

# **Minutes of Safety Group Fife Meeting**

**Held 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at**

**Dunfermline Building Society, Caledonia House  
Carnegie Avenue, Dunfermline.**

## **Present**

Colin Sparling	Carnegie College
Peter Ager	Fife Council
David Cant	Carnegie College
David Jones	Velux Company Ltd
John Johnston	FMC Technologies
Ian Norton	North British Distillery
Richard Wilson	Queen Margaret University
Jim McKay	Self
Derek Armatage	CDMi Ltd
Tom Canning	Self
Dot Smith	Broxburn Bottlers
Jane Macdonald	FMC Technologies
Mark Russell	Dunfermline B S

## **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Martin Brown, Andy Martin and Linda Bell

## **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Peter opened the meeting by welcoming everyone along and introducing a new member, Derek Armitage from CDMi Ltd.

Derek introduced himself and explained that his business CDMi Ltd specialised in Health and Safety Documentation and information systems which were available online.

Peter asked that Caroline Henshaw's name was removed from the distribution list for Safety Group minutes – MR to arrange.

## **Open Forum**

Jim McKay raised a number of issues and opportunities that he felt the Group could take advantage of to increase membership and raise awareness of the potential support and advice it could give to SME's.

He highlighted that the details displayed on the fife direct website were out of date and don't reflect the Groups current meeting arrangements – MR to contact and amend details.

He also raised the issue of establishing links with other organisations in the Fife area – Fife Chamber of Commerce, Business Gateway etc. Jim also highlighted that the Fife Council Business Directory stated that there was 8500 businesses in Fife, so there was plenty of opportunity.

Jim also highlighted a couple of observations from the website, the name doesn't match the logo and the last Treasurers statement was dated 2006/2007. John Johnston stated that he would look into this.

MR highlighted that he had been provided with a list of individuals who had expressed an interest in getting involved in the local safety group and had registered their details with the SCOS stand at the Health and Safety 10 event held recently at Ingleston.

MR asked if he could divide the list up and ask members of the executive committee to contact the individuals and invite them along. – MR to email the list to Peter/ Davy Jones/Davy Cant and Ian Norton.

Ian Norton provided an update on Health and Safety 10 which was an IIRSM run event. He spoke about the "Worker Involvement" seminars – the example used was a construction site environment, the business gave up trying to implement after six months – No formula for success.

Ian stated that the trade stands tended to be mainly PPE based.

Peter highlighted that the Safety Groups UK awards (the Alan Butler Awards) would be run again this year, with presentations being made at the House of Lords. General consensus is that we should enter a submission again this year. MR to contact Charlotte Henderson to see if an electronic version of the file is available.

Peter also highlighted that SCOS were planning to run their awards this year and that they were looking for entries, anyone interested in submitting contact MR.

### **Finances**

Colin gave an update on the Groups finances, current balance sitting at £3,014.76, this years subscription notice to be sent out with the minutes. Payment details are on the form and should be returned to Colin.

### **Legal Update**

Peter highlighted the introduction of the "Equality Act 2010" one of the major implications of this is that businesses can no longer issue pre-employment health questionnaires. Offers can be conditional of passing health screening questionnaire which would have to be issued with the job offer. Peter stated that there was more information available on the Dunstan and Wilson website.

General discussion followed with the consensus thinking that employers would make more use of Agency staff and employ them if they were considered appropriate.

### **1<sup>st</sup> presentation**

Peter distributed copies of the SGUK/IIRSM/HSE DVD on Clean Air? – Take Care! this was aimed at providing basic advice to employers on provision and fitting of RPE.

Peter stated that he had recently visited a bakery – no RPE on site for flour – Staff had Respiratory issues. Employer had no masks or any idea that they were required.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> presentation**

LOBO Scaffold Systems – Davy Cant showed a promotional DVD of a new scaffolding system which was being used at Babcock. Tom Canning commented on its ease of use in assembly and flexibility in operation. The DVD highlighted its many uses. Website for the company (which is local to Fife) is worth a look – [www.lobosystems.com](http://www.lobosystems.com)

### **AOB**

MR to set up meeting of Executive committee in early November.

There being no other business, Peter closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending

**Date of next meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at 7.00pm**