

**MINUTES OF THE ASELB STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 25th JANUARY 2007
AT REDBRIDGE COUNCIL OFFICES, LYNTON HOUSE, ILFORD**

PRESENT

Barry Ayres - L B Bromley (Chairman)
George Furmanski - L B Greenwich (Secretary)
Jaspal Sehmi - L B Newham (Treasurer)

APOLOGIES

Colin Palmer - L B Redbridge

MINUTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 7th DECEMBER 2006

The minutes were agreed and accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Reported under the various headings except for the following.

Approved Inspector concerns to SCOSS – JP to send if not already done.

Action - JP

Web site members' details has been updated by CP.

FINANCIAL REPORT

JS reported the following.

He has received verbal confirmation from the bank that he is now the third authorised signatory to the current account.

Current Account balance – On 13th December 2006 (date of last statement) there was £3,058.42 at the bank. Since then a payment of £444.15 has been made to ISE for the Autumn seminar room hire, and two payments amounting to £100 have been received for Associate Member attendance, leaving a balance of £2,714.27 in the bank.

Autumn seminar invoices for the Associate Members have been sent out to four boroughs. Two payments have been received.

Outstanding Members' invoices – For the 2007 annual subscription 24 invoices were issued on 24th January. All were for the reduced fee of £50.00 agreed at the last meeting.

There has been no response from the three boroughs regarding outstanding payments for the 2006 annual subscription despite repeated reminders.

There are no outstanding payments at this time.

2007 SPRING SEMINAR

BA has booked the ISE venue for 27th April 2007.

Draft minutes of the 2006 Autumn seminar having been circulated by GF prior to the meeting were read and it was agreed they could be issued to members. GF will send CP an ASELB headed copy.

Action - GF

BA tabled a draft agenda and this was discussed and amended to facilitate an additional speaker for one of the technical presentations. BA will issue draft No.2 for comment after availability of the speakers have been confirmed by BA, JP, SD. **Action – BA, JP, SD**

ASELB REPORTS

ASELB WEBSITE

BA thanked CP for updating the web site and include the Spring seminar date.

BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

Nothing to report.

EUROCODES & STANDARDS

BA attended a meeting at ISE on implementation of Eurocodes chaired by Prof. Nethercott. The deadline date for implementation is still 2010.

Durability requirements for reinforced concrete are now covered by BS5800-1:2002.

ASSESSMENT OF MULTI-STOREY DWELLING BLOCKS

Nothing to report

HEALTH AND SAFETY

JS has sent a copy of the new CDM regulations notes he received at a recent course at ICE to all Steering Group members. He agreed to become the point of contact for the Health and Safety topic.

SUSTAINABILITY

Nothing to report.

LOTAG

BA has sent a copy of the minutes of the last meeting held on 9th January to all Steering Group members. He could not attend the meeting but did send an ASELB report prior to the meeting.

ISE

ASELB has received a request from ICE's Thomas Telford Ltd to become a Eurocode Expert Content partner. BA sent the details to Steering Group members prior to the meeting. BA asked members to view the site and read the details he sent them and then send him any comments before or at the next Steering Group meeting. **Action - All**

A couple of comments to start – there will be no charge to ASELB, ASELB will be liable for material it has generated on the site (see Agreement clause 14), ASELB will require a “computer/web literate” member to work on the site.

It was agreed that ASELB members' views should be sought at the Spring seminar before a decision is taken by the Steering Group.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Membership – JS advised that Tower Hamlets are interested to rejoin ASELB, BA advised that City of London also interested in becoming a member. JS will e-mail the contact at both boroughs with the relevant paperwork. Southwark and Westminster are at present no longer members. **Action - JS**

CP was thanked for arranging the room and refreshments for today's meeting.

NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 22nd March 2007 at 1.00pm in Room 77, Lynton House, Ilford

**MINUTES OF THE ASELB STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 22nd MARCH 2007
AT REDBRIDGE COUNCIL OFFICES, LYNTON HOUSE, ILFORD**

PRESENT

Barry Ayres	-	L B Bromley	(Chairman)
George Furmanski	-	L B Greenwich	(Secretary)
Jaspal Sehmi	-	L B Newham	(Treasurer)
Colin Palmer	-	L B Redbridge	
Steve Davis	-	L B Enfield	

APOLOGIES

None.

MINUTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 25th JANUARY 2007

The minutes were agreed and accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Reported under the various headings except for the following.

New members – JS reported that City of London have agreed to join ASELB. Tower Hamlets have indicated a wish to join but recent e-mails from JS have been unanswered. JS will telephone for a final try. Islington member has left the borough, e-mail has been sent to their District Surveyors department.

FINANCIAL REPORT

JS reported the following :-

Current Account balance – On 28th February 2007 (date of last statement) there was £3,139.27 in the bank. Since then a further sum of £500 in respect of 2007 annual subscriptions has been deposited leaving a balance of £3,639.27 in the bank.

