

## **BRIDGE OWNERS FORUM**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING BOF 50: TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2016 AT THE BEVES ROOM, KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

#### **PRESENT**

Campbell Middleton	Chairman & Cambridge University Engineering Department (CUED)
Nick Burgess	London Underground
Graham Cole	ADEPT
David List	Large Span Bridge Group
Rob Dean	Network Rail
Henry Dempsey	SCOTS
Andy Featherby	Canal and River Trust
Richard Fish	Technical Secretary
Tomas Garcia	HS2
Keith Harwood	ADEPT
Nicola Head	Transport for London
Wayne Hindshaw	Transport Scotland
Neil Loudon	Highways England
John McRobert	Transport Northern Ireland
Jacqueline Mynott	CSS Wales
Stephen Pottle	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff
Paul Thomas	Railway Paths Ltd.
Paul Fidler	CUED
Sakthy Selvakumaran	CUED
Liam Butler	CUED

#### **1. Welcome, Introductions and New Members**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to BOF 50, especially Nicola Head and Henry Dempsey who were attending BOF for the first time and respectively representing TfL and SCOTS. Nicola and Henry each gave a brief résumé of their careers, present roles and specific bridge interests. The Chairman also welcomed Sakthy Selvakumaran and introduced Liam Butler both of CUED who were attending BOF as observers. He finally noted Stephen Pottle's new position with

WSP|Parsons Brinckerhoff but agreed to consider options for Stephen's ongoing participation in future BOF meetings subject to the agreement of members.

ACTION 1: Chairman

Apologies were noted as follows:

Huw Davies	Sustrans
Liam Duffy	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Jason Hibbert	Welsh Government
Elfyn Williams	Welsh Government (due to substitute for Jason but last minute apologies given).

The Chairman distributed complimentary copies of a book on Bridge Monitoring produced via CSIC and published by the ICE. He welcomed any constructive criticism or feedback.

The Chairman then went on to recognise the landmark of the fiftieth meeting and remarked on the celebratory dinner of the previous evening and the presence of many of the old "Boffers".

Paying tribute to the work of BOF since its founding in 2000, the Chairman gave a short presentation highlighting the successes in terms of research projects and our role in the bridge community. He also pointed out that BOF's work has to continue and hence the primary purpose of this meeting: the review of the Grand Challenges document. He thanked Stephen Pottle, Rob Dean and Neil Loudon for the preparatory work which was to steer the meeting through a series of workshops.

## 2. Actions from Last Meeting

Not taken: deferred to BOF 51.

## 3. to 10. : Grand Challenges

Neil, Rob and Stephen gave an introduction to their work in preparing for today's meeting before leading workshops where BOF members were split into groups to discuss specific issues.

Outputs from the groups were recorded and will be presented at BOF 51.

ACTION 2: Rob Dean, Neil Loudon and Stephen Pottle

## 11. Summary and Close

The Chairman had to leave the meeting early in the afternoon so the summary session was taken by Stephen, Neil and Rob.

## 12. Next Meetings

BOF 51 had previously been advised as 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 but will be confirmed as soon as possible.

ACTION 3: Richard Fish
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Richard Fish noted that he planned to be on holiday in New Zealand at the time of this meeting but reported that Graham Cole had kindly agreed to act as secretary for BOF 51.

Graham Cole proposed that this would be an ideal occasion to invite Matthew Gilbert to present on his latest arch bridge assessment research.

ACTION 4: Graham Cole/Chairman
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Richard Fish explained that there was to be a mini-BOF meeting (either to be BOF 52 or BOF 51½) on the afternoon of Wednesday 15 March at or near the Ricoh Arena, Coventry. This had been arranged to allow the Surveyor to report on a BOF “round table” discussion, specifically dealing with the new Grand Challenges, which would then be covered in a subsequent edition of the magazine. This would be an opportunity to publicise not only the work on BOF in its second half century of meetings but also the Grand Challenges. It was hoped that BOF members could also attend the Surveyor Conference which was scheduled for the following day and would feature a presentation on the BOF Grand Challenges.

Richard Fish, Technical Secretary  
8th November 2016