

Minutes of the Safety Group Fife

Held on Monday 08th September 2008 at

Dunfermline Building Society, Caledonia House, Carnegie Avenue, Dunfermline

Present

Peter Ager	Fife Council
Steve Blyth	Fife Council
David Jones	Velux Company Ltd
Andy Martin	Fife Health & Safety
John Greenhalgh	Exxonmobil
William Miller	Strath Safety
John Auld	Quaker Oats
David Cant	Carnegie College
Elena Fry	Biggart Baillie LLP
Colin Sparling	Carnegie College
Kevin McLaughlan	Carillion PLC
Ian Norton	North British Distillery
Linda Bell	Business Medical
Cathy Welsh	Fife Council
Dot Smith	Broxburn Bottlers
Mark Russell	Dunfermline Building Society

Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Sally Eddington, John Johnston, Martin Brown and Tom Canning

Chairman's Opening Remarks

Davie Cant opened the meeting by welcoming everyone along to the first meeting of the new session, he welcomed Dot Smith from Broxburn Bottlers as a new member, he also passed on his congratulations to Cathy Welsh and William Millar on passing their NEBOSH Fire Certificates.

DC went on to explain that a decision had been taken to delay the presentation of the Group Awards because it was proving difficult to get all the winners together. The committee were working on a plan to maximise publicity for the group and the winners.

MR highlighted the successful and deserving winners;

- Guinness UDV Shield – FMC Technologies (Large Category)
- McKinnon & Clarke – Nairn Trophy

- Knockhill Racing Circuit – Fife Council Shield
- Best of Scotland Holiday's – Raytheon Quaich

Each of the award winners had demonstrated an excellent commitment to Health and Safety.

DC welcomed Elena Fry, a partner with Biggart Baillie LLP, Elena was going to present on the Corporate Homicide act and its implications for business. DC handed over to Elena.

Elena thanked the Group for their invitation to present and went on to say how much she enjoyed speaking about the new Act and spreading the word. Elena stated that the Legal fraternity had been waiting a number of years for the Act to come into play and that it was interesting to see how the Act had varied since its original conception.

A copy of Elena's presentation is attached for reference.

DC thanked Elena for her interesting presentation and stated that she had set a high standard for future speakers to match, he was only sorry that more members were not present to hear it.

DC opened the floor for questions, a general discussion took place.

Group Visit

DC updated the Group on the planned visit to Babcock, as yet there had been no response from them despite assurances that a visit was possible. This was disappointing, especially following the planned visit to the Forth Rail Bridge falling through. DC said that he would continue to chase them up.

Web Site Update

John Johnston had passed a note onto MR regarding the website which had crashed, the host company had neglected to take a current back up of the site, which meant that JJ was having to build the site pretty much from scratch.

The issue of the Bravenet mailing list was also highlighted and the associated problems with some servers bouncing the initial emails. MR stated that there was a possibility we were contravening the Data Protection Act by publicising the email addresses of the group with each email, he mentioned that the last couple of emails sent out to the Group had been "blind copied" to try and get round this. The Bravenet mailing list was being looked at as a way round this problem.

SCOS Update

MR highlighted that there had been a recent meeting of SCOS but he had been unable to attend, the SCOS Conference was to be covered, the venue for the 2009 conference was to be the Hilton Hotel at Belshill, near Glasgow.

AOB

MR highlighted the ARCO event that was happening over the 24th & 25th September at the SECC in Glasgow, feedback from Group members who had attended in the past when the event was held at Houghton House had been extremely positive.

Andy Martin wished to record his congratulations to Sally Eddington who had recently been awarded her NVQ level 4 in H&S.

MR stated that date had been set for the Groups annual Golf day at Pitreavie Golf Club, tee off would be 1.30pm on the 26th September. Anyone interested in playing should contact MR.

MR highlighted that there had been some recent changes to the Regulations covering Employer Liability Insurance Certificates. It would appear that you no longer have to display a paper copy in every property, as long as staff have access to a central electronic copy on an intranet, that is adequate.

The 2008 Regulations also remove the requirement for employers to retain their employment liability certificates for 40 years. Although this could lead to problems in “long tail” industrial disease claims. Best practice would be to continue to file the certificates.

Cathy Welsh distributed copies of the statement of annual accounts and highlighted that the Group was in good financial standing. She suggested that we should do something with the funds. The Executive Committee would discuss this further.

The date of the next meeting is 13th October , the speaker for the evening will be Mr Scott Forrest who is Marketing Director with BMK Cordah Ltd, he will be discussing the REACH Legislation.

Mark Russell
Secretary
Safety Group Fife