2006 Autumn seminar invoices for the Associate Members – all payments have been received.

2007 Annual Subscriptions – Payments have been received from 19 member boroughs. An invoice has now been sent to the new member, City of London.

There has been no response from the three boroughs regarding outstanding payments for the 2006 annual subscription despite repeated reminders. Steering Group agreed not to pursue this matter anymore because no expenditure was incurred by ASELB since the three boroughs did not attend the two seminars held in 2006.

2007 SPRING SEMINAR

To be held on 27th April 2007.

BA handed out copies of the final agenda.

GF to e-mail CP minutes and attendance list for the 2006 Autumn seminar.

Action - GF

ASELB REPORTS

ASELB WEBSITE

CP had nothing to report.

BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

BA reported that the new Part B (Fire) is now out. A few changes have been made such as for loft conversions where door closers and escape windows in the roof can be omitted subject to additional safeguards being provided in the building.

EUROCODES & STANDARDS

BA is involved with the drafting of the ISE guidance manual covering EC0 and EC1 (actions and wind loads). Should be ready mid-2008. BRE are writing the manual.

ASSESSMENT OF MULTI-STOREY DWELLING BLOCKS

SD reported that BRE have finally responded to his many phone calls and e-mails about the PII project. He was told that the work is currently "in the air" due to a lack of funding. An over-spend occurred on the first phase of the work and a recent bid for more funds was not successful. Barry Reeve and Stuart Matthews will meet to discuss the way forward.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

JS advised that the new CDM regulations come into effect on 6th April 2007 and the ACoP has just been published.

SUSTAINABILITY

SD circulated a technical brochure on a new weight-saving insitu concrete product called "Bubbledeck". Spheres are used as void formers in concrete slabs.

BA asked if any member was familiar with Screwfast piles. A discussion took place and it was noted that as no material arisings had to be taken off site these piles appear particularly useful on contaminated sites. It was agreed that this piling method could be a possible presentation at a future seminar.

LOTAG

BA advised that LOTAG members have recently held a one day workshop to look at raising their profile nationally in the Highways field.

LDSA appear to be under similar pressure following the formation of the newly re-branded LABC company.

ISE

The invitation from ICE's Thomas Telford Ltd to become a Eurocode Expert Content partner was discussed. The EEC's new manager has e-mailed BA asking if ASELB wish to join. It was agreed that Steering Group meet the manager to discuss matters before ASELB make a decision. Notwithstanding this aspect ASELB members' views will be sought at the Spring seminar before a decision is taken by the Steering Group.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. SD circulated three publications about CPD linked to on-line construction related programmes run by en-power. Site address is www.en-power.co.uk/localauthority.

2. JS asked members' opinions on the use of gallows brackets. General views were that preferably they should not be used in lieu of a steel beam, but if they are used they should be located outside the sides of the chimney breast where the brickwork will not have been affected by the heat and gases from the flue. It is also prudent to check if any adjoining property has an "opposing" breast on the other side of the party wall as a back-to-back layout will present a worse case. Party Wall Act will need to be complied with.

3. MACE school buildings system – GF’s borough have at least three MACE schools and he is seeking information on the system. The ISE library has given him a number of sources of information. He will draft a short article and send to CP for posting on the web site. **Action - GF, CP**

4. Disproportionate collapse – CP and BA informed that some consultants have approached their Building Control sections and asked what their requirements are for complying with Part 2A. It was agreed that it is not the LA’s responsibility to tell consultants what to do, the rules are laid out in the relevant British Standards for achieving robustness and providing adequate horizontal ties. Other ways include carrying out a risk assessment and using key elements.

5. CP was thanked for arranging the room and refreshments for today’s meeting.

NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 24th May 2007 at 1.00pm in Room 77, Lynton House, Ilford



**MINUTES OF THE ASELB SPRING SEMINAR
HELD ON FRIDAY 27th APRIL 2007
AT THE INSTITUTION OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS**

1. PRESENT

- 1.1 24 Engineers from the member boroughs, 3 Honorary members, 5 guest speakers. The attendance list is attached.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Peter Card (Enfield), Tim Dungate (Sutton).

2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING ADDRESS

- 2.1 Chairman (Barry Ayres – Bromley) introduced himself and welcomed members, associate members and the guest speakers.
- 2.2 Chairman informed members that following the Steering Group elections at the last seminar the Steering Group elected Barry Ayres (Bromley), George Furmanski (Greenwich) and Jaspal Sehmi (Newham) as Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer respectively.

3. MINUTES OF THE AUTUMN SEMINAR HELD ON 6th OCTOBER 2006

- 3.1 The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- 3.2 **Matters Arising :-**
 - 3.2.1 Following John Carpenter's presentation to ASELB at the Autumn 2006 seminar, Chairman attended the SCOSS meeting on issues associated with Class 2A/2B matters. He thanked members who provided him with information. He will post a summary note on the ASELB web site. He asked members to keep their contributions on the web-site. Confidentiality can be maintained if reported to CROSS.
 - 3.2.2 Secretary informed members that ASELB have received a request from ICE's Eurocodes Expert to become a "content partner" for their new website which provides free information on the structural Eurocodes plus databases of all relevant news, events, training courses and publications. As a content partner ASELB would have a direct presence on the home page of the website and extensive links back to the Eurocodes resources on our own website. There would be no charge to ASELB but ASELB would have to accept liability for all material it has generated on the website.

