

Minutes of the GOSHA Committee Meeting held on Thursday 19th April 2007

Persons Present

Andrew Mills, Claire McArdell, Joel Lanyon, David Norman, Paul Craig, Steve Roussel. Also present Richard Brown – Chief Health and Safety Officer States of Guernsey

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from John Coyde, Mhairi Macgregor, Mike Earp and Richard Pinchemain.

Minutes - The committee meeting held on 19th February 2007

The minutes of the committee meeting held on the 19th February 2007 were approved.

Matters Arising

- Website – JL has now launched the new website and it looks very good. We have already had 350 hits. Each of the sections is now complete with the exception of the photographs for each committee member. Photographs are still needed for Tony Hubert, Steve Roussel and Claire McArdell.
- A link from the Guernsey HSE site has been made
- Newsletter – RB confirmed that the reportable accidents/illnesses figures can now be used as final rather than provisional data. The statistics can be circulated more widely if we wish (including the Press).
- An April newsletter has been drafted and copies were distributed. As always, feedback on the content/format of the newsletter will be most welcome.
- ENA Health and Safety Conference (April 2007) – PC advised that around 250 would be attending the conference and its Guernsey venue has encouraged early booking. The conference is taking place at Beau Sejour and details can be found at the ENA website.

Open meeting – 24th May 2007

Terry Nash has now confirmed that he will be able to speak at this meeting and has supplied details for a flyer. This will be distributed during the next few days.

We all agreed that the current differential between the fee for members and non-members was insufficient at £3. We therefore agreed that for this next meeting and future meetings the cost for non-members would increase to £19.50 with the members' rate remaining at the cost price of £13.50.

Reports from working Groups

Membership

MM and SR have compiled a very useful promotional sheet for GOSHA and details were circulated prior to the meeting.

We agreed that we should proceed with the sheet and will include photographs from future meetings, as indicated.

The membership fees remain unaltered at £35 for individuals, £100 corporate and free for registered charities. These will be considered again in the future and are changed or reviewed at each AGM.

Our thanks to SR and MM for their good work.

JL will produce a PDF of the document for distribution. The PDF can, of course, also be held on the website.

SR and MM have contacted the Guernsey Builders Association and a link has been established to brian.singleton@cwgsy.net.

They have been unable to establish a contact for the B48 Club and CM will try to assist in this regard.

Communication

DN and JL have produced a draft sticker for members and 200 can be produced for around £200. We agreed that this expenditure is worth while and that they should proceed.

They have been in touch with various parties including the Transport & General Workers Union who will attend the next meeting. They would propose that prospective members are permitted to attend their first meeting free of charge and we all agreed that this would be a good idea.

Thought has been given to a membership pack and the distribution on GOSHA posters.

RB advised that health and safety executive posters (particularly the compulsory notice for workplaces) can have the GOSHA designation added to them for local distribution. This would be a very good way of increasing the profile of GOSHA and also a good excuse for distribution. Members could be provided with the posters as a key benefit of joining. RB is happy to print these for distribution and prepare PDFs for downloading from our site and the HSE site can also be created.

JL has designed a quarter A4 size promotional leaflet and to AM is happy to distribute these to Insurance Corporation small business customers. RB to print 200 copies of promotional slips.

Some good ideas to build on for the future.

Education

CM and AM have no further initiative to suggest beyond those summarised in February 2007. We are moving forward with each of the items listed in relation to the operation of GOSHA. A further update at the next meeting.

JOSHA

AM attended the JOSHA AGM in March during which Tony Allchurch (its chairman) resigned as previously indicated and a new committee was elected. AM is awaiting advice of the new chairman so that contact can be established. It was agreed during the AGM, that close links between JOSHA and GOSHA were useful and we should consider sharing speakers and initiatives where economic to do so.

Any other Business

- RB confirmed that the first reports of occupational diseases for more than 5 years probably resulted from greater awareness of such issues and the enhanced use of occupation health screening and techniques by employers
- DM suggested that we consider forming a working safely course as a very basic introduction to health and safety management. We all agreed that this would be a good idea and we could approach both Phoenix Safety and Normandy Health and Safety for their views in this regard and costing. We all believe that a course of this nature could be a valuable benefit and further raise our profile. We do not wish to be a training provider but this could be a useful introduction to those seeking basic information and maybe an encouragement to them using professional training advisers/consultants in the future. JL to contact Phoenix and to advise further.
- Visit to Les Nicolles School development – AM mentioned that as time is moving on we should begin organising this end of June visit. The contact is Peter Gregory at R G Falla. We believe that this will be a valuable visit and if food/refreshments can be arranged on site (perhaps at the canteen which exists there) that would be a useful way to end the tour. If anyone can volunteer to assist with organising this event please let AM know.
- September talk – Slips, trips and falls from HSE – RB has established a good speaker and will approach them with a view to providing the talk on 20th September 2007 at La Trelade.
- 22 November 2007 AGM – PC will approach Alan Chubb of Guernsey Electricity to establish whether he could speak on occupational health and safety linked to training and qualifications.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place at HSE offices, Burnt Lane, St Martins at 12.30pm on 15th May 2007.