

# ***fib* UK**

**Notes of an *fib* UK group meeting  
Held on 29th February 2008  
At the Concrete Society, Riverside House, Blackwater.**

Present: Steve Denton  
Gordon Clark  
John Golding  
Charles Goodchild  
Chris Hendy  
Tony Jones  
Stuart Matthews  
Ted Kay Secretary

Chris Hendy of Atkins was welcomed to his first meeting of the Group.

1. APOLOGIES

The following apologies had been received:

Norman Brown  
Pal Chana  
Tony Jones  
Robert Slota  
Alex Small

2. RECORD OF LAST MEETING

It was noted that Alex Small appeared in both the list of attendees and those who had tendered apologies. Other than this, the notes of the 28th June 2007 meeting were accepted:

3. MATTERS ARISING

➤ Tall Structures – a proposal will be presented at the Technical Council in May. There is concern that there may be overlap with the work of the Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat. It was noted that there is a delegate list for the forthcoming Tall Structures meeting in Dubai on the web page.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS / MEMBERSHIP

➤ With one additional member the individual subscription would be expected to reduce. The subscription is payable in Swiss Francs and there has been adverse movement in the pound / Swiss Franc exchange rate of around 11% over the last year. The total subscription payable divided between the 14 members would result in a subscription of around £625. It was agreed that the subscription would be maintained at £600 and the deficit would be made up from reserves.

- Ted is to check with *fib* Secretariat as to whether there is an anomaly on their invoice which mentions 6 free subscriptions within the basic fee.
- Ted was asked to circulate details of log-ins and passwords to enable the members area of the *fib* web site to be accessed.
- Means of attracting new UK members were discussed. It was agreed that Steve and Ted would agree an approach to *fib* Secretariat to see whether there could be two nominated members from each firm.
- It would be an advantage if UK Academic members could be attached to UK Group. At the moment they are individual subscribing members. It might be possible to charge them only the additional member cost i.e. the non-academic members would still cover the base subscription to *fib*. Steve will e-mail some of his academic contacts to determine their likely reaction. It would also be worthwhile to discuss the matter with Rudiger at the Amsterdam Symposium. If the outcomes are favourable, an invitation letter should be circulated around the Group prior to sending to academics. The aim is to get something in place by the beginning of next year.  
(Post-meeting note: Subscribing members of *fib* are charged CHF440. The cost of each additional member to *fib*(UK) is CHF360.)
- UK Group is short of contractor representation. Members should discuss membership with contractor contacts to make them aware of the work of the *fib* (UK) Group and to find out what would make membership attractive to them. Ted is to circulate the note on advantages of membership.
- The following actions were agreed in relation to possible prospective member organisations:

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>ACTION BY:</b>
Costain	Mike Napier	Chris
Morgan Est		Steve
SKM Anthony Hunts	Bjorn Watson	Charles
Jacobs	Michael Messham	Ted
Balfour Beatty		Chris
Scott Wilson		Stuart
Halcrow	Stewart Withycombe Ian Barnett Phil McKenna	Ted
Mott MacDonald	Noel Bristow	Gordon

## 5. DIPLOMA TO YOUNGER ENGINEERS

- We should still try to arrange a forum for the successful papers by UK authors in last years Diploma competition to be presented in London. Ted and Charles will try to progress with I Struct E.
- Diplomas will again be awarded at the Symposium in London next year. The closing date for submissions will be November this year and we must encourage a strong UK entry. There are two categories – Research and Practice. A paper in the Research category must be submitted within 5 years of the completion of a PhD and an entrant in the Practice section must be below 40. Ted is to e-mail to members

and it would also be worthwhile to contact universities such as Sheffield, Imperial College, Leeds, Cambridge, Queens, Edinburgh and Nottingham

#### 6. REPORT ON *fib* ACTIVITIES

- UK delegates to Amsterdam should individually signify their intention to attend.
- Gyorgy Balazs is to be proposed as *fib* Deputy President. The UK Delegation is to support this proposal.
- A draft Bulletin “Guide for environmental design of concrete structures” had been presented in Turin by Koji Sakai. The document aims to introduce the topic and provide a framework for action. It was felt that the document had been treated harshly in Turin and it was agreed that UK should give support for *fib* action in this important area. The draft should be circulated to UK members.
- A draft of a new type of document had also been introduced at Turin. It was a pamphlet (16 pages) “Guide to good practice in ownership”. A mock up will be produced and it is possible that this document will be circulated for free to see how it is received. We will have to decide whether UK should support the document and concept at the next meeting of Technical Council. It was suggested that extended summaries of *fib* Bulletins would be useful.

#### 7. UK REPRESENTATION

- We should try to achieve greater UK representation on Commissions and Working Parties. Ted will ask Rüdiger whether he has a summary of the groups. The date of the last meeting can be found on the *fib* web site and this provides a good idea of whether the group is active.