Secretary said that Steering Group have discussed this offer and considered that it would require a "computer/web literate" member to work on the site as all material is directly recorded onto web fields and databases which have set formats. Steering Group agreed to meet the website manager before a decision is made subject to agreement by ASELB members at this seminar

By a show of hands there was a large majority agreement by the members present for the Steering Group to meet the website manager. Members would be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

3.2.3 John Peck (Havering) reported that the EC6 National Annexe for the UK has been delayed and is just being drafted.

3.2.4 Chairman reported that he is on the EC1 (Actions) committee and it is being written by BRE with ISE overseeing it.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer, Jaspal Sehmi (Newham), reported as follows –

Current Account Balance

On 30th March 2007 (date of last statement) there was £3,764.27 in the bank. Since that time a further sum of £125 has been deposited, leaving a credit balance of £3,889.27 in the bank.

Invoices for 2006 Autumn seminar

There are no outstanding payments.

Outstanding members' invoices

For the 2007 Annual Subscriptions, 28 invoices were issued for a reduced subscription of £50. Payments have been received from 22 boroughs.

City of London is welcomed as a new member.

There are no members from Southwark and Westminster this year.

Outstanding payments due

There are no outstanding receipts or payments due at this time

5. ASELB BUSINESS

Points of Contact reports were provided as follows :-

Website

Colin Palmer (Redbridge) has re-designed the website but the content and navigation remain the same as before. Any information sent by members to Colin for inclusion on the website should be in pdf format.

Building Regulations and Foundations – John Peck (Havering) informed members that the website has resulted in him receiving phone calls from outside the London area about Building Regulation queries.

The disproportionate collapse topic will be covered by the technical presentation from BISON later this morning.

Assessment of multi-storey dwellings – Steve Davis (Enfield) reported that he has just received an update from Barry Reeves at BRE regarding the assessment manual on large panel system buildings. The project has come to a halt due to a lack of funding following an

overspend on the testing phase. All testing has been done, they need to complete the assessment manual. A recent bid for additional funding was unsuccessful and BRE need to review the financial aspects. Barry Reeves and Stuart Matthews will have a meeting to discuss how to complete the manual which includes a risk based approach to evaluating the buildings.

Steve Davis then informed members of an alert from Edinburgh on dangerous scaffolding which used the cuplock system. This appears not to be an isolated problem involving the hop-up bracket. He added that a CROSS report is available on poor scaffolding practice, workmanship, and materials.

6. TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

Topic - Structural implications of London's rising water table.

Speaker - Nigel Hoad – Environment Agency, Hydrogeology

The speaker gave an interesting and informative presentation the main points of which were as follows. The geology and hydrology under London is well known and documented from 1800's onwards. Environment Agency have a GARDIT team set up which controls ground water levels.

Abstraction of water is controlled and is licensed. It is a dynamic system to stop elevated levels of ground water into the London Clay and other soils above the Chalk where deep foundations and tunnels are present. Constant monitoring is undertaken, there are about 200 observation boreholes and about 200 abstraction boreholes. Any return to former natural conditions for groundwater levels is no longer desirable. However, there are no legal requirements to manage groundwater levels.

Topic - A structural engineer's guide to the 2007 CDM Regulations.

Speaker - Brian Neale – Health and Safety consultant

The new regulations came into force on 6th April 2007 and they replace the CDM1994 regulations and the Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996 (CHSW). The key aim of CDM2007 is to integrate health and safety into the management of the project and to encourage everyone involved to work together.

There are new duties for clients who can no longer have Agents. The Planning Supervisor is replaced by a CDM Co-ordinator who will be the client's chief advisor on health and safety information. Designers have new duties, they must be competent and eliminate hazards and reduce risk, they have to ensure clients know their duties, and they must co-ordinate with other parties. There are new triggers for appointments and preparation of the plan

HSE will be looking for a new approach, a spirit of communication and co-operation.

A new F10 has just been published. Two guides are still to be published, a client's guide and a co-ordinator's guide.

Industry guidance is available on www.citb.org.uk/healthsafety/cdmregulations/guidance.

Topic - Fixings for the future.

Speakers - Richard Johnson and Terry Foster – Surefit Anchors

The speakers' presentation comprised a brief overview of the current different anchor systems and the specification of their Surefit Anchors which are a high performance universal anchor

which are an alternative to conventional expansion, form locking or resin bonded anchor systems.

Their use as an alternative to resin anchors on a balcony screen replacement project for LB Enfield was used as an example, photographs of the actual work and fixing details were shown and talked about. A technical brochure for the anchors was handed out to members.

Topic - Practical solutions on achieving compliance for disproportionate collapse from 2A to 2B.

