

ISLE OF MAN CONSTRUCTION FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD AT THE ISLE OF MAN CONSTRUCTION FEDERATION OFFICES, ONCHAN

Friday 25th May 2018

Present

Gordon Leach, Burroughs Stewart Associates	Vice Chairman
Brian Butler, Bell Burton Associates	Secretary
John Cryer, Marshall Cryer Architects	Architects
Rob Collister, Cornerstone Architects	Architects
Tony Llyod Davies, Cornerstone Architects	Architects
Steve Woodward	IoM Construction Federation
Kris Killip, Tooms, Caines	Contractor
Peter Tyreman, Ellis Brown	Architects
Matt Bond, DOI	Project Management
Corelli Bentham	University College Isle of Man

1.0 Welcome and Introduction

The Chairman and other regular attendees were invited to attend a Tynwald Workshop on Urban Redevelopment and were therefore unavailable. The Vice Chairman (GL) welcomed Forum Members.

2.0 Apologies

Apologies were recorded as follows; Gary Crittenden, Seymour Corkill, Neil Callin, Nick Black, Andy Bostock, Steve Moore, Geoff Boot MHK, Jeremy Humphries, Carl Hawker, Ian Copley, Mike Hodgson, Adrian Moore, Clive Callister, Hugh Logan, Les Nicol, Andy Cowie, Lawrie Hooper MHK, Stan Yellop, David Kay

3.0 Minutes of meeting, 27th April 2018

It was noted that Adrian Moore had attended the meeting. The minutes were recorded as true and accurate representation of the meeting.

4.0 Discussion on the Business Agency

It was noted that Stephen Bradley has been appointed Chairman of the Business Agency. No further appointments including the Construction Sector Representative had been confirmed.

Forum members assumed that the Agency would have a strategic view of the Isle of Man and would not be problem solving. It was expected that the Agency would tell the Industry what the goals were and seek input. Forum members agreed that the major obstacles to the Construction Industry currently were planning and skills shortages

Forum delegates were generally unsure how the Agency would work and it was agreed that the Forum would invite Adrian Moore and Stephen Bradley to discuss the Agency in more detail at a future meeting.

5.0 Discussion on the Procurement Portal

Forum members agreed that although sometimes cumbersome and not without its challenges, the procurement portal should be embraced and we all need to work with it to make it a success.

It was noted that the information on the Portal was not necessarily the responsibility of Procurement Services but the responsibility of the Department seeking the work.

Feedback to Procurement Services was important and all members were requested to send feedback either positive or negative.

It was noted that there were sometimes problems uploading to the Portal and members queried why a number of documents could not be uploaded at the same time rather than individually. There was also concern that a significant capital scheme had yet to be procured through the portal and the requirements to download and upload significant quantities of documents was a concern. It was agreed that on significant capital schemes it may be better to run the procurement process traditionally with only the form of tender being returned through the portal.

The amount of information to be downloaded may cause resources issues particularly with smaller contractors.

MB advised that expressions of interest had to have all tender documents ready for issue and this problem had been overcome by the inclusion of PIN (Prior Information Notices).

It was noted that not all Departments were currently using the portal and queries were raised regarding the DOI Approved List – MB noted the DOI list was for DOI/PMU capital schemes only and did not include revenue or non-DOI works.

6.0 Redevelopment of Brownfield Sites

It was noted that a meeting was taking place elsewhere today with interested parties regarding the redevelopment of Brownfield Sites.

It was agreed that stopping temporary car parks was not the answer to development and that if there was no appetite for development then using sites as carparks was better than any alternative.

It is better to incentivise the development of brownfield sites than tax greenfield sites, ideas such as tax or rate breaks were obvious easily implemented ideas.

Rural brownfield sites were just as much a problem and concern as urban brownfield sites.

Ways to encourage the redevelopment of brownfield sites was to pressurise building owners to improve derelict properties with financial penalties or by imposing rates on derelict buildings or by compulsorily purchasing derelict buildings/sites.

7.0 Reports from DfE

Neither Adrian Moore nor Steve Moore could attend the meeting however the following information was provided:

Castle Mona Hotel - recently sold at auction for £1.21m. Owner unknown.

North Quay – Progressing well – updates to follow

Airport/Freeport - ongoing

Jurby – ongoing

8.0 Reports from the Construction Federation

SW advised that the MACCS renewals were now nearing completion with approximately the same numbers as last year.

The new Data Protection rules were a problem to the Federation but these were currently being worked on to ensure compliance.

A number of courses are in the pipeline but will not be undertaken until after the summer.

9.0 Think Construction IOM

MB advised that the working group is progressing. The ICE “Bridge” scheme could be an on Island manufactured item as it is currently bulky and difficult to move, although liability would need to be discussed. Schools and Clubs thought this would be a brilliant addition to the curriculum.

A construction ambassador was being reviewed at the moment to see if funding could be available.

The next salary survey was important to assist encouraging the youth into construction.

The CIOB have a “minecraft” computer game for sustainable buildings and a competition is a possibility.

10.0 Reports from delegates/Construction Demand

MB advised all that quality submissions should include any sponsorships or charity activities etc.

Planning was due on Summer Hill Views on 11 June 2018.

11.0 Future developments in the industry/ Topics for future discussion

There are constant condemnations that too many people speak on behalf of the construction industry. The Forum, Chamber of Commerce Construction Committee and the Federation all speak for the industry. Streamlining this will make those we

communicate with more likely to listen and act on our concerns. It has therefore been suggested that The Forum and Chamber of Commerce Construction Committee merge – a full debate will be held at the June Meeting

The Forum needs an injection of funds. Ideas for raising funds will be discussed at the June meeting. SW agreed to check if the room hire cost could be reduced and a discussion on the provision of bacon baps was also held.

12.0 Any other Business

Nothing to report

13.0 Next meeting

The meeting closed at 10:00.

The next meeting of the Construction Forum is on Friday 29 June 2018 at the Isle of Man Construction Federation Offices, Onchan starting at 8.00am.