. | QPA MIST PROJECT UPDATE |
| 11. | REPORT FROM FACE HEIGHTS AND STOCKPILES SUBCOMMITTEE |
| | <p>Martin Isles discussed with members the control of face and stockpile operations guidance. The guidance will be risk-based and be centered on competence and good communications. The guidance will also advise on site closure; old faces and closed quarries. The subcommittee is close to the final draft.</p> |
| Agreed Action: | <p>John Lewis requested a further full Subcommittee meeting.</p> <p>Agreed that it would be more appropriate to circulate final draft by email to members for ratification, rather than wait for the next QNJAC meeting.</p> |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 12 | REPORT BACK FORM ROAD HAULAGE SUBCOMMITTEE |
| | Steve Biddle reported back following his discussions with hauliers involved in loading of products at quarries and requirements for hauliers to ensure safe and legal loading of vehicles. Members were invited to comment on the balance of different risks, which need to be considered in order to achieve safe loading. |
| 12.1 | David Cather felt one way forward was to use CCTV, which could relay pictures back to the loading shovel operator. Paul Fairlamb confirmed that a similar procedure was already being carried out on an OCCS. There were some concerns raised with damage and the costing of this procedure. |
| Agreed Action: | It was agreed for another Road Haulage Subcommittee to be held. Any member wishing to volunteer to forward their name on to Mrs Turner as soon as possible. |
| 13 | ATLANTIC ALLIANCE UPDATE: WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT |
| | Helmut Ehnes presented to members the Atlantic Alliance portal style website: quarry-safety.net . The website is aimed to promote networking which will benefit all parties involved. Members were encouraged to develop the website by feeding in useful information. Helmut Ehnes and Peter Schrandt were both thanked for all the hard work they had put in in order to produce this website. |
| Agreed Action: | Members were asked to forward comments; questions; suggestions to Peter Schrandt. schrandt@stbg.de |
| | 2006 CONFERENCE PLANS |
| | Pat Griffin informed members about the next Atlantic Alliance Conference taking place in Ireland on 20 th & 21 st June 2006, which is also being supported, by Health and Safety Authority (HSA) and HSE N.I. 4 themes planned: - health Issues - supporting SME's - state of Industry of each Country - innovation and Initiatives 50 delegates planned for the whole conference. Further information will be made available on the Atlantic Alliance website: Quarry-safety.net |
| Agreed Action: | Any suggestions/ comments concerning the conference to be forwarded on to Pat Griffin - PatG@hsa.ie |
| | ATLANTIC ALLIANCE LETTER RE ACCESS AND EGRESS |
| | The letter sent to the Manufacturers and Suppliers of mobile Plant on behalf of the Atlantic Alliance, detailing the design problems with access systems on Mobile Plant supplied to this Industry was provided. |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 14 | CEA RESPONSE TO ATLANTIC LETTER |
| | <p>David Wootton – CEA believed that relationships between suppliers of mobile plant and users had already improved through working groups such as the QNJAC subcommittee on mobile plant. Comments from members suggested that the correspondence received from CEA did not reflect the positive work that had already been carried out and it was still up to individual operators to decide what additional items to buy to make the equipment “fit for purpose”.</p> <p>In Germany the results of detailed research into causes of accidents on mobile plant will be discussed with manufacturers and suppliers on 27 April 2006,</p> |
| Agreed Action: | Members to send any comments to Tim Faithfull via QNJAC chair. |
| 15 | ANY OTHER BUSINESS |
| | None |
| 16 | DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING |
| | Extraordinary QNJAC meeting to be held on Wednesday 24 th May 2006 at Rose Court |
| | Main QNJAC meeting to be held on Friday 13 th October 2006 at Rose Court |