Speaker - Peter Kelly – Bison Concrete

The speaker gave an interesting and informative presentation on this topic. Examples were provided and a comprehensive question and answer session took place at the end of the presentation.

7. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

Chairman thanked the guest speakers for their excellent presentations.

The next seminar will probably be held in October 2007.

Chairman thanked fellow Steering Group members for organising the Spring seminar and thanked all present for attending.

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ATTENDANCE LIST

ASELB Spring Seminar on Friday 27th April 2007
at the Institution of Structural Engineers
11 Upper Belgrave Street. London SW1

BOROUGH

MEMBER

Barking & Dagenham	-----	Ray Aldrich
Barnet	-----	Joe Farrell
Bexley	-----	Bob Smith
Bromley	-----	Barry Ayres
City of London	-----	Mark Pundsack
City of London	-----	Bill Welch (AM)
Croydon	-----	John Waddington
Ealing	-----	David Rumsey (AM)
Enfield	-----	Steve Davis
Enfield	-----	Trevor Pennell (AM)
Enfield	-----	Ian Robinson (AM)
Enfield	-----	Dipak Mehta (AM)
Greenwich	-----	George Furmanski
Haringey	-----	John Yiangou
Haringey	-----	Logi Logitharajah (AM)
Harrow	-----	Richard Bradford
Havering	-----	John Peck
Havering	-----	Tony Bello (AM)
Havering	-----	Duncan Groom (AM)
Lewisham	-----	Mike Payami (AM)
Newham	-----	Jaspal Sehmi
Redbridge	-----	Colin Palmer
Richmond Upon Thames	-----	Pradeep Gupta
Waltham Forest	-----	Keith Sellwood
Honorary Member	-----	Manohar Bhavra
Honorary Member	-----	Doug Pittam
Honorary Member	-----	Chri Rajaratnam

Guest speakers

Nigel Hoad	- Environment Agency - Hydrogeology
Brian Neale	- Health and Safety Consultant
Richard Johnson	- Surefit Anchors
Terry Foster	- Surefit Anchors
Peter Kelly	- Bison Concrete

**MINUTES OF THE ASELB STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 24th MAY 2007
AT REDBRIDGE COUNCIL OFFICES, LYNTON HOUSE, ILFORD**

PRESENT

Barry Ayres - L B Bromley (Chairman)
George Furmanski - L B Greenwich (Secretary)
Jaspal Sehmi - L B Newham (Treasurer)
Colin Palmer - L B Redbridge

APOLOGIES

Steve Davis - L B Enfield
John Peck - L B Havering

MINUTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 22nd MARCH 2007

The minutes were agreed and accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

MACE buildings – GF still has to draft article for web site but since last meeting he has found more specific details which can be included in the article. **Action - GF**

2007 Spring seminar – Steering Group considered it had gone well, good presentations. Some good comments had been received by BA from attendees. All four speakers said they would send some of their information to BA, not yet received. GF was drafting the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

JS reported the following :-

Current Account balance – On 30th April 2007 (date of last statement) there was £3,969.27 in the bank. Since then a payment of £774.60 has been made for the Spring seminar catering, leaving a balance of £3,164.67 in the bank.

2007 Spring seminar - Invoices have been issued for attendance by six associate members.

2007 Annual Subscriptions – Payments have been received from 23 member boroughs. Three invoices outstanding although two of these are to boroughs which appear to no longer wish to remain members.

Outstanding payments due – Invoice from ISE for the room hire for the Spring seminar is awaited. There may also be a small claim from one of the speakers at the seminar for travelling expenses.

2007 AUTUMN SEMINAR

Agreed that it will be held on Friday 12th October 2007. BA has provisionally booked ISE room.

Possible technical presentation topics discussed –

Eurocodes update, lateral restraint of existing walls where large openings are formed, Screwfast piles, cover to reinforcement, use of external consultants for structural engineering services.

Regarding the Eurocodes the idea of holding an ASELB training-up seminar for members on the new Eurocodes was discussed. Specialist speakers could be invited to give a talk and provide some worked examples. This idea would be discussed further at future Steering Group meetings.

ASELB REPORTS

ASELB WEBSITE

CP has updated the web site. Home page text needs updating as some items refer to 2002. BA will review home page and send revisions to CP. **Action - BA**

The flood defence assets letter from Halcrow via David Rumsey will be posted on the web site under downloads. **Action - CP**

BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

Nothing to report.

EUROCODES & STANDARDS

Possible presentation from Dr Sue Doran at the Autumn seminar.

ASSESSMENT OF MULTI-STOREY DWELLING BLOCKS

As reported at the Spring seminar held on 27th April 2007.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Nothing to report.

SUSTAINABILITY

Nothing to report.

LOTAG

BA reported that a meeting was due soon.

ISE

Steering Group discussed the invitation from ICE's Thomas Telford Ltd to become a Eurocode Expert Content partner. Although the general feeling was that membership was not for ASELB, BA agreed to meet the Eurocode Expert representative to find out if there would be any unseen benefits to ASELB.

Action - BA

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. CP was thanked for arranging the room and refreshments for today's meeting.

NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 19th July 2007 at 1.00pm in Room 77, Lynton House, Ilford.



Association for Structural Engineers of London Boroughs

**MINUTES OF THE ASELB STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 19th JULY 2007
AT REDBRIDGE COUNCIL OFFICES, LYNTON HOUSE, ILFORD**

PRESENT

Barry Ayres - L B Bromley (Chairman)
George Furmanski - L B Greenwich (Secretary)
Jaspal Sehmi - L B Newham (Treasurer)
Steve Davis - L B Enfield

APOLOGIES

Colin Palmer - L B Redbridge
John Peck - L B Havering

MINUTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 24th MAY 2007

The minutes were agreed and accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

MACE buildings – GF still has to draft article for web site.

Action - GF

Draft 2007 Spring seminar minutes having been issued prior to the meeting were agreed following one minor amendment. They can now be presented to members at the Autumn seminar.

FINANCIAL REPORT

JS reported the following :-

Current account balance – On 29th June 2007 (date of last statement) there was £3,189.67 in the bank. Since then a payment of £434.75 has been made to IStructE for the Spring seminar hall hire and £125 has been credited for attendance by Associate members, leaving a balance of £2,879.92 in the bank.

2007 Spring seminar – The invoices issued for attendance by six associate members have all been paid.

2007 Annual subscriptions – Payments have been received from 23 member boroughs. Three invoices outstanding although two of these with boroughs who had no representative at the Spring seminar.

Outstanding payments due – none at present.

2007 AUTUMN SEMINAR

BA has booked the ISE room for 12th October 2007.

BA tabled a draft agenda following suggestions at the last meeting. Following some discussion the draft agenda was agreed by those present.

ASELB REPORTS

ASELB WEBSITE

BA thanked CP for the new look website. He has received several phone calls praising the website.

BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

BA attended a LDSA meeting this morning. Main topic was the review of Building Control services being started by the Department of Community and Local Government.

EUROCODES & STANDARDS

Nothing to report.

ASSESSMENT OF MULTI-STOREY DWELLING BLOCKS

SD said that because the LPS project has come to a halt due to a lack of funding, Steering Group may wish to widen the brief for this topic to "High Rise" and concrete repair. **Action - All**

HEALTH AND SAFETY

JS agreed to check if the CDM co-ordinator and client guides to CDM2007 have been published.

Action - JS

SUSTAINABILITY

BA indicated that the "Cover to Reinforcement" presentation at the Autumn seminar is a sustainability topic.

LOTAG

BA handed out copies of his written report to LOTAG for their meeting on 10/7/07.

ISE

BA handed out copies of the minutes of his meeting on 12 June 2007 with a Eurocodes Expert representative. ASELB are unable to sign up as a content partner as we do not have the authority bandwidth to perform the functions presented in the terms of the agreement. ASELB is a voluntary organisation.

However, ASELB would like to be seen as supporting the Eurocodes Expert site and are happy to exchange and display each others logo and links on the two websites.

Steering Group agreed that the monthly EurocodesNews publication could be put on the ASELB website.

BA will be meeting the Eurocodes Expert representative again shortly.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. CP was thanked for arranging the room and refreshments for today's meeting.

NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 20th September 2007 at 1.00pm in Room 73, Lynton House, Ilford.

**MINUTES OF THE ASELB STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2007
AT REDBRIDGE COUNCIL OFFICES, LYNTON HOUSE, ILFORD**

PRESENT

Barry Ayres - L B Bromley (Chairman)
Steve Davis - L B Enfield
Colin Palmer - L B Redbridge
John Peck - L B Havering

APOLOGIES

George Furmanski - L B Greenwich (Secretary)
Jaspal Sehmi - L B Newham (Treasurer)

MINUTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 19h JULY 2007

The minutes were agreed and accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

1. MACE buildings – GF still has to draft article for web site. **Action - GF**

2. Eurocode Expert -
ASELB icon now incorporated, CP to incorporate 2 or 3 links on to ASELB web site.

BA circulated copy of minutes of his meeting (26/07/07) which he considers was constructive with satisfactory outcome (Supporting Partner).

Training –
ASELB Eurocode initiative to reduce/ spread costs between LA's (regional?) to be considered.

Free event (10/11/07) at Imperial College - EC8 Geotechnical

Various concerns voiced regarding implementation and usage. Full implementation in 2008 only likely to be taken up for Government Funded Projects.

BA circulated The Eurocodes - Why/ What and When? (Structural Engineer Journal 18/09/07)

FINANCIAL REPORT

JS reported the following :-

Current account balance – On 31st August 2007 (date of last statement) there was £2,879.92 in the bank.

2007 Spring seminar – There are no outstanding payments.

2007 Annual subscriptions – LB Hackney have agreed to be represented at ASELB. Only two subscription payments are outstanding.

Outstanding payments due – none at present.

Bank balance noticeably going down and it should be monitored closely, particularly if in future we need to pay speakers (Eurocodes, etc.). Next year's subscription to be determined prior to January 2008.