#### 8. *fib* (UK) EVENTS

- It is an aim to have an *fib* (UK) event annually in the future. The Symposium in 2009 will absorb all our energies so the first practical date is 2010. The intention to run an event in 2010 should be announced at the London symposium.
- E-map would have an interest in running an *fib* (UK) event.
- One possible format would be a mix of academic and industry papers at an academic venue. Steve can canvas his academic contacts.
- It was suggested that an *fib* (UK) PhD Symposium could be run as a co-event with the Concrete Centre Communications Conference. Charles is to check the possibilities. If it was possible to arrange something along these lines for 2009, it could be aligned with the main Symposium.
- It was noted that many UK members come across situations where research is required and that these could provide the basis for a final year project or be suitable for MSc or PhD projects. It would be worthwhile fostering relationships with academics so that these ideas can be taken forward.

## 9. LONDON SYMPOSIUM 2009

- The web site is now up and running including the list of themes and topics ([www.fiblondon09.com](http://www.fiblondon09.com)). There were 500 hits on the site in January and 40 expressions of interest.
- 7000 of the promotional post cards have been distributed to targeted lists.
- The deadline for receipt of papers has been extended to 15<sup>th</sup> May and it is expected that it will be extended to 15<sup>th</sup> June at the Amsterdam Symposium. It would be useful if papers could be encouraged from member firms. Ted will forward a copy of the promotional post card for circulation.
- Venues for the symposium dinner and technical visits are being explored. Sponsorship opportunities are being identified and potential sponsors are being contacted.
- Chris was added to the membership of the Scientific Committee.

## 10. MODEL CODE

- The meeting scheduled for January was cancelled. The next meeting will be on 15<sup>th</sup> May in Amsterdam. It is clear that the document will not be ready in time for launch in Amsterdam and the launch may now well be in London in 2009. Presidium has agreed funding for another year.
- A draft of the Model Code is available on the *fib* web site but coverage is patchy and it is not yet in a condition in which it can be reviewed. The agreed text will be sent to Commissions before a full version is circulated.

## 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Gordon reported that a Strategy Group had been formed within the Presidium to look at the way forward for *fib*. A draft shortlist of possible priorities for future *fib* activities has been drawn up. Ted will circulate this shortlist. Comments (to Gordon) are required to enable him to provide a response by 20<sup>th</sup> March 2008.
- In the light of the above, it was felt that it would be useful to draw up terms of reference for the UK Group. The article in Concrete by Gordon and Martin 2 or 3 years ago would be a useful starting point. This should form an agenda item for the next meeting and relevant papers are to be circulated prior to the meeting.
- The *fib* (UK) page on the Concrete Society web site should be developed to include details of members and the advantages of membership. Ted and Steve are to progress. In due course the main *fib* web site should have a link to the UK Group web page.
- There is an aspiration the Concrete Society technical structure should be more closely aligned to that of *fib*. The *fib* structure may change and there are moves towards converting the Society into an Institute. Members are to be kept informed of progress on the Institute.
- It was noted that a replacement for Rudiger has been appointed. Anna Boesche will start work on April 1<sup>st</sup> but it is anticipated there will be an overlap period of around 12 months.
- The paper by Jonathan Shave in the current edition of *fib* News should be considered for publication in Concrete.

## 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

➤ September 2008.

### **Actions**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>By</b>
4	Check anomaly in <i>fib</i> subscription invoice	Ted
4	Circulate details of logins and passwords	Ted
4	Approach <i>fib</i> Secretariat to see if there can be two nominated contacts with each member firm.	Steve / Ted
4	Views of academic members with relation to attachment to K Group. Also, discuss with Rudiger in Amsterdam	Steve
4	Circulate note on advantages of membership	Ted
	Find out from contractors what would make membership attractive	All
4	Approaches to prospective new members	See item
5	Arrange for Diploma winners to have their papers presented in London	Charles / Ted
5	Circulate details of Diploma to younger engineers	Ted
6	Gyorgy Balzs to be supported as Deputy President	UK Delegation
6	Circulate draft of Guide to environmental design	Ted
7	Obtain summary list of <i>fib</i> Groups	Ted
8	Find out if there is academic support for <i>fib</i> (UK) event	Steve
8	Check whether it would be possible to align a PhD Symposium with the Concrete Centre Communication Conference	Charles
9	Circulate an electronic copy of the promotional post card	Ted
11	Circulate shortlist of <i>fib</i> priority activities	Ted
11	Terms of reference as agenda item for next meeting	Ted
11	Improve <i>fib</i> (UK) Group web page	Steve / Ted
11	Consider paper by Jonathan Shave for inclusion in Concrete	Ted
	<b>Item from previous meeting:</b>	
	Prepare a briefing paper on sustainability issues	Gordon / Steve

**Ted Kay**  
**March 2008**