

Minutes of the GOSHA Committee Meeting held on 10th September 2007 at HSE Burnt Lane St Martins

Persons Present

Andrew Mills, Clare McArdell, Mike Earp, David Norman, Paul Craig and Steve Roussel.

Also in attendance Richard Brown (HSE) and Ian Whattam (Invited member)

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Jon Coyde, Richard Pinchemain and Mhairi Macgregor

Minutes of the committee meeting held on 2nd July 2007

The minutes were approved subject to the following amendments being made – the heading is to show the meeting as held on the 2nd July 2007 and the lunch cost was £60 in total rather than £60 per head.

Matters Arising

- Strategic direction – an outstanding item from the previous meeting is contact with CGI and B48 club – CM advised that she has been unable to progress this due to the holiday period and will provide an update at the next meeting.
- JOSHA liaison 20/9/07 – the proposed meeting with JOSHA representatives has been deferred to a later date when travel between the islands can be organised economically.
- Window stickers and posters – window stickers continue to be distributed and it is good to see a number of people (particularly committee members) displaying them on their cars and at places of business. More stickers will be distributed at the next opening meeting (a number were distributed at the Les Nicolles site visit). Could the poster designs compiled by JL in the past be produced in an A4 poster size? DN can make use of these and others expressed an interest. AM to contact JL.
- Fire service liaison – ME has this in hand and will report further at the next meeting. Two areas for development are the potential for a business related fire service talk (as part of a managing safely presentation or an open meeting) and liaison with workplace fire safety campaigns.

Treasurers Update

MM has reported that there is no significant change from the financial position described on the 2nd July 2007.

Les Nicolles Visit – 27th July 2007

The visit was a success and was reported in our July 2007 newsletter. Our thanks to IW for an excellent presentation and visit.

Website

There have now been in excess of 800 hits on our website which is encouraging. The site is continually evolving and changing and this should stimulate continuing interest. Ideas for new items are requested. It was suggested that a link be added to the Guernsey Electricity website to provide dial before you dig information

Dial before you dig presentation

PC suggested that Guernsey Electricity can provide a presentation (around 10 minutes) at a future open meeting to raise awareness the importance of contacting the appropriate utility authorities before digging commences. PC will liaise with Alan Chubb who is due to give a presentation at our AGM on the 22nd November 2007.

Education

We discussed a number of ideas both to promote GOSHA and to provide value for members. These include

- Further site visits – ideas include Guernsey Electricity, Guernsey Gas (visit to Bulwer Avenue) Guernsey Post, visit to Intersurgical, visit to Simco and a re-visit to the Les Nicolles development site towards its completion in 2008.
- Quarterly meetings – we agreed that the quarterly interval between open meetings is about right. Ideas for future meetings include process safety, risk assessments and method statements, COSHH, workplace transport, the value of employee involvement in training (including box talks), a banksman's course and fall arrest. RB/ME to investigate speakers
- Managing safely – introduction for small businesses – we feel that a brief introduction to managing safety in small businesses could be of value and may encourage greater GOSHA membership. It may also encourage a number of businesses which allocate a low priority to health and safety to take the subject more seriously and more meaningfully. RB, ME and PC to get together to agree how best to take this forward. Ideally local presenters such as committee members could be used and we will aim to offer attendance free of charge to determine interest/take up rate. It was suggested that the presentations take place between 4pm and 6pm on a weekday.
- Education – we can highlight the benefit of National Occupational Standards (NVQ) and specialist courses in health and safety to help individuals to understand and better implement their workplace responsibilities.
- Links with St John – could be reciprocal benefit from more liaison – AM to take forward

Slips trips and falls – presentation by UK HSE 20th September 2007

So far the take up to the flyer has been very low (under ten responses) and we all need to write/remind those who will potentially attend. Since the meeting, BBC Guernsey have been in touch to suggest an interview on their morning breakfast show.

Future Open meetings

We agreed to run meetings in February, May, September and November 2008, avoiding public or school holidays. AM to book appropriate dates with La Trelade Hotel (aim will be Thursday evenings).

Newsletters

AM asked for ideas for inclusion in the September and future newsletters.

Any other business

Committee lunches - Our thanks to CM for preparing lunch for the meeting. IW kindly volunteered to enquire with a caterer contact whether lunches could be provided within a £40 budget.

Date of next meeting – the date of the next meeting is Tuesday 30th October – 12.30 at HSE Burnt Lane St Martin.