2007 AUTUMN SEMINAR

BA has contacted all 4 speakers, who have each confirmed attendance.

Agenda agreed except possible title change of two presentations (i.e. Robustness/ Sustainability and Screw Piling/ New way with old technology) - BA to establish and advise CP accordingly. **Action - BA**

Points of Contact required to provide updates. **Action - Most**

CP to confirm lunch arrangements and send out invitations (w/c 24/09/07). **Action - CP**

ASELB REPORTS

ASELB WEBSITE

CP to progress web site links with Eurocode Expert. **Action - CP**

JS to set up account with facility for direct payment of site fee. **Action - JS**

CP to amend Institution in lieu of Institute based on feedback from visitors to ASELB site. **Action - CP**

SD agreed to update introduction wording on home page. **Action - SD**

BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

JP to circulate relevant CROSS report and latest correspondence Desai/Harding on disproportionate collapse at forthcoming Autumn seminar. **Action - JP**

BA circulated related article from Veralum (Structural Engineer 18/9/07).

EUROCODES & STANDARDS

As noted under matters arising.

ASSESSMENT OF MULTI-STOREY DWELLING BLOCKS

SD to provide BRE update and advise on appraisal requirements (25 year). **Action - SD**

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Nothing to report.

SUSTAINABILITY

BREAM – Concerns regarding prefabricated construction (life span of timber frame).

LOTAG

BA volunteered to attend the next meeting. **Action - BA**

ISE

Reminder that the centenary celebrations occur in 2008.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. As noted above regarding seminar at Imperial College and Eurocode training.

NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 22nd November 2007 at 1.00pm in Room 77, Lynton House, Ilford.



**MINUTES OF THE ASELB AUTUMN SEMINAR
HELD ON FRIDAY 12th OCTOBER 2007
AT THE INSTITUTION OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS**

1. PRESENT

- 1.1 23 Engineers from the member boroughs, 3 Honorary members, 4 guest speakers. The attendance list is attached.
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Mark Pundsack (City of London), Paul Jones (Hammersmith & Fulham), Anne Sexton (Kensington & Chelsea), Malcolm Smith (Lewisham), Tim Dungate (Sutton).

2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING ADDRESS

- 2.1 Chairman (Barry Ayres – Bromley) introduced himself and welcomed members, associate members and the guest speakers.
- 2.2 Chairman informed members that there was to be a change of one guest speaker, David Whittaker has kindly stepped in for Ken Watts for the presentation on London's rising groundwater table.

3. MINUTES OF THE SPRING SEMINAR HELD ON 27th APRIL 2007

- 3.1 The minutes having been previously issued to all members were taken as read and were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3.2 Matters Arising :-

- 3.2.1 Item 3.2.2, last paragraph - ICE Eurocodes Expert site – Secretary informed members that the Chairman met with a representative of the site in June 2007. ASELB are unable to sign up as a content partner as we do not have the authority bandwidth because ASELB is a voluntary organisation and we cannot commit any member to perform the functions presented in the terms of the agreement.

However, ASELB would like to be seen supporting the Eurocodes Expert site and are happy to exchange and display each others logo and links on the two websites. This exchange has now been done. Steering Group also agreed that the monthly EurocodesNews publication could be put on the ASELB website.

3.2.2 Item 3.2.1

Chairman drew members' attention to various articles which have been appearing in the ISE journal and the RICS Building Control journal regarding Part A submissions and the concerns of SCOSS. ASELB has been working closely with John Carpenter to raise issues on structural safety. ASELB can take great credit for being part of the team and Chairman urged members to keep the channels of communication open with SCOSS and

CROSS and perhaps “one day” we will achieve the perfect Building Regulations submission.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer, Jaspal Sehmi (Newham), reported as follows :-

Current Account Balance

On 31st August 2007 (date of last statement) there was £2,879.92 in the bank.

Invoices for 2007 Spring seminar

There are no outstanding payments.

Outstanding members' invoices

2007 Annual Subscriptions – payments are outstanding from two boroughs. London Borough of Hackney has agreed to be represented at ASELB.

Outstanding payments due

There are no outstanding payments to be made at the present time.

5. ASELB BUSINESS

Points of Contact reports were provided as follows :-

Website

Colin Palmer (Redbridge) has updated the website. New links added such as to Eurocodes Expert site. Members' directory updated. He asked members to send new articles and photographs in pdf format via Chairman first.

Building Regulations and Foundations

John Peck (Havering) handed out to members copies of three written articles, one from CROSS and two from the ISE journal.

The CROSS article deals with concerns about Building Regulations submissions and the checking of same, Local Authorities and Approved Inspectors, and the non-coordination between design engineers engaged on single large projects (e.g. truss designs, foundation design, and superstructure design carried out by three separate designers).

JP added that at his Council some clients only want Approved Inspectors. He is aware of one AI in Wales and one in Cumbria, how do they check work on site! Conflict can arise with separate checking and inspecting authorities. The former may list conditions, the latter can only inspect.

One ISE journal article deals with Class1 and Class 2A buildings and the Part A requirement for Class 2A buildings.

JP added that Class 2A buildings where precast concrete floor planks on masonry walls are used there is a need to check adequate horizontal ties are provided, but these ties can compromise sound transmission.

The second ISE journal article deals with sustainable building construction for structural engineers.

Assessment of multi-storey dwellings

Steve Davis (Enfield) reported the following :-

Pii work with Barry Reeves and Stuart Matthews – there is a lack of funding to complete the work. The last edition of the ISE journal has an article on concrete building management.

BS 8210 – this standard could be adopted for High Rise and concrete buildings.

The next major assessment of LPS buildings should start now, 20 years on from the BRE's 1986 report.

6. TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

Topic - Structural implications of London's rising water table, Part 2.

Speaker - David Whittaker – Arup

The speaker gave an interesting and informative presentation the main points of which were as follows.

In the 1990's concerns from the Association of British Insurers and London Underground that they form the GARDIT group. However, there is no statutory duty to maintain groundwater levels. It started with ThamesWater and the GARDIT action plan was begun in 2000 and completed in 2005. London is not unique with this problem, Birmingham, Paris, New York, and Cairo all have similar groundwater level problems.

An increase in the water pressure in the Chalk aquifer results in problems such as :- water leakage into basements and tunnels, water pressure on basement structures, reduction in foundation capacity, swelling of clays causing heave, chemical attack such as sulphate attack on concrete arising when Thanet Sand which overlies the Chalk becomes saturated and gives rise to high sulphate content, inclined tunnels such as escalators deformed by clay heave.

The speaker explained the options and final solution chosen for the CTRL Stratford tunnel box which is founded in saturated Thanet Sand.

The speaker finished by saying that GARDIT is 90% dependant on Thames Water, the EA have a passive role. A new demand is for heat rejection/abstraction ground energy schemes and the EA is the licensing authority. The current policy in Central London is that the EA will not allow abstraction unlike 10 years ago unless it is recharged (loop system vs fully consumptive).

Topic - Code for Sustainable Homes.

Speaker - Ali R Arasteh – Brick Development

This new Code was published by the Government in 2006. Control is imposed through the Building Regulations. Parts of the Code require the input from a structural engineer. Factors giving rise to the Code is climate change and energy use.

The STERN review said climate change is real, strong and early action is needed, there is an economic impact with the cost of acting now outweighing the cost of not acting, and there is an environmental impact as there is a reduced risk at stabilised levels of CO2.

There is significant energy use in homes, large amounts used for space heating and water.

The Code is based on the "environmental impact" of nine categories. It uses a credits and points system using environmental weighting factors. Credits are converted into points and then stars.

Six star levels, one star (36 points) to six stars (90 points). One star is the entry level and the Ecohomes pass level.

The nine categories are energy and CO2, water, materials, surface water run-off, waste, pollution, health and well-being, management, ecology.

Structural engineering implications are :-

Proper assessment of installations on buildings e.g. wind turbines and solar panels

Thermal bridging – issues with new wall tie types.

Air tightness – issues with condensation.

Health implications are :-

Increased air-tightness gives rise to issues with asthma and dust mites.

Financial implications are :-

Gives rise to a new domain for “specialists” to charge anything for installation and servicing.

Topic - Screwpiling - a new way with old technology.

Speaker - Peter Dunn – Screwfast Foundations Ltd

The speaker gave an informative and interesting presentation. The original screwpile invention was in 1863 by Mitchell, large use in USA as piles for lighthouses in water. Piles are very good as tension piles. The firm also licence larger contractors to install their piles.

Topic - Cover to reinforcement – getting it right.

Speaker - Chris Shaw – Consultant and Chairman of the BS 7973 committee

The speaker gave an interesting and informative presentation on this topic. Members were reminded of the problems arising from a lack of cover to steel reinforcement in concrete.

Examples of good and bad spacers and chairs were shown. The British Standard for these important ancillaries is BS 7973 “Spacers and chairs for steel reinforcement and their specification”. The BS is in two parts, Part 1 gives the requirements for the products, Part 2 shows how they need to be used to achieve the specified cover. The speaker advised that spacers and chairs should be added to the end of all bar bending schedules with the note - “Type” spacers to BS 7973 Fig.X.

The speaker handed out copies of his comprehensive notes which accompany the presentation.

7. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

Chairman thanked the four guest speakers for their excellent presentations.

He also thanked the Steering Group members for organising this seminar, and thanked all present for attending.

The next seminar will probably be held in April 2008.

ATTENDANCE LIST

**ASELB Autumn Seminar on Friday 12 October 2007
at the Institution of Structural Engineers
11 Upper Belgrave Street. London SW1**

BOROUGH	-----	MEMBER
Barking & Dagenham	-----	Ray Aldrich
Barnet	-----	Joe Farrell
Bexley	-----	Bob Smith
Bromley	-----	Barry Ayres
Croydon	-----	John Waddington
Ealing	-----	David Rumsey (AM)
Enfield	-----	Steve Davis
Enfield	-----	Trevor Pennell (AM)
Enfield	-----	Ian Robinson (AM)
Enfield	-----	Dipak Mehta (AM)
Enfield	-----	Peter Card (AM)
Greenwich	-----	George Furmanski
Hackney	-----	Joe Figurado
Haringey	-----	John Yiangou
Harrow	-----	Richard Bradford
Havering	-----	John Peck
Havering	-----	Tony Bello (AM)
Havering	-----	Duncan Groom (AM)
Hillingdon	-----	Peter Hackley (AM)
Lewisham	-----	Mike Payami (AM)
Newham	-----	Jaspal Sehmi
Redbridge	-----	Colin Palmer
Waltham Forest	-----	Keith Sellwood
Honorary Member	-----	Manohar Bhavra
Honorary Member	-----	Doug Pittam
Honorary Member	-----	Chris Rajaratnam

Guest speakers

David Whittaker	- Arup
Ali R Arasteh	- Brick Development Association
Peter Dunn	- Screwfast Foundations Ltd
Chris Shaw	- Consultant



Association for Structural Engineers of London Boroughs

**MINUTES OF THE ASELB STEERING GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2007
AT REDBRIDGE COUNCIL OFFICES, LYNTON HOUSE, ILFORD**

PRESENT

Barry Ayres	-	L B Bromley	(Chairman)
George Furmanski	-	L B Greenwich	(Secretary)
Jaspal Sehmi	-	L B Newham	(Treasurer)
Steve Davis	-	L B Enfield	
Colin Palmer	-	L B Redbridge	
John Peck	-	L B Havering	

MINUTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2007

The minutes were agreed and accepted as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

1. MACE buildings – GF has drafted article for web site. He will send to Steering members for comment. **Action - GF**

2. Autumn seminar feedback
Steering Group agreed that the seminar content was good and the four guest speakers were good. Members would like to know more about Norfolk Property Services who were talked about at the seminar by one of the members present.

JP and SD will produce an information report for the next Steering Group meeting on the current “externalisation” reviews and audits occurring in Havering, Enfield and some other boroughs.

Action – JP and SD

3. Eurocode Expert link -
BA tabled a short newsletter he has produced for inclusion on the Eurocode website. Steering Group agreed the content.
BA has attended a Eurocode roadshow, some good notes were given out at the event.

FINANCIAL REPORT

JS reported the following :-

Current account balance – On 31st October 2007 (date of last statement) there was £2,432.77 in the bank.

2007 Autumn seminar – invoices have yet to be sent out.

2007 annual subscriptions – Payment from Hackney is outstanding.

Outstanding payments due –

1. travelling expenses to Mr C Shaw, one of the guest speakers at the Autumn seminar
2. to Jaspal Sehmi for ASELB website domain renewal and hosting package.

2008 annual subscription - Steering Group agreed to set this at £70.00 per member.

2008 SPRING SEMINAR

Steering Group agreed to hold this on Friday 25th April at ISE, BA will confirm booking with ISE.

Action - BA

Possible technical presentations –

SD could arrange remote monitoring of structures, restoration and conservation of historic buildings and structures related to structural engineering. BA could arrange for a Eurocode update. The new Uretex ground treatment system could be considered.

Action - All

ASELB REPORTS

ASELB WEBSITE

CP will :-

1. update the members contact list following receipt of the revised list from GF.
2. include on the web site a copy of the Code for Sustainable Housing following receipt of a CD copy from BA.
3. include on the web site a copy of the fixings CD from the previous seminar when it has been received from SD.

Action - CP

SD will send CP a redrafted home page.

Action – SD

BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

JP reported that Part A is to be revised next April to include Eurocodes. However, existing Codes will be OK up to 2010.

EUROCODES & STANDARDS

BA reported that the draft ISE manual for design of building structures to Eurocode 1 comment period has just finished. They hope to publish the manual in April 2008.

ASSESSMENT OF MULTI-STOREY DWELLING BLOCKS

SD reported that two articles are being prepared and will be circulated to the Steering Group and if agreed they can be put on the web site.

Action – SD

HEALTH AND SAFETY - Nothing to report.

SUSTAINABILITY

JP advised that there are cost implications for complying with requirements. The 10% renewables on new schemes for Planning Applications costs additional money which clients may not want to give.

LOTAG

BA attended the meeting held on 9/10/07, these meetings are now dominated by TfL who hold them and chair them. Interestingly, their seminar agenda now reflects ASELB agenda with presentations held now.

ISE

Centenary occurs in 2008. BA has spoken to MB for an article for the ISE journal for July 2008.

How old is SEMSELB/ASELB, GF to check his files.

Action - GF

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. GF to complete the minutes of the Autumn seminar and circulate to Steering Group. **Action - GF**
2. Masonry falling off a building in Edinburgh recently has made this type of incident an issue again. BA wants to write to members' Chief Executives in early 2008 similar to his April 2003 letter.

Action - BA

NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 24th January 2008 at 1.00pm in Room 77, Lynton House, Ilford.